

Town Council Meeting Minutes February 13, 2024

Attendees: MacKenzie Taylor, Dean & Tina Smith, Larry & Alice Randolph, Ray Rodriguez, Vernon Miller, Robert Roa, Matt King, Avery Ferguson, and Haley Hurst.

Dean made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from January 24, 2024. Larry seconded the motion to adopt the meeting minutes. Upon voice vote the January 24, 2024.

Wastewater: Clarifier will be worked on tomorrow. The work being completed is from the quote that was presented to you at the last meeting.

Avery stated he is looking for LED lights to have installed at the wastewater plant. This way, Tina will have much more visibility while doing her testing. Matt and Austin know a gentleman to purchase the lights from at a lower cost. MacKenzie will just need a W9 from the vendor. Matt and Austin will do the installation work for Avery when the lights come in.

Avery had a meeting with 811. 811 was interested in having a booth set up at Farmer's Day so more people can really understand the importance of getting a survey before you dig.

Avery has completed two modules for his apprenticeship class.

Community Development: MacKenzie told the council, it was a very small gathering yesterday with Vibrant Communities. Larry Randolph and a gentleman named Jason came to the open house. The rest of the people were staff members from vibrant community and one of the commissioners. Even though it was a very small turn out, it was great to network and receive feedback and input. MacKenzie said she'd like to sit down with all of the town employees and council and go over this action agenda, figure out what ones we all think should be the top priority and put this into action.

Tina asked if we could do something with the large stone that is sitting outside of the water plant. It could be a really neat monument when it gets cleaned up. Avery said he would get in contact with the owner of the monument business in Goshen and see what we can do.

Maintenance Director: Matt said they have gone through a ton of cold patch and I just purchased more.

Matt asked about the road that goes back to the wastewater plant. Whoever owns that road, we really need to try and get ahold of them because the road is tore up from the tractors and RV haulers. It was suggested to send a letter to Amity and see if they would be willing to get that road fixed. Jim said, if may be hard to get them to do that since it's private.

Matt said they've been getting the blades sharpened for the mowers.

Dean asked Matt if he had ever thought about putting salt spreaders in the back of the pick-up trucks? Matt said, he would hate to do that because it would corrode the truck beds.

Marshal: Ray said I spoke with Bontrager Security about the cameras. They said, maybe they could get with us next month. Dean asked how long has it been? Ray replied, it's been a while.

Ray said, MacKenzie and I have been talking about hiring someone to help her and also us. We were thinking it'd be nice to get a sworn officer part time that could do dual work for us. Before posting anything, we will sit down with the council and go over what we're looking for.

Park: Vernon said he's waiting on warmer weather.

Vernon spoke with the gentleman who lives on SR-13 about acquiring two acres of his lot to create additional parking for Cook Station Park. Vernon said, the gentleman wanted \$75,000 for it. Vernon said, I have the name and number for the gentleman if you guys would like to try and negotiate with him.

Clerk Treasurer: The CCMG was submitted on January 31st with Jonathan from TRIAD. Now, we just wait until the end of March or early April to find out whether we receive the match grant or not.

Gary Kauffman wanted me to let you guys know, anyone is welcome to attend, the Farmer's Day committee will be meeting at the Pizza Depot on Feb. 27th at 6:00pm.

The Town Website has been a nightmare. We lost our domain because everything was in Ben's name. I reached out to Ben, he couldn't remember the information. Techknowledgey and I tried everything we could do. I thought I purchased the domain back when it went up on the Go Daddy Auction site. Then discovered, I bought the wrong domain. Thank goodness, Techknowledgey was able to get us a reimbursement. Then, we tried bidding on the correct domain and it got taken by a broker, we don't understand how. Then, we talked and we thought it'd be best to purchase the .org domain. So, hopefully, it'll be back up and running soon.

New Business: The employee handbook was amending to add three new policies. The following policies were added.

- All Town vehicles are not permitted for personal use. All vehicles except for the police department will remain within the town limits unless being used for business only. Vehicles may still be taken home daily for departments heads and used for emergencies.
- 2) All accidents must be reported immediately and if personal property, vehicles, and town owned equipment are involved it is necessary to obtain a written police report. Personal property that gets damaged, the homeowner needs to be notified as soon as possible. Accidents need to be reported to the clerk treasurer and all three council members.
- 3) Passengers are not permitted at anytime to ride along with town employees, unless it's another co-worker.

Dean made a motion to waive the second reading of the amended employee handbook policy on Feb. 13, 2024. Larry seconded the motion to waive the second reading. Upon voice vote it was unanimously approved to waive the second reading. Dean made a motion to adopt the amended employee handbook and the 3 additions to the policy on Feb. 13, 2024. Larry seconded the motion. Upon voice vote it was unanimously approved to adopt the amended employee handbook with the 3 additional policies on Feb. 13, 2024.

Dean made a motion to pay bills. Larry seconded the motion. Upon voice vote it was unanimously approved to pay bills.

Dean made a motion to adjourn. Larry seconded the motion. Upon voice vote it was unanimously approved to adjourn.

Dean Smith Council President

Clerk Treasurer