

REGULAR MONTHLY Meeting of the Gate City Town Council was held on Tuesday, June 14, 2005 at 6:00 pm at the town hall.

PRESENT: Mayor Mark Jenkins, Vice-Mayor Rita Tipton, Jack Anderson, Steve Williams, Frances Perry, Town Attorney Mike Carrico, and Recorder Heather Lane

ABSENT: Tommy Herron

OTHERS PRESENT: Fr Roland Hautz, Richard Hubbard, Chuck and Arletha Newton, Dewey and Louise Breeding, Michelle and Ross Jenkins, Susan Hilmer, Bob Barker, Tom Baty, Jan Jenkins, Jason McCarty, Ron and Debbie Kindle, Jason Stewart, Bo Williams, Dwayne Rhoton, Jason Cox, Roger Cassell

Mayor Mark Jenkins called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

Invocation was provided by Fr Roland Hautz.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chuck Newton.

Upon a motion by Steve Williams and duly seconded by Rita Tipton, members voted to approve the minutes from the May regular meeting with the correction of typo errors and the word sue to sure in the fifth paragraph on page three. Voting in favor of this motion was Steve Williams, Rita Tipton, Jack Anderson, and Frances Perry. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Tommy Herron.

At this time, Mayor Mark Jenkins opens the public hearing on the closing of the west end of Cypress Street.

Members agreed to defer this matter until a later date due to passing of the requester.

At this time, Mayor Mark Jenkins opened the public hearing on the yard sale ordinance.

Mayor Mark Jenkins discussed changing the yard sale ordinance to state the number of days a yard sale can be held, how long a sign can be posted, and places where the yard sales can be held.

Tom Baty asks if a draft of an ordinance has been written.

Richard Hubbard asks about the signs posted in town for yard sales that aren't held in the city limits.

Tom Baty asks what the consequences would be when the ordinance is put into place if it is not abided by.

Michelle Jenkins suggested that a permit be drawn up for residents to know the rules and regulations to have a yard sale in town.

Tom Baty asks if the ordinance would be enforced by the town police.

Town Attorney Mike Carrico asks the mayor about having a public awareness to keep the burden off people who are trying to sell things to buy their children clothes for school.

Robert Barker suggests amounts for registration and fees to have a yard sale.

Michelle Jenkins informed the council that yard sales are just a seasonal problem.

Debbie Kindle suggests that the signs be removed by the trash crew on Monday mornings.

Frances Perry felt that it was not the responsibility of the trash crew to remove the signs.

Tom Baty spoke about people who would comply and not comply properly with the new ordinance if put into place.

Frances Perry asks about the jurisdiction of the signs for yard sales posted in town that are not held in town.

Town Attorney Mike Carrico informs the council and audience that the signs posted for yard sales are not even allowed to be posted on light poles and V-DOT signs.

Steve Williams suggest sending out a letter to residents first to see if the problem would resolve itself and if the problem still persists to take further action on the matter.

Mayor Mark Jenkins closed the public hearing at this time.

Mayor Mark Jenkins opened the public hearing on the vehicle ordinance.

Police Chief Jason Cox spoke about the vehicle ordinance. The ordinance would take the liability off of the town for vehicles that are towed by the town police.

Tom Baty asks Jason to explain the ordinance.

Jason explained that the ordinance would deal with inoperative and immobile vehicles. Inoperative vehicles in town would be towed by the town police and held for 30 days and the owner would be contacted by the town treasurer and if the owner did not pick-up the vehicle within the 30 days the vehicle would be sold and the money would go to the town. Basically the same concept applies for immobile vehicles with the exception of vehicles hindering crews from clearing snow off the streets.

Jason wants the ordinance to be changed to take the responsibility off of the town treasurer. He wants the ordinance to be changed to state that it would be the police officer's responsibility to contact the vehicle owner instead of the treasurer's responsibility.

Tom Baty, Debbie Kindle, and Dewey Breeding ask Jason questions about the ordinance.

Town Attorney Mike Carrico suggests that the ordinance remain as it is written. The ordinance has been tried and tested in court.

The ordinance does not say anything about the police officer helping the treasurer contact the vehicle owner.

Mayor Mark Jenkins closed the public hearing at this time.

Mayor Mark Jenkins opened the public hearing on the Cross Connection Ordinance.

The cross connection ordinance would prevent water from being released back into the town's water system.

Dewey Breeding asks if a device would have to be installed to prevent this from happening.

New construction such as houses and businesses would have to install the device.

Mayor Mark Jenkins closed the public hearing at this time.

Mayor Mark Jenkins opens the public hearing on the Main Street Program Resolution.

Mayor Mark Jenkins discusses the main street program with the audience.

Richard Hubbard comments on the program being a great idea.

Mayor Mark Jenkins closed the public hearing at this time.

Mayor Mark Jenkins opens the public hearing on the resolution being submitted to V-DOT.

Mayor Mark Jenkins discusses the resolutions being submitted to V-DOT.

Mayor Mark Jenkins closed the public hearing at this time.

Mayor Mark Jenkins opens the public hearing on the F.Y. 2005-2006 Budget.

Roger Cassell spoke to the council about the fire department's line item in this year's budget. Roger sent a letter requesting more funding for the fire department and the request was not given to Michelle in time to be included into this year's budget. Roger asks that the council increase his line item by \$2,000.

A mistake in accounting appeared that the money allocated to the fire department was not being used.

Michelle Jenkins discussed why it appeared that the money was not being used by the fire department. The money was being taken out of the wrong item. Money added to the fire department would have to be taken away from another line item in this year's budget.

Mayor Mark Jenkins asks about taking away from the Crooked Road contribution.

The money would go to the fire department out of the general fund instead of contributing to the Crooked Road.

Town Attorney Mike Carrico spoke as citizen, asking the council to consider which one would be more beneficial to the town.

Michelle suggests that all invoices submitted to the treasurer to be paid, have the correct line item listed on the invoice so it will be taken out of the correct line item.

Money can also be taken out of the EDARC's funding to be given to the fire department.

Michelle also suggests that advertisements be placed in the paper and letters submitted to the town for contributions instead of people and groups coming to the council asking for money.

\$1,500.00 can be taken from the Crooked Road Contribution and \$500.00 from charitable donations.

Debbie Kindle suggests that the money be taken away from the fireworks line item.

Mayor Mark Jenkins closed the public hearing on the budget at this time.

Mayor Mark Jenkins opens the floor for public comment at this time.

Robert Barker spoke the council about his lot on Quillen Circle.

Mayor Mark Jenkins told Robert that the town will look at the lot and the road leading to the lot.

Chuck Newton spoke about a hedge on E. Jackson Street hindering travel on the sidewalk.

Tom Baty spoke about the annual .25 mile that is turned over to the state each year and asks the town to consider certain issues before turning over the .25 mile.

Roger Cassell spoke to the council about NIMS at the time.

The town council will have to adopt a resolution to accept NIMS to receive federal funding. NIMS stands for the National Incident Management System. The county will be holding a training session for all emergency works personnel. A self study is also available on FEMA's website. Roger suggests to the council that Mark, Jason, and Dwayne attend the NIMS training sessions.

Mayor Mark Jenkins closed the public comment at this time.

Ron Kindle's request will be deferred until June 28th.

Steve Jennings' request will be deferred until the next town council meeting on June 28th.

At this time, the council discusses the hiring of a part-time public works employee. Dwayne asks the council to hire two new part-time employees after one of the part-time employees quit on Monday. Mayor Mark Jenkins gives Dwayne permission to hire two new employees.

Upon a motion by Rita Tipton and duly seconded by Jack Anderson, members voted to pass the policy and procedure manual for the police department. Voting in favor of this motion was Steve Williams, Rita Tipton, Jack Anderson, and Frances Perry. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Tommy Herron.

At this time, the council discusses the idea of publishing a section of the ordinance in the county paper each week to inform residents of the current ordinances in place.

Frances Perry asks about the cost from the budget to have to ordinances published.

Michelle Jenkins suggests asking the county paper to run the ordinances for free. She also suggests that a brief summary of the ordinance be published instead of the whole ordinance and suggests that if a citizen would like a full copy of the ordinance be made available to them at the town hall.

Frances Perry asks if the expense of the publishing is worth the cost if the ordinance does not affect all of the residents in town.

The council suggests that cheapest method to inform the residents of the current ordinances be pursued.

WGAT or Channel 30 could be used as a free service for public communication.

The ordinances will be broadcast over WGAT.

Upon a motion by Jack Anderson and Frances Perry, members voted to accept Melinda Taylor's resignation as town treasurer. Voting in favor of this motion was Steve William, Rita Tipton, Jack Anderson, and Frances Perry. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Tommy Herron.

Documentation needs to be found on a bill received from HJS Qwik Signs for a banner made for Clinch Mountain Memories. The council deferred this matter until the next meeting.

Jack Anderson resigned from the Sanitation Authority.

Mayor Mark Jenkins appointed Tommy Herron to the Sanitation Authority.

Police Chief Jason Cox handed out his monthly report to the council. Jason spoke about the progress of the K-9 dog. Mayor Mark Jenkins asks Jason about a gunshot that was heard in town. He also informs the council about egging going on inside town. Mark thanked Jason for his and the police departments good work.

Dwayne handed out his public works monthly report. Dwayne informs the council that the problem with the sidewalks on Cypress Street will be taken care of tomorrow.

The water accountability is at 48 %.

Sanitation Authority met last night.

There is no town manager report.

The street committee has not met this month.

The planning commission reviewed the subdivision ordinance for the town. The planning commission recommended to the council that no subdivision ordinances be approved by the council without abiding by the V-DOT requirements. The planning commission suggested that the town do a new boundary adjustment rather than correcting the old boundary adjustment. They also suggested that the council pay for the town's website for two years from the planning commission line items.

Sanitation Authority met last night for a public hearing on the F.Y. 2005-2006. The sanitation authority also approved the purchase of DSL for the sewer plant.

EDRC did not meet this month.

Upon a motion by Rita Tipton and duly seconded by Jack Anderson, members voted to pass the resolution to turn Elm Street over to V-DOT. Voting in favor of this motion was Steve William, Rita Tipton, Jack Anderson, and Frances Perry. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Tommy Herron.

Upon a motion by Frances Perry and duly seconded by Rita Tipton, members passed the resolution to turn over a portion of Moccasin Hills Drive. Voting in favor of this motion was Steve Williams, Rita Tipton, Jack Anderson, and Frances Perry. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Tommy Herron.

Upon a motion by Rita Tipton and duly seconded by Frances Perry, member voted to pass the resolution for the Main Street Program. Voting in favor of this motion was Steve Williams, Rita Tipton, Jack Anderson, and Frances Perry. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Tommy Herron.

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

Upon a motion by Steve William and duly seconded by Rita Tipton, members voted to pay the bills out of the water and general fund. Voting in favor of this motion was Steve Williams, Rita Tipton, Jack Anderson, and Frances Perry. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Tommy Herron.

Upon a motion by Rita Tipton and duly seconded by Frances Perry, members voted to adjourn the meeting until June 28, 2005 at 6:00 pm. Voting in favor of this motion was Steve Williams, Rita Tipton, Jack Anderson, and Frances Perry. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Tommy Herron.

MAYOR

RECORDER
