

2/04/2021

Town Council Meeting Minutes

In attendance

Full council in attendance. Along with Town Manager Dixon, Town Clerk Kelleles, Finance Clerk Fowler, Deputy Chief Glenn Ray, and Public Works Foreman Billy Biddle. On Zoom is Attorney Ryan, Anthony Casey, Joe Noon, and WWTP Foreman, Bill Lesmerises.

At 6 PM Mayor Reichart brought the meeting to order to begin. The Chaplin did the prayer.

The council approved the January 2021 minutes. All in favor.

Committee and Department Reports

Fire Department:

Rick Faust discussed rentals and fund raisers that they have lost due to COVID. Chris Hammer from the fire department was also present. Commissioner Mackey asked if they qualify for any relief funding help. Billy Biddle added that they are applying for grants. Commissioner Harrison asked about the carnival this year. Chris Hammer said he wants to try. Commissioner Harrison said he thinks they'll be fine to do it and stated a lot of people got short changed out of this. Mayor Reichart explained that we are going to give an additional \$10,000 to them due to the COVID hardships they have faced and to show how much we appreciate them. Chris and Rick both said thank you. Chris explained that they are about \$95,000-\$100,000 in the hole this year with missing out on rentals and events. Commissioner Knight asked for the number for renting the hall; the phone number 410-482-8420. Commissioner Knight also asked if they take donations, etc. Chris said yes and now they have PayPal which makes it easier. Commissioner Mackey expressed how he doesn't understand how they aren't getting any funding again.

Planning Commission:

The board met in January and discussed the Baldwin proposal. Town Manager Dixon said she has to look into some things on it.

Parks:

Commissioner Knight said they are set to meet tomorrow to discuss Whoville and future events. They spoke to Rich & Chris about Whoville and building the bond back with the fire department. They have lots of events to plan and discuss. Commissioner Mackey said good. Chris said also probably do a drive-in movie during Whoville.

Public Works:

Commissioner Mackey asked Billy Biddle if it was good news? Billy said yes. Stated he got lots of texts and calls about the snow. He stated they don't normally do anything about it until it is to 3 inches. Billy purchased a spreader when he got promoted. He continued to discuss what they do when they have a BIG snow. The last week or two they have been cleaning everything; all the equipment etc.

WWTP:

Bill Lesmerises talked about how we have used 9.8 million gallons of water in December. Everything is getting better at the plant. Tuesday, he met with Evoqua about our sand problem. There will be more engineering that has to be done. The water is doing good. Waiting for Baldwin to kick in and then will go from there.

Police:

Deputy Chief Ray said nothing has changed. See report for stops. COVID Vaccinations @ fire hall and they let him know we could send an officer out there for OT if we wanted to. Glenn Ray stated we haven't used anywhere near funds allotted for gas so we should probably drop it some. He asked for throw rings for the officers and also suggested they take out the individual offices in the police station to help with people spending too much time in there. Deputy Chief Ray also stated we used a lot of ammo in the training of the recruit. Maybe we could flip flop gas funding for ammo. Commissioner Harrison asked about applicants? Deputy Chief said yes, he actually had one and he gave them Wendy's info. Mayor Reichart stated that they voted in December to promote Glenn Ray to Deputy Chief. Mayor Reichart swore him in.

Administration

Town Clerk Report:

Discussed porta potty issues and prices. Discussed Jaime and Sam switching roles and Jaime's promotion March 1st. Brought up the cleaning at Town Hall. Commissioner Mackey asked about an exterminator. Tammy said yes plus the roofs need fixed. Commissioner Mackey suggested we use Critter Control for the work upstairs with the bats, etc. Tammy said we would reach out. Tammy said next Tuesday we are meeting with Safehouse Security about more cameras around. Commissioner Mackey asked if we could get one @ Ober Park. Town Manager Dixon said they have talked about it but there needs to be internet out there. Sam has been working on sending the list of homes to tax sale but we are trying to work with people. Commissioner Knight said there is help available for landlords and tenants; Social Services will assist them, along with water bills. His Hope Ministries also has helped landlords. Tammy discussed the FY22 tax rate. She also mentioned the ongoing issues with the same people. There is one person that is very clearly and blatantly targeting one person at Town Hall. It's not fair or right and asked the Commissioners to be aware of this. Commissioner Mackey asked what can we do to stop this? Contact Lyndsey? Commissioner Mackey said we

need to do something. Commissioner Mackey made a point to say this person cannot expect special privileges from Town Hall just like anyone else cannot. They all discussed what to do to go further and end this issue. Mayor Reichart had them move onto the next topic. Code Enforcement: Tammy stated we need more detail from the public on issues or complaints as we can't go onto people's properties unless we go through the courts and get an administrative warrant.

Town Manager Report

Wendy Dixon discussed that she had someone resign on the CAC board. It's a secretary position so Sam will fill in to do the minutes at the meetings until May. Ms. Dixon stated that they need to discuss the radius for police cars being taken home. She talked to a few different areas about help with police. Also, an idea she had was something called "safe house". This is where we would get people to volunteer to put a sticker on their home that marks them as a safe house for children. Also want to list complaints on Facebook as a Q & A session. Stated we are listening but COVID has made it very hard. Also, we are going to revamp the website next week.

Old Business

Mayor Reichart brought up 2020-O-1 Zoning ordinance and asked where we are? Attorney stated it has to go back to the planning group.

2020-O-2 The grease trap one is approved. She did find two errors and they have been fixed. Now we will schedule for March 4th. Town Manager asked if it needs to be put in the newspaper? Attorney Lyndsey said yes and she will arrange it then send it to Sam.

New Business

Property Maintenance Codes:

Unlicensed vehicles resolution was done in 2001. There was discussion on how to apply fees for property maintenance offenses. Questions were brought up asking if the third offense has to pay \$300? Asking what to do going forward. There was discussion about the corner of Vaughn near La Deliza where there are a lot of unlicensed cars. Commissioner Mackey suggested \$150 and asked if they can be fined daily after warning time period runs out? Commissioner Mackey asked how you would prove that someone is working on a car and fixing it up since that is the only way they are allowed to have an untagged vehicle on the property. Attorney Lyndsey stated that it would have to be in an enclosed area like a garage and be able to see that it is being worked on. It was determined that the fees would remain the same; \$100 initial fine than \$200 after that for each day that the vehicle(s) remain unregistered/untagged. Prior to any fine being assessed, there would be a 15-day warning period. Mayor Reichart stated that we are not looking to get rich on it but we need to clean up the town.

Christina Robinson joined in on Zoom to provide an update on a parking issue that the Citizens Advisory Council has been working on. They tried to address it because people are parking too far out on the street making it hard for people to drive through. They made the suggestion that residents talk to their neighbors because there are no laws. They are working on a letter that they can send out about the issue. Commissioner Mackey agreed that that sounds good. Everyone agreed that parking there is terrible. Commissioner Harrison brought up that emergency vehicles would have a hard time also getting in there and that should be included in the letter that is sent. Town Manager agreed that they should add the emergency vehicle part also. It was mentioned that they got the pop-up camper that was there moved. Christina also suggested to the group that they should have a block party when the weather gets nicer in the spring so that the neighbors can all get to know one another. Town Manager Dixon said she has talked to Christina extensively about everything. She has great ideas. Judy has written the letter and Wendy reviewed it.

Bills: No questions

Town Council Remarks

Commissioner Cunningham stated that the hotel no longer has a grease trap. Commissioner Knight wants to touch again on the fact that there is assistance for people. They can contact MRDC, His Hope Ministries & Social Services. He also brought up the meal train program again that they do at His Hope Ministries. Town Hall will do one meal a month. Christina Robinson said they would do another one also. Mayor Reichart suggested the commissioners come together and do one also; as a group one day. They said they would either cook or could get gift cards to local restaurants to drop off. Commissioner Knight stated maybe also the Fire Department could partake and Mr. Faust agreed to look into it.

Mayor Reichart looked for a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Harrison made motion, Commissioner Mackey seconded it.

The meeting was brought to a close at 7:28 PM.

Respectfully prepared by:

Jaime Fowler