

Town Council Minutes January 9, 2024

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

Under communication from citizens, Debbie Parker came before the board and asks if the town would allow her aunt, Shelby Blair to pay a smaller rate for a water tap, or make payments. She explained her aunt lives on Parkertown Road and has a well but its not deep. She added that Cocke County charges \$1000 for their taps. The mayor told her he would look in to it and make a call to the neighborhood center.

On a motion from Mr. Woods, second from Mr. Stump, the minutes of the December meeting were unanimously approved.

On a motion from Mr. Stump, second from Mr. Woods, Ordinance #1-24, amending the recreation committee requirements, passed unanimously in a roll call vote on first reading.

On a motion from Mr. Marshall, second from Mr. Stump, the travel policy was tabled until next month.

On a motion from Mr. Marshall, second from Mr. Woods, it was unanimously approved to hire Hunter Lamons as a full-time police officer replacing Williams.

On a motion from Mr. Stump, second from Mr. Woods, it was unanimously approved to hire Kelbin Vaughn to replace Lai for the water operator.

Mayor Taylor asked that all department heads have their reports turned in to be put in the council packets so they can review them before meeting.

Chief Cotter introduced Hunter Lamons to the board and gave them reports for the month.

Under fire reports, Chief Layman said December has been a routine month with twenty-six calls inside town limits and eighty-eight outside. A year of reviews were also made with the statistics of calls. The chief also asked that he would like to review plans for the new Dollar General that is supposed to be built and that a new fire hydrant would also need to be put in at this location.

No planning commission meeting was held in December.

Under recreation news, Director Reid was not in attendance but a report was given to the board. Mr. Marshall gave ideas on drainage problem and would like to acquire the land behind

the recreation area and make a retention pond. He would like to see the water used to irrigate the fields and stock the pond with fish for a catch and release program. He believes this would alleviate the water problems.


Mrs. Susong asked if the recreation director can be in charge of the Pine fest this year and going forward. Everyone agreed and a tentative date has been set for September 28, 2024. Reports were given for financials through December.

Mayor Taylor reported interviews were taking place for water and sewer department openings. Mr. Harnage gave an update for the wastewater plant inspection and said the state had been back last week to select more samples.

Under new business, Mr. Marshall asked about a resolution for the FEMA fire truck grant. After discussing the grant and the amount of time left to decide, it will be brought before the board at next months meeting. Mr. Woods made a second to the motion and it passed unanimously.

On a motion from Mr. Stump, 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 7:30 pm.



Fred Taylor, Mayor



Alyson P. Susong, Recorder