

REGULAR MONTHLY Meeting of the Gate City Town Council was held on Tuesday, October 11, 2005 at 6:00 pm at the Gate City Town Hall.

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

ABSENT: NONE

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Spicer, Robin Sampson, Michael Brickey, Jr., Vikki Roberts, Richard Hubbard, Jason Cox, Allen Ison, Delta Purkey, Michelle Jenkins, Dan Danko, Robert Barker, Pat Loggans, Kurt Lane, Debbie Kindle, Amber Sturgill, Carl and Janell Staton, Chuck, Theresa, and Zeke Newton, Morris Holton, Norman Eichman, Tabettha Peace, Gail Dougherty, Scott Cleek, Steve Dougherty, Beverly Robinette, Ron Kindle, Joe Maya, Mr. and Mrs. Argoe, Lois and Dewey Breeding, Dawn Williams

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

Invocation was provided by Mrs. Jannell Staton.

The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Chuck Newton.

Dan Danko spoke about the Manville/Red Hill project. Mr. Danko spoke about grant money that would need to be requested from the Virginia Health Department. He asks the council about signing a letter from mayor or town manager to approve the request for additional money from the health department.

Upon a motion by Frances Perry and Tommy Herron, members approved the minutes from the September 2005 meeting with the change to Tommy's vote on page three. Voting in favor of this motion was Tommy Herron, Frances Perry, Jack Anderson, and Steve Williams. Rita Tipton abstained from the vote. There were no opposing votes.

Mayor Mark Jenkins opened the floor for public comment as this time.

Robert Barker spoke about his property located on Estill Heights. He asks the council to reconsider their discussion to make the property accessible after a potential buyer is found.

Mike Brickey spoke about the parking lot at the First Baptist Church. He spoke about the traffic from the church and the problem it causes for residents near the church.

Chuck Newton requests that the town and the town council recognize Coach Colobro who was inducted into the football hall of fame.

Delta Purkey spoke about Make a Difference Day on October 22nd at 10 am at Grogan Park. Volunteers will help clean up the creek at Grogan Park.

Kurt Lane asks who citizens need to contact if water is off after regular business hours.

A message will be put on the answering machine for residents to call central dispatch if a water emergency occurs.

Kurt Lane also asks the council about the list for street paving.

Foreman Randall Hurt took pictures of the streets that need paving and a list has been made for the street committee. The street committee will have to review the list of streets and put them in order.

Joe Maya spoke about the drainage problem behind his store building.

Vikki Roberts spoke about the “Jerry Kilgore” sign being removed.

Mrs. Roberts also spoke about the sidewalks coming into town. The grass is grown up on the sidewalks and when it is cut down, it is left on the sidewalks and needs to be cleaned up after weed eating.

Joe Maya spoke about cleaning off the sidewalks in front of his store. He also spoke about the trees being replanted in the sidewalks to keep people from falling in the empty spaces. He also spoke about the pigeons that resided in the dilapidated buildings and have moved to the top of his building and Hackney Furniture Store. The pigeons are making a mess on the sidewalks.

Chuck Newton spoke about an ordinance past by a neighboring town regarding pigeons.

Pat Loggans suggested legal ways of removing the pigeons.

Mayor Mark Jenkins closed the public comment section as this time.

Norman Eichman presented the plans to the council for the parking lot beside of First Baptist Church.

Rita Tipton spoke about the proposed entrance and exit to the parking lot and the problem that may arise with traffic coming up and down Solon Street.

Tommy Herron asks about the parking space that the lot will add.

The parking lot will provide forty-five to forty-nine additional parking spaces.

Michelle Jenkins spoke about the planning commission approval of the plans for the new parking lot.

Upon a motion by Rita Tipton and Tommy Herron, members voted to approve the First Baptist Church's plan for the parking lot subject to V-DOT and Scott County Soil and Water's approval and permits and upon seeking an alternative to parking on the sides of Solon Street. Voting in favor of this motion was Rita Tipton, Tommy Herron, Jack Anderson, and Steve Williams. Frances Perry abstained from the vote.

Robin Sampson told the council that she would bring up the subject of parking on Solon Street at the next churches' business meeting.

Pat Loggans spoke about the 15" tile that needs to be installed at Broadwater Drug. Mr. Loggans is asking the town to install the 15" drain line to the storm surge.

The town will install the tile and replace the sidewalk.

Broadwater Drug is also requesting that the curb be cut for the entrance to the drive-thru when the tile is installed.

Joe Maya asks about the entrance and the exit to the new drive-thru.

Upon a motion by Tommy Herron and duly seconded by Frances Perry, members voted to install the 15" drain for Broadwater Drug. Voting in favor of this motion was Tommy Herron, Frances Perry, Jack Anderson, and Steve Williams. There were no opposing votes.

At this time, the council discussed the sign ordinance for the town.

Mayor Mark Jenkins is asking the town to fix set guidelines for placing signs up on the "Welcome to Gate City" sign.

Town Attorney Mike Carrico asks about the jurisdiction of the signs.

The current town's sign is located on federal property but maintained by the town and the lighting for the sign is also provided by the town.

A place should be designated for signs on town property.

Robert Barker spoke about recognizing people after they have passed away.

Joe Maya spoke about signs being posted for the Daniel Boone Trail.

Town Attorney Mike Carrico spoke about freedom of speech.

Frances Perry asks Mark about the intentions of removing the sign.

Frances Perry also spoke about how the town sign came to be and that the sign was donated by individuals.

Mayor Mark Jenkins would like the Planning Commission to draft an ordinance governing town signs.

Town Attorney Mike Carrico asks if the council approved the placement of signs.

Town Manager Jason Stewart informed the council that the sign was approved by the council to all the sign to be placed on the town's sign.

Mayor Mark Jenkins is asking for an ordinance to be drawn-up by the Planning Commission to be presented to the council for approval.

Kurt Lane spoke about how an ordinance would be hard to put on paper for restrictions.

Mayor Mark Jenkins tells the audience that something needs to be put into place for the restriction of signs being placed on the town's welcome sign.

Mrs. Argoe spoke about the sign being placed to help recognize someone from Gate City that served as Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Delta Purkey suggested some solutions to place a sign in the town.

Upon a motion by Frances Perry and duly seconded by Tommy Herron, members voted to let the Planning Commission draw up an ordinance to allow signs to be placed inside the town to recognize people that are elected to a statewide or higher political level. Voting in favor of this motion was Tommy Herron, Frances Perry, Jack Anderson, and Steve Williams. There were no opposing votes.

Jannell Staton spoke to the council about the old Broadwater property that they own. Mrs. Staton wants to start an unwed mother's home with approval from the town council.

Tommy Herron asks about the location of the home.

The property is located on the corner of Fir and Cypress Street.

The property is zoned R-2 and the home would be permitted in this location.

Mrs. Staton is informed that she can proceed with starting the unwed mother's home.

The council discusses the new personnel manual at this time.

Town Manager Jason Stewart spoke with the council about the new personnel manual.

The manual was tabled until the next town council meeting so the policy can be reviewed further.

Town Attorney Mike Carrico spoke about the town's drug policy.

Mayor Mark Jenkins thanked Police Chief Jason Cox for taking the supplies to the people in the gulf coast who were affected by the hurricane.

Police Chief Jason Cox handed out his monthly report.

Jason discussed what they took to the law enforcement officers in Mississippi.

Tommy Herron asks about house checks.

Jason discussed activities that they have taken place in September and upcoming events.

Upon a motion by Rita Tipton and duly seconded by Tommy Herron, members voted to reimburse Jason for gas used to transport the supplies to Mississippi. Voting in favor of this motion was Tommy Herron, Frances Perry, Jack Anderson, and Steve Williams. There were no opposing votes.

Jason also spoke about the bids received for a new police car to replace the car that was wrecked.

Upon a motion by Tommy Herron and duly seconded by Rita Tipton, member voted to purchase a new police car. Voting in favor of this motion was Tommy Herron, Frances Perry, Jack Anderson, and Steve Williams. There were no opposing votes.

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

Mayor Mark Jenkins thanked Randall for coming out and fixing leaks and cleaning up the garage at the water plant.

Tommy Herron asks about the situation at the new E-911 building.

Randall replied that he had not received any word on what the county wanted to have done but he would speak to Billy Gilmer.

Town Manager Jason Stewart discussed his manager's report with the council at this time.

Town Attorney Mike Carrico informed Jason Stewart that he has the authority to hire part-time help without the approval of the council.

Upon a motion by Tommy Herron and duly seconded by Steve Williams, members voted to allow Town Manager Jason Stewart to sign the papers that are needed for the Manville/Red Hill Project. Voting in favor of this motion was Tommy Herron, Frances Perry, Jack Anderson, and Steve Williams. There were no opposing votes.

The street committee needs to meet to discuss the list of streets that need paving.

The Planning Commission recommended that the town council approve the proposal by the Gate City First Baptist Church to complete its parking lot, contingent upon the church obtaining proper permits from VDOT, Scott County Soil & Water Conservation District, and other applicable agencies.

The Planning Commission needs to public hearing regarding adding Adkins' subdivision to the boundary adjustment.

Sanitation Authority will meet next week.

EDRC did not week.

The council has already voted to hold a public hearing on the re-zoning.

Upon a motion by Rita Tipton and Jack Anderson, members voted to advertise to hold a public hearing at 5:30 pm on the next town meeting. Voting in favor of this motion was Tommy Herron, Frances Perry, Jack Anderson, and Steve Williams. There were no opposing votes.

The council reviewed the treasurer's report at this time.

Steve Williams asks about the adjustments in the auditor's report.

Upon a motion by Tommy Herron and duly seconded by Rita Tipton, members voted to advertise for full-time public works employee. Voting in favor of this motion was Tommy Herron, Frances Perry, Jack Anderson, and Steve Williams. There were no opposing votes.

Town Manager Jason Stewart spoke about moving all at-will employees to hired employees which would require a charter change.

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

Upon a motion by Jack Anderson and duly seconded Rita Tipton, members voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 pm. Voting in favor of this motion was Tommy Herron, Frances Perry, Jack Anderson, and Steve Williams. There were no opposing votes.

MAYOR

RECORDER
