

10/15/2020 Town Council Meeting

In attendance: Full attendance of Commissioners (with Commissioner Knight on Zoom) Town Manager Dixon, Finance Clerk Fowler, Chief Lee, Public Works Foreman Billy Biddle, The Gabarskis, also joined on Zoom by Amanda.

Mayor Reichart called the meeting to order @ 6 PM.

Town Manager Report: TM Dixon discussed how the benches are done and assembled in memory of Mr. Riddleberger & Mr. Roy. Discussed how she needs the financial disclosures filled out from the council for the next meeting. Also, that they need to take an ethics class. Tammy the Town Clerk/Treasurer and Dixon will be reviewing the SOP's. Discussed having a meeting with Bill L., Leslie and Tammy for an IT grant. Have been reviewing employee manual. RK & K plant process has also been under review with three engineers and Leslie from the county.

Public Works Report: PW Foreman Billy Biddle said that bulk pick up took two days; it was a lot bigger than it usually is. Also, that the telehandler is out of service. Also brought up the FB post that was wrong that our PR person did, and that it has been corrected about the bulk and brush. It caused some confusion for some people in the town and more work for PW.

Police: Chief Lee: See attached

Wanted to touch on three things. The speed limit for First Stonesifer Dr. needs to be changed; it is 25 mph now and it's too fast for where it is. It is very dangerous as of right now. Chief Lee also said that he will be working on fees and penalties for the unregistered vehicles. He discussed the task force again in reference to the \$10K payment we usually do. The only thing we lose is our vote by not paying it. We don't get kicked out of the drug task force. We could use that money for something else. A lot of other towns are doing that due to the COVID pandemic. TM Dixon added that she talked to them about it too and it is fine. Mayor Reichart asked why they aren't going to give a waiver. Also, Chief Lee added that Tony, the new recruit, will be here all day Saturday with Chief in case any of the council wanted to meet him. He also state that Tony is doing great.

Discussion Items:

309 N. Main: Mayor Reichart reviewed the 309 N. Main water bill. Asked if they had paid the \$262.99 payment and Finance Clerk Fowler said yes. Mayor Reichart asked for additional thoughts. Commissioner Harrison stated that he was fine with them making payments. Mr. &

Mrs. Grabarski spoke reminding the council on what they had said at the last meeting. Mayor Reichart state that we can have them pay \$1,015.07 which is the total due after removing the water and penalties. Mayor Reichart stated this is all we are able to do based off the past & legalities. Attorney Ryan stated that in her authority the late fees could be waived & we could allow a payment plan. Commissioner Cunningham said that it is not our fault someone didn't catch it in 2018 or that the homeowners didn't either. Attorney Ryan said it shows legally if they came in that day, they wouldn't have any late fees. Commissioner Harrison stated again that he is fine with it. Commissioner Cunningham stated the biggest thing is now they will have this payment on top of their normal payment to the Town. Town Manager stated yes but the only other option is to take them off the water in the town which is costly; around \$15K. Mrs. Grabarski said they did not want to do that. Commissioner Cunningham feels it is none of our fault. TM Dixon stated that it is the homeowner's responsibility to contact Town Hall. Mrs. Grabarski stated they have a mailbox. Finance Clerk Jaime added that a \$100 deposit fee is taken when new owners take over, this was also never done. Mrs. Grabarski said they never received a bill. Town Manager Dixon asked if they ever thought to ask why they never received a bill since they reside in another house in town that has a bill quarterly. Commissioner Knight spoke and asked what the difference was between buying this home and their other home that they have in town as in what method they went through to purchase. They stated that it was purchased online. It was asked why the title company didn't communicate with the Town? Who notifies the town about the transfer? Town Manager Dixon said usually the title company calls us or the new owner comes in and then we collect the \$100 deposit. Mayor Reichart said I know we are discussing who or what, but I am trying to provide a solution. Commissioner Mackey said yes, we have to do what the law allows us to do. Mayor Reichart said we could do the quarterly payments for two years which would be \$126.88 or we could do more than two years; we could do three years. The Council agreed and said that they won't be adding any penalties or doing a shut off on it, as long as the payments are met. Commissioner Harrison said we will do the payment plan for them. Commissioner Mackey said they would like it to be less but they are doing the best they can for them. Town Manager agreed that they could do the 3-year payment plan. They decided to revise the water and penalties and to work with the home owners. All agreed upon the amount and the **3-year payment plan** which will bring the payment to $\$1,015.07/12 = \84.58 . Commissioner Cunningham asked how we fix it going forward. Town Manager Dixon and Finance Clerk Fowler both stated it already has been fixed we have a new owner form that they fill out and give to us when they check in with the Town Office, along with the \$100 deposit. Mayor Reichart made motion to waive the fees for the Grabarskis and work with them. Commissioner Mackey made a motion and Commissioner Harrison second it.

Amanda on the zoom meeting typed and asked about the \$10K task force money with the police. If it isn't going to be used for the task force what is it going to be used for? Town Manager Dixon and Chief Lee will add that to the agenda for the next meeting and give examples.

Water Sewer Update: Town Manager Dixon stated that Paul, who worked for Miller, quit. A gentleman from RK & K came out saying what we need done because we have an old system.

Went back to the Stonesifer speed limit of being 25 and needing to drop it to 15. We need to post it for 30 days beforehand Town Manager Dixon stated. Mayor Reichart said if it works, we should do it to other streets as well. Attorney Ryan said that they will have a resolution on it at the next meeting. Town Manager said that Chief Lee has a good point because it is right by the fire house and people are trying to fly up on them.

Academy Street: Attorney Ryan called Mr. Passwaters about entering into an agreement with the Town about the sewer. The sooner we can get that done the sooner the town can pitch in to get the demolition done faster. Billy Biddle said he has met with Scott multiple times. Billy spoke and showed visuals to the council. We need to get prices on what it would be to demolish and if he doesn't agree then we need to go back to court Commissioner Mackey stated. Attorney Ryan said also we need to get quotes from a plumber and electrician. Also, they need to check his current home because it is believed to not be up to code. It was decided to wait and deal with one issue at a time. Commissioner Knight said so we have an illegal home that is falling down and an illegal occupancy.

Chiller/ Well: Greensboro Elementary School is looking for a well for their geo thermo system. Has to have its own separate well in order to run. Commissioner Mackey made motion for it and Commissioner Harrison seconded it. All opposed, none.

MDIA: Commissioner Cunningham said when we initially signed up with MDIA, they charged us and we then recouped the fees. Now all he sees is grass violations every week. He asked why aren't we doing anything else? He stated that Sam was doing a perfectly fine job before. Mayor Reichart noticed this also and asked if we should have a meeting with the person that works for MDIA. Town Manager Dixon stated that her and Town Clerk Tammy went out the other week and came back with 6 pages of violations. Attorney Ryan stated that she has a letter that they can use for the unregistered vehicles. Town Manager Dixon referenced iWorq a program we use in the office that has letters for all the violations and stated we pay MDIA \$75 an hour. Commissioner Cunningham said we need to give a warning. Attorney Ryan said of course we do that. We have to send a letter. Mayor Reichart suggested we should write a letter to MDIA stating we are unhappy.

Mayor Reichart brought the meeting to a close at 7:29 PM

Commissioner Cunningham motioned and Commissioner Mackey seconded it.

Respectfully prepared by Jaime Fowler