

Town Council Minutes November 7, 2023

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order with all council members present except Mrs. Strom and Mr. Sinard. Attorney Churchwell was present also.

Mr. Lynn Marshall asked to speak to the board concerning two things. First, he expressed his appreciation for the town workers and then he was upset over the recent sidewalk repair and road paving completed by TDOT. The mayor said that he had contacted them and they will get someone by there to clean up.

On a motion from Mr. Woods, second from Mr. Marshall, the minutes of the October 3, 2023 council meeting were unanimously approved.

On a motion from Mr. Marshall, second from Mr. Woods, Ordinance #10-23, amending the 2023-24 budget, unanimously passed on second and final reading in a roll call vote.

On a motion from Mr. Marshall, second from Mr. Stump, Ordinance #11-23, amending the water and sewer set up fees passed unanimously on first reading in a roll call vote.

Under police news, Chief Cotter gave special recognition to Officer Smith and Officer Williams for a recent arrest of a shoplifter who in turn was wanted for questioning in Pennsylvania for a murder. Their police department expressed the great job on conducting the arrest and recovery of the vehicle.

Under fire department news, Chief Layman gave reports to the board. He added there were eighty-eight calls for the month and that the new truck would be ready in the Summer of 2024.

No planning commission was held.

Mr. Marshall gave the recreation report in the absence of director Nick Reid. The pour and play surface has been completed and looks great. A meeting is planned with Knight Security to go over the park cameras. The playground parts have shipped and still working on the new score board. Meeting scheduled for work on the LPRF grant this week as well. The recreation board is struggling to find members and the board will look into updating the number of members required at next months meeting. Slides are being looked at to replace on the playground as well. The Christmas parade date of December 2nd is coming up and registration forms can be picked up off the website or at town hall. Signs have been ordered for no overnight parking at the Legion Park and it was discussed on the best way to enforce violations. New flags for the veteran's park have been ordered and the memorial cleaned as well.

Under water and sewer news, Mr. Collier informed the board of their latest water sanitary survey score of a 95. A demand letter had been sent concerning the consent order and the representative in charge at TDEC admittedly said this letter was sent in error. They will send a letter that will correct those accusations. A water and sewer tap has been requested for J & B investments who is planning on building a commercial building at Exit 4. The water would have to go across Alpha Talbott's line so the board added if this is allowed a sewer tap will be done. Mr. Collier asked the board if they wanted to discuss the organizational chart at this time since it was not discussed in the work session as time did not allow. The mayor then handed out a version of an organizational chart that he would like to see put in place. He stated that he feels Mr. Collier's heart is in the water department and he feels like this is too much for one person. Mayor Taylor contacted representatives from the state and asked what structure works best for most and he would like to see Mr. Collier be the Utility Supervisor at \$28 per hour and once his license is obtained would receive an additional \$2. The lead wastewater position would go to Richard Harnage and the lead water would go to Jonathan Lai since they are both the licensed employees. Their pay would not change. Lane Hodges would remain over the consent order as well. Once additional licenses are added, one dollar per license would be added to their pay. The employees on call are now allowed to drive the truck home and in the near future would receive \$50 extra per weekend for on-call duty. The mayor also suggested that Tim Rednour be promoted to Public Works Director as a ninety-day interim position, with a \$2/hour increase. Then in January work on job descriptions and a pay scale. Mr. Collier mentioned he would like the board to hire two laborers so that the water and sewer departments can establish a maintenance plan. After more discussion, the board asked that Doug McClure's job be posted and a special called meeting be planned to continue discussing the organizational chart. The date of the meeting was set for November 21, 2023 at 6:15 pm.

Under Street and Sanitation news, Mr. Collier said his reports were given to them. Mayor Taylor also announced an email was received with a February 9, 2024 date for TDOT to review plans for the traffic signal at Highways 113 and 341.

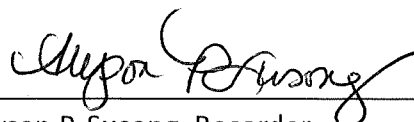
The recorder gave the board the financial reports and made them aware of a recent closure of the fire donations account. The funds of \$31,337.20 were deposited into general fund to help pay the first fire truck payment which was due at the end of October.

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

On a motion from Mr. Woods, second from Mr. Marshall, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:23 pm.



Fred Taylor, Mayor



Alyson P. Susong, Recorder