

**REGULAR MONTHLY** Meeting of the Gate City Town Council was held on Thursday, October 19, 2006 at 6:30 pm.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Mark Jenkins, Vice-Mayor Rita Tipton, Carl Hurt, Frances Perry, Roger Cassell, Town Manager Jason Stewart, Town Attorney Mike Carricio, Recorder Heather Kiser

**ABSENT:** Tommy Herron

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Joe Fuller, Diane Meredith, Jan Jenkins, Jim Benton, Richard Hubbard, Ross and Michelle Jenkins, Chuck and Althea Newton, Ron and Debbie Kindle, John Shepard, Sam and Loretta Cruby, Wallace Ross, Randall Hurt

Mayor Mark Jenkins called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Invocation was provided by John Shepard.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chuck Newton.

Upon a motion by Rita Tipton and duly seconded by Frances Perry, members voted to approve the minutes from the September 2006 regular monthly meeting. Voting in favor of this motion was Rita Tipton, Frances Perry, Carl Hurt, and Roger Cassell. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Tommy Herron.

There were no public hearings.

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

Richard Hubbard asks about the progress of the buildings that were condemned.

Town Manager Jason Stewart informed Mr. Hubbard that the trailers that were condemned on Starnes Street were removed by the owner.

Town Attorney Mike Carrico discussed the criminal charges against the owner of the theatre building. He also discussed the old Scott Motel. The motel is in V-DOT's future plans. The buildings are in legal "roadblocks".

Mayor Mark Jenkins informed Mr. Hubbard that the owner of the apartment building on McConnell Street is repairing the building.

Town Manager Jason Stewart informed Mr. Hubbard that the town is in the process of condemning five more structures but there are problems with the counties assessments on the properties.

Wallace Ross spoke about the signs coming into the town. He is asking where the official boundary line is. He is suggesting that the sign coming across the bridge into the town be moved to the correct boundary line. He also spoke about transportation in the town and taking care of the private property that the Town of Gate City sign is currently on.

Wallace also spoke about Jeff Parkey and ask if the town had to hire two people to replace him and why maintenance has decreased since he left the town.

Foreman Randall Hurt discussed the situation with the public works department.

Carl Hurt discussed the Town of Gate City's welcome sign that was made by Mrs. Kilgore's class and placed on the National Guard's property.

The sign is not a boundary maker.

Richard Hubbard discussed the location of the other "Welcome to Gate City" signs.

Town Attorney Mike Carrico discussed the agreement made by the town regarding the sign.

Mayor Mark Jenkins discussed the official boundaries of Gate City.

Frances Perry discussed with Mr. Ross the attorney general sign on the "Welcome to Gate City" sign. The town agreed to maintain the property where the sign is located.

Wallace Ross discussed what his tax dollars are being used for.

Joe Fuller discussed the money the town donated to promote tourism.

Richard Hubbard discussed the location of the signs advertising clubs and churches in the town.

Wallace Ross asks if these things were in the minutes.

Town Manager Jason Stewart suggested that Mr. Ross come and review the things in the minutes regarding the town's welcome signs.

Mayor Mark Jenkins spoke about the MEOC providing transportation.

Ron Kindle spoke about limiting the time someone can speak during public comment.

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

Roger Cassell discussed the by-laws of the Sanitation Authority at this time. Roger is questioning a member that is serving on the board that lives outside the town limits.

Town Attorney Mike Carrico suggested that the matter needs to be discussed in closed session.

The council discussed the sale of surplus equipment.

Roger Cassell discussed the equipment that needs to be sold. The money made from the sale could be used to buy new equipment.

Mayor Mark Jenkins suggested that the department head get together and decide what can be sold and a date will be set for the sale. The town will have to advertise for two weeks before the sale can take place.

Upon a motion by Roger Cassell and duly seconded by Carl Hurt, members voted to advertise to hold a surplus equipment auction. Voting in favor of this motion was Rita Tipton, Frances Perry, Carl Hurt, and Roger Cassell. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Tommy Herron.

Frances Perry questioned the town's involvement with the Scott County Cooperative Ministries.

Town Attorney Mike Carrico discussed how the power company accepted donations for people in need.

Mayor Mark Jenkins suggested that the town manage the funds and transfer them to the Scott County Social Ministries.

Frances Perry is going to discuss the details of how the money is going to be distributed with the Scott County Social Ministries.

Mayor Mark Jenkins suggested that Frances work out the details with the Scott County Social Ministries and bring the recommendations regarding this matter to the council.

Town Attorney Mike Carrico suggested Jason Stewart speak with Cindy to get the proper steps for the incoming funds.

Mayor Mark Jenkins discussed the holiday pay rate for employees.

The policy now states that employees that volunteer to work on a holiday get straight pay for the hours they work.

Mayor Mark Jenkins wants the employees that work on a holiday to get paid time and a half.

The personal committee needs to review this matter and bring their recommendations to the council.

Diane Meredith spoke to the council about the Clinch Mountain Music Fest.

The music fest is scheduled for June 15, 16, and 17<sup>th</sup> of 2007. The organizers of the festival want to move the venue to Scott County. The volunteers for the festival want to find a location in Gate City for the events to be held on Saturday.

Joe Fuller suggested asking for funds from businesses in the Scott County area.

Upon a motion by Frances Perry and duly seconded by Rita Tipton, members voted to allow EDRC to work with the volunteers of the Clinch Mountain Music Fest. Voting in favor of this motion was Rita Tipton, Frances Perry, Carl Hurt, and Roger Cassell. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Tommy Herron.

The town will look at the budget to see how the town could contribute to the festival.

The Planning Commission did not have a quorum to meet this month. There will be two reappointments made in November and also a vacant seat on the commission will be available.

Upon a motion by Rita Tipton and duly seconded by Frances Perry, members voted to advertise for the vacant seat on the planning commission. Voting in favor of this motion was Rita Tipton, Frances Perry, Carl Hurt, and Roger Cassell. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Tommy Herron.

Police Chief Jason Cox was unable to attend the meeting but left his report for the council to review.

The town is still accepting applications for the police officer position.

Foreman Randall Hurt discussed his public works report with the council at this time. He is asking the town to send a letter to the county to thank them for all their help with the trash trucks broke down. He also discussed the situation with the bladder system at Moccasin Hills and the suggestions from Dick Owens to repair the system. A tank will eventually have to be installed at Moccasin Hills. Randall also discussed the agreement with Utility Service.

Frances Perry asks about installing cameras at the park to help stop the vandalism.

The water accountability was at 4.6%.

Loretta Cruby asks when the town is going to hire some at the water plant. She also discussed the limit of capacity set forth by the health department. She is afraid that when the Manville/Red Hill water project goes online that the water plant is going to be over it capacity.

Upon a motion by Carl Hurt and duly seconded by Rita Tipton, members voted to advertise to hire a full time water operator. Voting in favor of this motion was Rita Tipton, Frances Perry, Carl Hurt, and Roger Cassell. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Tommy Herron.

Town Manager Jason Stewart discussed his monthly report with the council at this time.

There were no recommendations from the Street Committee or the Sanitation Authority.

EDRC has accepted one new member but still need two more members.

Upon a motion by Rita Tipton and duly seconded by Roger Cassell, members voted to advertise a second time for members to serve on the EDRC board. Voting in favor of this motion was Rita Tipton, Frances Perry, Carl Hurt, and Roger Cassell. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Tommy Herron.

Mayor Mark Jenkins discussed the Mayor's Institute.

Thanksgiving employee dinner will be done by council members this year.

Frances Perry and Carl Hurt are going to plan the dinner.

Upon a motion by Frances Perry and duly seconded by Carl Hurt, members voted to pay the bills. Voting in favor of this motion was Rita Tipton, Frances Perry, Carl Hurt, and Roger Cassell. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Tommy Herron.

Upon a motion by Rita Tipton and duly seconded by Roger Cassell, members voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:29 pm. Voting in favor of this motion was Rita Tipton, Frances Perry, Carl Hurt, and Roger Cassell. There were no opposing votes. Absent from the vote and meeting was Tommy Herron.

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**MAYOR**

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**RECORDER**

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