

REGULAR MONTHLY Meeting of the Gate City Town Council was held on Tuesday, May 8, 2007 at 6:30 pm at the Gate City Town Hall.

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

ABSENT: NONE

OTHERS PRESENT: Debbie Kindle, Tommy Quillin, Stoney Falin, Steve Whiten, Ron Kindle, Cathy McConnell, Sam and Loretta Cruby, Jan Jenkins, Police Chief Jason Cox, Michael Delano, Benny Reed, Joe Maya, Richard Helms, Wallace W. Ross, Jr., Brent Herron, Jorita Jones

Mayor Mark Jenkins called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.

Invocation was provided by Richard Helms.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Mark Jenkins.

Upon a motion by Frances Perry and duly seconded by Rita Tipton, members voted to approve the minutes from the April 2007 regular monthly meeting with the correction of the typo errors. Voting in favor of this motion was Frances Perry, Rita Tipton, Carl Hurt, and Roger Cassell. Tommy Herron abstained from the vote.

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

Joe Maya discussed the parking problem in town. Nothing has changed since the first letter was sent out to the merchants. He also spoke about the garbage being left on the sidewalks in front of businesses. He informed the council of the new business tenant that is leasing his building and a piece of property he is trying to sell to Commercial Electronics. He discussed the change to the counties' tax deadline. He suggested that the town and county change their deadline for taxes to February and March, so the taxes will be due when residents receive their income tax checks. He is asking the town to go the county and express their concerns. He also voiced his opinion of the county decals. He asks the council for an update on the grant for downtown revitalization.

The grant has not been approved at this time. The town will not know how much money they are going to receive until June of this year.

Joe Maya commended Mayor Mark Jenkins on the great job he is doing.

The council informed Mr. Maya that they will provide him with a packet to show him the plans for downtown Gate City.

Tommy Herron asks Mr. Maya if the dumpster has been removed from behind the business.

Mayor Mark Jenkins said that a letter can be sent to merchants regarding the garbage on the sidewalks and the parking situation.

The proper steps will be taken to correct the garbage and parking problem on the main street.

Mayor Mark Jenkins discussed some of the things that the Chamber of Commerce has done for the town.

Joe Maya asks what the status is on the arts center.

A grant for \$150,000 was awarded to the arts center to begin the planning process.

Wallace Ross asks about the March 13, 2007 Town Council meeting. He is questioning the sequence order of the agendas.

Town Attorney Mike Carrico informed Mr. Ross that a public hearing is separate from the regular monthly meeting.

Mr. Ross also questioned the grants that the town has applied for.

The council discussed the grants and the public hearings with Mr. Ross.

Joe Maya informed the council that he had two apartment units located above two buildings that would qualify for low income housing.

Town Attorney Mike Carrico discussed the Community Development Block Grant with Wallace Ross.

Tommy Quillin discussed the low income housing.

Joe Maya informed the council how they determine their tenants for their apartments.

Wallace Ross asks about if Adkin's Subdivision is located inside or outside of the Town limits.

The subdivision is located outside the city limits.

He also asks the council if a study was done to determine the cost of maintenance to maintain Adkin's Subdivision.

Engineers performed a study of Manville and Red Hill Road.

Mayor Mark Jenkins closed the public comment at this time.

The council discussed the new water policy manual at this time.

Upon a motion by Tommy Herron and duly seconded by Rita Tipton, members voted to approve the water policy manual as written. Voting in favor of this motion was Tommy Herron, Rita Tipton, Frances Perry, Roger Cassell, and Carl Hurt. There were no opposing votes.

The council discussed the out of town garbage pick-up.

Garbage pick-up should only be offered to residents inside the city limits.

Upon a motion by Tommy Herron and duly seconded by Roger Cassell, members voted provide garbage pick-up only to residents inside the city limits. Voting in favor of this motion was Tommy Herron, Roger Cassell, Frances Perry, Rita Tipton, and Carl Hurt. There were no opposing votes.

The compensation to committee members will be included in the next budgeting cycle.

The council discussed advertising for an engineering firm to work with the town on a water grant.

Mattern & Craig is currently the town's engineering firm.

The council discussed a letter that will be mailed with the business license application requesting that a copy of the first page of the businesses' 2006 Federal Tax Return or documentation from their tax preparer.

Richard Helms spoke on behalf of the Scott County Rotary Club. He is requesting the council to consider a donation to the Rotary Club to help fund their Back to School Project.

Mr. Helms briefly discussed the Back to School Project with the council at this time.

Town Attorney Mike Carrico also discussed his involvement with the Back to School Project.

Frances Perry discussed the need for a line item in next year's budget if this donation was going to be a yearly donation.

The Rotary Club is asking for a donation out of this year's budget cycle.

Upon a motion by Frances Perry and duly seconded by Tommy Herron, members voted to make a specific line item in next year's budget for donation request. Voting in favor of this motion was Frances Perry, Tommy Herron, Roger Cassell, Rita Tipton, and Carl Hurt. There were no opposing votes.

Roger Cassell suggested that organizations submit letters for donations so the budget committee can review them for specific line items.

Upon a motion by Tommy Herron and duly seconded by Rita Tipton, members voted to donate \$250 to the Rotary Club's Back to School Project. Voting in favor of this motion was Tommy Herron, Rita Tipton, Frances Perry, Roger Cassell, and Carl. There were no opposing votes.

Rita Tipton asks if this amount would be an ongoing amount each year.

Mayor Mark Jenkins appointed Roger Cassell and Rita Tipton to serve on the Codification Process Committee.

Brent Heron spoke on behalf of the Community Fellowship Baptist Church. He is requesting a donation from the Town to help fund the Community Block Grant Party.

Tommy Herron questioned the cost of advertising.

In past years the Town of Gate City has donated \$500 to pay for the advertising of the Community Block Grant Party.

Upon a motion by Tommy Herron and duly seconded by Frances Perry, members voted donate \$500 plus an additional \$125 for the Community Block Grant Party and an additional \$125 for the Scott County Rotary Club's Back to School project. Voting in favor of this motion was Tommy Herron, Frances Perry, Rita Tipton, Roger Cassell, and Carl Hurt. There were no opposing votes.

Scott County Farmer's Co-Op decided not to appeal the cost of the water tap for the new Scott Farmer's Co-Op building.

The town has recently received complaints of a possible kennel that is being run on Queen Street.

A letter will be drafted to the owner regarding this problem.

The Town of Gate City will have a Surplus Equipment Sale after a list is compiled of things to sale.

Steve Whiten discussed the change to a lot line on Ron Kindle's property.

The change to the lot line meets all the set back regulations.

Upon a motion by Roger Cassell and duly seconded by Frances Perry, members voted to allow the subdivision of two lots on Highland Street. Voting in favor of this motion was Roger Cassell, Frances Perry, Rita Tipton, Tommy Herron, and Carl Hurt. There were no opposing votes.

The council discussed the Police Department's Policy Manual.

The policy manual was tabled until next month to allow the town attorney to review it.

There were no recommendations from the Planning Commission.

Police Chief Jason Cox handed out the police department's monthly report.

Mayor Mark Jenkins apologized to Police Chief Cox for being unable to attend the Bike Rodeo on Sunday.

Roger Cassell asks about the grant to purchase new police cars.

There has been no word on the grant. A public hearing will have to be held and approval may be sometime this fall.

Mayor Mark Jenkins asks about the school searches that were performed last month.

There was nothing found at the schools.

Stoney Falin handed out the public works' monthly report.

Mayor Mark Jenkins spoke about the compliments on the public works department.

Tommy Herron asks if the work had been completed at Tommy Quillin's apartment complex.

The work has been completed.

Mayor Mark Jenkins also thanked the public works department for all the work they have done down at the park.

Tommy Herron asks if the town will have to hire contractors to complete the rest of the work at the park.

Mayor Mark Jenkins discussed the road boring machine that PSA owns. The county has agreed to do the road bore on Reed Hollow Road for the town at a lower cost.

Loretta Cruby presented the water treatment plant's monthly report at this time.

The water tank maintenance contract will not be signed until the next budgeting cycle.

The council discussed the water accountability report at this time.

There was no sewer treatment plant report.

Mayor Mark Jenkins discussed the water project from Smith's Chapel Church to Cooper Creek. The project has been called off. LENOWISCO is checking to see if the town can use the left over funding inside the town rather than extending the current water line.

Roger Cassell asks if a tank could be bought for Moccasin Hills.

Town Manager interviews started as of today.

There is no report from the Street Committee.

A lot of complaints have been received regarding the condition of some of the town's streets.

Mayor Mark Jenkins asked Stoney to write down the streets that are need of paving.

There were no recommendations from the Sanitation Authority.

EDRC has requested that the town make a separate line item for donation to the Clinch Mountain Music Fest in the amount of \$5,000.

Carl Hurt had no report for the council.

Roger Cassell discussed the two FEMA grants that the fire department has applied for to help fund a possible ladder truck. None of the local fire departments in the county have a ladder truck. The mini pump truck will arrive into town on May 24th.

Mayor Mark Jenkins thanked Roger for all his work with the fire department.

Rita Tipton asks about the \$1,200 increase that fire department is requesting.

The request was submitted for the next budgeting cycle.

Upon a motion by Carl Hurt and duly seconded by Tommy Herron, members voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 pm. Voting in favor of this motion was Carl Hurt, Tommy Herron, Roger Cassell, Rita Tipton, and Frances Perry. There were no opposing votes.

MAYOR

RECORDER
