

REGULAR MONTHLY Meeting of the Gate City Town Council was held on Monday, January 11, 2005 at the Town Hall.

PRESENT: Mayor Mark Jenkins, Vice-Mayor Rita Tipton, Steve Williams, Frances Perry, Tommy Herron, Town Attorney Mike Carrico, Town Manager Matthew Horton, Recorder Heather Lane

ABSENT: Jack Anderson

OTHER PRESENT: Debbie and Ron Kindle, Chris Johnson, Chuck Newton, Arletha Newton, Tommy Quillin, Randy Powers, Lisa McCarty, Richard Hubbard, Jan Jenkins, Eric McMurray, Bob Barker, Delta Purkey, Doug Gillenwater, Michelle and Ross Jenkins, Roger Cassell

Mayor Mark Jenkins called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

At this time invocation was provided by Mr. Randy Powers.

At this time the pledge of allegiance was provided by Mr. Chuck Newton.

Upon a motion by Frances Perry and duly seconded by Tommy Herron, members voted to approve the minutes with the addition of the hiring of Jason Cox as Police Chief. Voting in favor of this motion was Frances Perry, Tommy Herron, and Rita Tipton. Steve Williams was not present at the last meeting. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Jack Anderson.

Mayor Mark Jenkins opens the floor for public comment.

At this time, the town made a picture of Jim Spears presenting a picture of the Town Seal to hang in the board room to Mayor Mark Jenkins.

Mayor Mark Jenkins re-opens the floor for public comment.

Doug Gillenwater spoke to the council about the annexing of his property into the town limits. He asks the council, what the city can offer him that he does not already have through the town. The boundary adjustment has already been approved by the council and the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Gillenwater also informs the council of the problems he has had with the water provided by the town to his residence. Doug Gillenwater asks the council why the people were not informed of the boundary adjustment. Town Manager Matthew Horton informs Mr. Gillenwater that the proper steps were taken by the town and the county to inform the people of the boundary adjustment. The council informs Mr. Gillenwater to contact his supervisor with the concerns of the boundary adjustment. Town Attorney Mike Carrico told Mr. Gillenwater that he needed to obtain an attorney in order to fight the boundary adjustment. Doug Gillenwater asks the council to check on the problem caused by the town water. The

town's insurance made a settlement with Mr. Gillenwater about the water problem. Town Attorney Mike Carrico is going to review the insurance settlement and the town's public works crew will also look at his property. Doug Gillenwater asks the town for a copy of the minutes from the meetings discussing the boundary adjustment.

Robert Barker shows the council a map of the lot he owns in Quillin Heights that he has no access to. He is asking the town to expand Ruth Street to make access to his property. A road was previously graded but has grown up in front of the property.

Eric McMurray spoke to the council about an evergreen tree located on the corner of Rollins and West Elm Street. The tree is almost sitting in the road and is going to cause an accident. There is also a roll of trees located near Mr. McMurray house on West Elm Street that possibly could blow over during a storm causing the power lines to fall. The public works crew will take a look at the trees.

Jim Spears ask for the hedge to be trimmed near Horton Street.

Michelle Jenkins asks the council about installing a sounds system so the audience can hear the council members. She also asks about the street lights being out on Kane Street.

Roger Cassell tells the council that vehicle lights shining on a picture sincere is causing the lights to go on and off on Kane Street.

Delta Purkey makes a compliment on Pat Deskins behalf about killing a rabid fox near her house.

Mayor Mark Jenkins closed the floor for Public Comment.

There is water draining and standing at the ball field. The Wards request that something be done to redirect the water into another area. The standing water needs to be checked to see if the water is city water or rain water and Public Works Director Dwayne Rhoton will look into installing a drain to redirect the water.

A letter was sent to the residents on the private drive located across from the Quarry Pond to inform them of the state requirement for a street to be maintained by the town. Another letter needs to be sent to them to inform them that we spoke about the street at the council meeting. Town Attorney Mike Carrico should draft the letter.

Upon a motion by Frances Perry and duly seconded by Rita Tipton, members voted to appoint Eric McMurray to the Planning Commission. Voting in favor of this motion was Frances Perry, Rita Tipton, Tommy Herron, and Steve Williams. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Jack Anderson.

Applications are due on January 21, 2005 for the vacant patrolman position. A patrolman will be hired at the February meeting.

Upon a motion by Rita Tipton and duly seconded by Tommy Herron, members voted to accept Pat Deskin's resignation as a police officer. Voting in favor of this motion was Rita Tipton, Tommy Herron, Steve Williams, and Frances Perry. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Jack Anderson.

Police Chief Jason Cox spoke to the council about purchasing a computer for the police department. The current computer at the police department crashed. The computer has been sent off to see if any of the data from the computer can be recovered. Jason asks from a computer with a CD burner to save the computer data on a back-up disc. A computer is needed to help the police department apply for grants. The money for a computer and software is available in the police department's budget.

The street committee needs to look at Ruth Street and Rollins Street. The pine and elm trees on the right side of West Elm Street need to be looked at also.

Police Chief Jason Cox present the police report to the council at this time. Jason discusses the changed that have already taken place at the police department and the future changes he plans to make at the police department. Jason told the citizens at the meeting about his "open door" policy.

The public works report was represented to the council at this time.

Everything is running smoothly at the Water and Sewer Plant.

Town Manager Matthew Horton discusses Phase II Water Project with the council. Some of the meters being installed have to be moved and the lines are going to have to be extended to where the meters are being moved.

Upon a motion by Rita Tipton and duly seconded by Steve Williams, members voted to replace the line to where the meters are being moved. Voting in favor of this motion was Rita Tipton, Steve Williams, Tommy Herron, and Frances Perry. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Jack Anderson.

Upon a motion by Tommy Herron and duly seconded by Rita Tipton, members voted to have five officials to work the town election if one is held in May. Voting in favor of this motion was Tommy Herron, Rita Tipton, Frances Perry, and Steve Williams. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Jack Anderson.

The council discusses which machine they would prefer be used in the town election if held in May. The council agrees to leave the option up to the registrar's office.

Town Manager Matthew Horton is trying to get in touch with VHDA.

The street committee looked at Lombard Street. A concrete plan needs to be presented to the council before the town will put forth the money to open the street.

Frances Perry expresses her concerns about Tommy Quillin's already existing building and homes located in the town. Mr. Quillin spoke in honor about the opening of Lombard Street and the development of a subdivision. Mayor Mark Jenkins asks Mr. Quillin about the urgency of opening the street. As far as the town is concerned the street was never closed. Pete Yoakley informed the town that he would remove the dirt from the construction of his building. The road as of right now cannot be traveled due to the trees. If Tommy starts the construction of a subdivision, would gladly open and maintain the street.

Upon a motion by Tommy Herron and duly seconded by Rita Tipton, members voted to upgrade the road when a plan is submitted and the permits are in place to begin construction for a subdivision. Voting in favor of the motion is Tommy Herron, Rita Tipton, Frances Perry, and Steve Williams. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Jack Anderson.

The Planning Commission did not meet.

The Sanitation Authority was given an update on the wastewater treatment plant from Dan Danko.

Economic Redevelopment Committee meets this week.

Upon a motion by Tommy Herron and duly seconded by Rita Tipton, members voted to go into closed session. Voting in favor of the motion was Tommy Herron, Rita Tipton, Steve Williams, and Frances Perry. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Jack Anderson.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Gate City Town Council has convened a Closed Meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-7312 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Town Council that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gate City Town Council hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirement by Virginia law were discussed in closed meeting to which this certification applies and (2) only such business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Gate City Town Council.

VOTES: **AYES:** Tommy Herron, Frances Perry, Rita Tipton, and Steve Williams

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: Jack Anderson

Upon a motion by Rita Tipton and duly seconded by Frances Perry, members voted to go back into regular session. Voting in favor of the motion was Rita Tipton, Frances Perry, Tommy Herron, and Steve Williams. Absent from the vote and meeting was Jack Anderson.

Upon a motion by Tommy Herron and duly seconded by Rita Tipton, members voted to raise the pay of employee #311 from \$7.21 an hour to \$8.00 an hour and employee #416 from \$9.02 an hour to \$10.00 an hour. Voting in favor of the motion was Tommy Herron, Rita Tipton, Steve Williams, and Frances Perry. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Jack Anderson.

Upon a motion by Steve Williams and duly seconded by Tommy Herron, members voted to pay the bills in the amount of \$9,432.79 General Fund and \$8,740.67 Water Fund. Voting in favor of this motion was Steve Williams, Tommy Herron, Frances Perry, and Rita Tipton. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Jack Anderson.

Upon a motion by Steve Williams and duly seconded by Tommy Herron, member voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm. Voting in favor of the motion was Steve Williams, Tommy Herron, Frances Perry, and Rita Tipton. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Jack Anderson.

MAYOR

SECRETARY
