

Town Council Minutes September 5, 2023

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

Under communications from citizens Ragan Willis Varney approached the board with concerns of the condition of Kidz Kountry. At a recent birthday party, she attended she noticed the women's bathrooms had no doors, the ceilings are falling and the chips are cutting the kids when they fall. She would like to see some new bathrooms and new playground equipment. Mr. Marshall addressed Mrs. Varney and explained that a new recreation director had been hired and they are preparing a grant with Blue Cross Blue Shield for new equipment. The current grant now is a 2020 grant and these things take time to happen.

On a motion from Mr. Marshall, second from Mr. Woods, the minutes of the August 1, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved.

On a motion from Mr. Marshall, second from Mr. Stump, Ordinance# 9-23, amending the 2023-24 fiscal year budget, passed unanimously in a roll call vote.

On a motion from Mr. Woods, second from Mr. Marshall, it was unanimously voted to allow the fire department to take items to sell at the Pro Team auction coming up.

Under police reports Chief Cotter reported they had two successful sobriety check points last week with several citations and an arrest. He commended Derrick Layman for the great job he is doing in his new role as Fire Chief.

Fire Chief Layman reported eighty-one calls for August. The activity for training is up and having a good turn out for the on-call job positions.

Planning Commission did not meet in August.

Recreation news was presented by new hire Nick Reid. He reported he has been in contact with South Jefferson and the District person to see what is required to get the program back to White Pine. He has met with the White Pine Middle School and has found out the Jefferson County school board has requirements for using the gym. He is talking to Morristown and looking at their agreements to see how we can meet these requirements. New social media accounts have been opened as well. Also included in the packets are community event sheets. A grant through BCBS is being worked on for the playground. Twenty-four yards of mulch has been delivered for Legion Park. A donated scoreboard is in the works for Lions field. He also said he plans to meet with the Boys and Girls Club as well as Community Athletic Club. A meeting with the grant planner and engineer will also take place soon to go over the upcoming project. He

would like to see a program in place for the AEDs at the ball fields. The football club would like to pay for a roof at the crow's nest too. The mayor asked that the sponsor sign be updated with a new sign but the same sponsors. Possibly getting new sponsors as well.

Under water and sewer news Mr. Collier explained the issues they are having with the UV system at the wastewater plant. New flow monitoring equipment has been ordered as part of the consent order as well. Turbidity has been up with the torrential rains but seems to be back to normal now. A contract has been signed with Hatfield and Allen to design a bypass from Exit 8 that will be covered by the grant.

Street and sanitation were business as usual, mowing and large item pick up too. Mr. Collier spoke with Brian Barnick about the contractor that has damaged the wiring at the exit ramp causing the lights not to work. He is to call back once he has an answer to this.

Ms. Susong reported that the end of year financials was in full swing and starting on the audit. Financial reports were also put in packet.


Mr. Woods reported sponsorship was up to \$12,600 and over fifty-nine booths so far for the Pine Fest.

Under new business, a motion was made by Mr. Woods and a second by Mr. Stump, to move ahead with the purchase of a chipper for the street department. A quote from Tri-County and Richey Equipment will be obtained first. The mayor asked that the funds designated for paving to be used for this project and when the CD was renewed, the money could be transferred back in to the paving line item in May. Motion was unanimously approved.

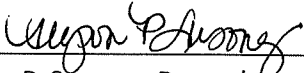
On a motion from Mr. Stump, second from Mr. Marshall, it was unanimously voted to pay bills.

Under announcements the mayor told the board they are invited to attend a drop in for Ronnie Dukes for a 70th birthday party from 1:30 until 3:30.

On a motion from Mr. Marshall, second from Mr. Woods, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.



Fred Taylor, Mayor



Alyson P. Susong, Recorder