

## Town Council Meeting September 7, 2021

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order with all council members present. Attorney Jeremy Churchwell was present to fill in for Attorney Drinnon.

Under communications from citizens or property owners, several spoke up against the food truck permit that allows each food truck one day per week to be in the town limits. Glen Warren asked the board to note vote for this ordinance and allow the food trucks to come as much as possible. He stressed the fact that people come to eat at the trucks and purchase groceries, gas or other taxable items that would help the town. Alex Martin, owner of Big Al's BBQ food truck, also spoke against the ordinance. He told the board that he is working hard to put his son through college. He told of the high number of social media followers that he has that visit him in White Pine and spend tax dollars. Deanie Brady, of Ramsey Furniture, presented petitions to the board, to keep the food trucks coming. Her business has increased since the food truck has been parked on the property. Paul Heble spoke and expressed the importance of growth, and supporting the food trucks. Johnny Walker, from Farrar Funeral Home, told the board that he started the food trucks three years ago to get traffic back and to build up the downtown area. Patty Trenholm also spoke in support of the food trucks, and how much it helps our downtown. Many other remarks were made by citizens and it was the consensus of the audience that the food truck ordinance should not be passed.

Councilmen Marshall spoke up and explained to the board that what is decided as a board member was hard, that doing best for citizens, property owners, and guests is no easy task. He suggested that the town have a meeting next month and discuss this issue and see if a solution can be found. Wendy Ivens commended the board for coming together to work on fixing the problem and admitting they had missed the mark on this topic.

Mr. Diondre Jackson, Chamber CEO, introduced himself and wanted to share how important White Pine is to the Chamber. He expressed the importance of keeping our kids here in our community and supporting our businesses.

On a motion by Mr. Dukes, second by Mr. Marshall, the minutes of the August 3, 2021 council meeting were unanimously approved.

On a motion by Mr. Dukes, second by Mrs. Strom, the minutes of the August 17, 2021 special called meeting were unanimously approved.

On a motion by Mr. Dukes, second by Mr. Stump, Ordinance #8-21, rezoning the newly annexed property on Roy Messer Highway, passed unanimously in a roll call vote on second and final reading.

On a motion by Mr. Stump, second by Mr. Marshall, it was unanimously voted to table Ordinance #9-21, amending the food truck ordinance, to next months meeting when it can be discussed with the board to work on the issues of the number of days allowed.

On a motion by Mrs. Voiles, second by Mrs. Strom, Ordinance #10-21, adopting the 2018 building codes, passed unanimously in a roll call vote on first reading.

On a motion by Mr. Marshall, second by Mr. Dukes, Ordinance #11-21, adopting the 2018 commercial building codes, passed unanimously in a roll call vote on first reading.

On a motion by Mr. Marshall, second by Mrs. Strom, Ordinance #12-21, rezoning the Sellers property at State and Maple Street, passed unanimously in a roll call vote on first reading. Ordinance was passed with the error in Section 1, noting the zones were backwards and will be changed on ordinance next month.

On a motion from Mr. Marshall, second by Mrs. Voiles, Ordinance #13-21, amending the Hamblen County, White Pine tax rate, passed unanimously in a roll call vote on first reading.

On a motion from Mr. Stump, second from Mr. Marshall, Resolution #21-11, authorizing the town to participate in the Safety Partners Grant, passed unanimously.

On a motion from Mrs. Voiles, second from Mrs. Strom, the final debt obligation for the Wastewater Treatment Plant was unanimously approved.

On a motion from Mr. Stump, second from Mrs. Strom, it was unanimously voted to sell the out building at the Fire Hall for surplus property.

On a motion from Mr. Marshall, second from Mr. Stump, it was unanimously voted to approve the agreement with the Sheriff's department and all police departments for mutual aid.

Chief Cotter gave reports for the police department and said they were getting together to make plans for the Pine Fest traffic and security. He also announced that the Fire department has been awarded the FEMA air pack grant for \$220,000. He commended Derrick Layman on his time and energy he put into the grant.

Under Planning Commission news, Mr. Stump reported on the Sellers property re-zoning from C-2 to R-2, and a proposal for a grocery store project.

Mr. Allsup reported a busy month for water and sewer. The Street department is getting ready for large item pick up, fall leaves, and are still mowing.

Mr. Dukes gave an update on the Pine Fest. Forty-nine booths are signed up. Would like to see more food booths come in. The churches are asked to bring cakes for the cake walk and the committee is discussing the placement of another tent by the entertainment tent to be a place where people can eat in the shade. Plans are going on for the Pie and Jelly contest and prizes have been secured too. Dr. David Noonkesser will give talks in the library, along with a quilt display. Gift bags will be given out throughout the day and door prizes too. New shirts will be sold for \$15 and older ones will be available for a discount. History books will be on special for \$5 that day only. Coins from the last Pine Fest will also be available. The dance will take place the night before and the History Museum will reveal their window that evening before the dance.

Under unfinished business, it was discussed about the White Pine Memorial and how to fix the block wall that is leaning. Debra Fraley offered her husband to look at the project on a volunteer basis and see what he thought.

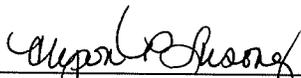
Under new business, Mr. Dukes, made a motion with a second from Mr. Stump, to make the first Tuesday of every month large item pick up day. The motion passed unanimously.

On a motion from Mr. Dukes, second from Mr. Marshall, it was unanimously voted to pay bills.

Under announcements, Mayor Taylor encouraged everyone to come to the Pine Fest on September 18 and the dance on September 17.

On a motion from Mr. Dukes, second from Mr. Stump, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:25 pm.

  
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Fred Taylor, Mayor

  
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Alyson P. Susong, Recorder

**Public Hearing**  
**September 7, 2021 – 6:45 pm**

Mayor Taylor called the Public Hearing to order at 6:45 pm. At this time, he asked if anyone in the audience had questions or concerns about the rezoning of the newly annexed property on Roy Messer Highway. No comments or questions were heard at this time.

Mayor Taylor adjourned the meeting at 6:55.

  
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Fred Taylor, Mayor

  
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Alyson P. Susong, Recorder