

**REGULAR MONTHLY** Meeting of the Gate City Town Council was held on Tuesday, September 14, 2006 at 6:30 pm at the Gate City Town Hall.

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

**ABSENT:** NONE

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Chuck and Althea Newton, Jay Dixon, Tommy and Lois Quillin, Clifford Jeffery, Richard Hubbard, Sam and Loretta Cruby, Ross and Michelle Jenkins, Police Chief Jason Cox, Beverly Robinette, Gaye Denney, Adam Sampson, Mark and Jackie Sexton, Rev. Bob Cloud

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

Invocation was provided by Rev. Bob Cloud.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chuck Newton.

Upon a motion by Rita Tipton and duly seconded by Tommy Herron, members voted to approve the minutes from the August regular monthly meeting. Voting in favor of this motion was Rita Tipton, Tommy Herron, Frances Perry, Carl Hurt, and Roger Cassell.

Mayor Mark Jenkins opened the public comment at this time.

Tommy Quillin handed out a paper regarding installing new meters at Quillin Apartments #1 and #2.

Tommy Herron asks about the location of the meters.

Town Manager Jason Stewart informed Mr. Quillin that the installation of the new meters is on Randall Hurt's schedule after the work is completed at Greg Carter's.

Randall Hurt will come out to the apartments on Thursday to work out the details of moving the current meters.

Mayor Mark Jenkins thanked Tommy Quillin for all his work.

Beverly Robinette asks what was going to be done about the Theatre Building and other old buildings in town. She also asks about the sidewalk on Cleveland Street and the increase of garbage rates.

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

Mark Sexton discussed his appeal to the council. Mr. Sexton is asking the council to allow him to have goats on his property to help keep it cleared off.

Frances Perry asks about the town ordinance regarding livestock.

The ordinance states that the livestock has to be grandfathered in to be allowed.

Frances Perry stated that if the council allowed Mr. Sexton to have goats on the property then they would have to allow everyone.

The council discussed the ordinance regarding livestock in the town's limits.

Upon a motion by Tommy Herron and duly seconded by Frances Perry, members voted to uphold the Mayor's decision to deny the livestock permit. Voting in favor of this motion was Rita Tipton, Tommy Herron, Frances Perry, Carl Hurt, and Roger Cassell.

The council discussed properties that have been grandfathered in.

David Pringle spoke to the council regarding Clinchview Manor Apartments. He has come to the council to appeal the late charges on their water bill.

The council discussed their water bill at this time.

No motion was made regarding their water bill.

Mayor Mark Jenkins thanked Mr. Pringle for coming to the meeting.

Adam Sampson discussed his lot on Red Hill Road with the council. He signed an easement for the new water line to be placed on his property. Where the water line is currently placed, the property cannot be improved. He wants to improve the lot or sale the lot for someone to improve.

The cost to move the line would be around \$3,000.

Mr. Sampson discussed the lot with the council at this time.

The water line needs to be rerouted on the property.

Town Attorney Mike Carrico suggested discussing the matter with Dan Danko, Mattern & Craig, and S & B Construction.

The council discussed the water line at this time.



Mayor Mark Jenkins discussed the litter problem at the town parking lot and vehicles that have been using the bank as a jumping ramp. He asked Jason Cox to address this problem. He also spoke about grant money available for a part-time litter officer.

The council discussed landowner's failure to maintain property. Letters are being sent out to the property owners.

The council discussed the licensing of non-profit organizations. The town's business license is currently based on the gross amount made by a business.

The council suggested that the matter be reviewed by the planning commission.

The council discussed the hiring process for part-time employees. Some recommendations have been made that the hiring process for part-time employees be the same as full-time employees.

Roger Cassell suggested that Town Attorney Mike Carrico review the Town Charter before it is changed.

Upon a motion by Roger Cassell and duly seconded by Carl Hurt, members voted to change the hiring process for part-time employees. Voting in favor of this motion was Rita Tipton, Tommy Herron, Frances Perry, Carl Hurt, and Roger Cassell.

The council discussed the contract with Arnett & Muldrow at this time.

Upon a motion by Rita Tipton and duly seconded by Frances Perry, members voted to approve the contract from Arnett & Muldrow regarding the Downtown Revitalization study. Voting in favor of this motion was Rita Tipton, Tommy Herron, Frances Perry, Carl Hurt, and Roger Cassell.

The council discussed the sponsorship of GCHSTE on Channel 30 at this time.

Chuck Newton spoke to the council about the sponsorship. He also spoke about the fees that Lonesome Pine charged.

Rita Tipton discussed the recommendations from the planning commission at this time. The Planning Commission recommended that the Town of Gate City deed to the Southwest Virginia Community Foundation the municipal parking lot property fronting on Water Street, with the understanding that private and public funds will be raised to build a new building on the site as outlined in the document presented by Mr. & Mrs. Dixon.

Upon a motion by Rita Tipton and duly seconded by Tommy Herron, members voted to deed the municipal parking lot property to the Southwest Virginia Community Foundation as read with the criteria being met as stated. Voting in favor of this motion was Rita Tipton, Tommy Herron, Frances Perry, Carl Hurt, and Roger Cassell.

Jay Dixon discussed the performing arts center at this time.

Mayor Mark Jenkins thanked the Dixon's for all their work.

Roger Cassell questioned the deed. He asked if flea market could still go on after the deed is signed until the construction takes place.

Police Chief Jason Cox discussed the police department and K-9 monthly report. He also discussed events that have taken place and future events. He spoke about current grants that he is applying for.

Mayor Mark Jenkins thanked Jason Cox.

Randall Hurt left his monthly report. Frances Perry asks about getting the police department finished.

Loretta Cruby discussed the water plant's monthly report. Water accountability is at 10%. The town hired a part-time water operator.

Carl Hurt asked about PSA possibly having a leak.

Mayor Mark Jenkins thanked Loretta.

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

The auditor sent a copy of the 2004-2005 Audit Report for each council member. He is going to schedule a time to discuss the report with the council.

Roger Cassell asks about the chairman of the Sanitation Authority not living in the town limits.

Tommy Herron asks about the grant for the new waste water treatment plant.

Town Manager Jason Stewart discussed the condemned houses in town.

Tommy Herron asks about Ron Baker's property on East Jackson Street.

There were no recommendations from the street committee.

The Sanitation Authority has not met this month.

EDRC has three open seats. The board has only received one application to fill one of the seats.

Upon a motion by Tommy Herron and duly seconded by Frances Perry, members voted to approve Jay Dixon's application to serve on the EDRC board. Voting in favor of this motion was Rita Tipton, Tommy Herron, Frances Perry, Carl Hurt, and Roger Cassell.

Roger Cassell spoke about the certification for NEMS. The deadline to get certified is September 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be a class held at the fire department on September 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

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 Rita Tipton, Tommy Herron, Frances Perry, Carl Hurt, and Roger Cassell.

Upon a motion by Tommy Herron and duly seconded by Roger Cassell, members voted adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm. Voting in favor of this motion was Rita Tipton, Tommy Herron, Frances Perry, Carl Hurt, and Roger Cassell.

---

**MAYOR**

---

**RECORDER**

\*\*\*\*\*