

Town Council Meeting May 2, 2023

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order with all council members present except Mr. Marshall. Attorney Drinnon was present as well.

Under communications from citizens and property owners, Joe Jaynes approached the board concerning the steam engine. He expressed that the building it is housed in has been sold and the two months are up for removing the machine. The mayor informed him that several places have been looked in to but that we will continue to make a decision and move it out. Randy Baxley did not make a hitch for the engine because he has already retired and sold his business.

On a motion from Mr. Woods, second from Mr. Sinard, the minutes of the April 4, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved.

On a motion from Mr. Stump, second from Mrs. Strom, Ordinance #2-23, rezoning Jefferson County parcel 41, Highway 25E from R-1 to M-2, passed unanimously in a roll call vote on second and final reading.

On a motion from Mr. Stump, second from Mr. Woods, Ordinance #3-23 – allowing the sale of fireworks passed on first reading with the stipulation of adding the town fire inspector to inspect the building or tent before opening. The motion passed on a second from Mr. Woods with a unanimous approval by a roll call vote.

On a motion from Mr. Woods, second from Mr. Stump, it was unanimously voted to award the paving bid to Newport Paving for a price of \$132 per ton.

Written police and fire reports were given to the board.

Mayor Taylor said the resolution passed for Jefferson County to place the battery station at the Dumplin Valley site at the Planning Commission.

Jonah Morie gave recreation reports of the football having sign ups, field day at White Pine School, and May 13 a horse shoe tournament. He also provided the board with a schedule of fees for the Ruritan building and Kidz Kountry. The board said they would discuss this at the next budget work session. The Ruritan building brought in \$80 and the pavilion at Kidz Kountry brought in \$475.

Under financial reports, Ms. Susong told the board that three companies had turned in quotes to do a rate study. These studies not only look at rates, but look at the capital projects for the future and all the factors of how to make the utility run successfully with the rising costs. More discussion will take place at the budget work session, which will be May 16, 2023 at 6 pm.

Under Pine Fest news Mr. Woods reported the next meeting to be May 9, 2023 at 5:30 pm

Mr. Collier reported details concerning the ongoing meter problems. After meeting with USA meter rep Chris Polk, it was decided that they will come and try to investigate problems with meters. He also discussed the possibility of buying 192 MME meters from Greeneville. The cellular meters will be placed in our system since the warranty has expired as well.

The street and sanitation departments took paving bids last month. Progression Electric gave a quote on fixing the one light at the interstate at a price of \$14,956. The mayor asked that he get a price on converting all the lights at the exit to LED. He also asked the board if they could take two mowers and a pressure wash trailer to Pro Team Auction to be sold.

On a motion from Mr. Wood, second from Mr. Sinard, it was unanimously voted to take two mowers and a pressure wash trailer to Pro Team Auction to be sold.

On a motion from Mr. Stump, second from Mrs. Strom, it was unanimously voted to purchase the MME meters from Greeneville.

On a motion from Mr. Woods, second from Mr. Sinard, it was unanimously voted to go with the recommended policy for health insurance through Blue Cross Blue Shield with Gallagher Insurance and Consulting.

On a motion from Mr. Stump, second from Mrs. Strom, it was unanimously voted to pay employee vision insurance for the upcoming year.

On a motion from Mrs. Strom, second from Mr. Woods, it was unanimously voted to pay bills.

On a motion from Mr. Stump, second from Mr. Woods, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:30 pm.



Fred Taylor, Mayor



Alyson P. Susong, Recorder