

MINUTES

The Rural Hall Town Council held their agenda briefing and action meeting on June 6, 2022, at 3:00 PM in Town Hall Council Chambers. The following members were present: Mayor Timothy M. Flinchum - presiding; Mayor Pro Tem Susan H. Gordon; Councilman Terry M. Bennett; Councilman Eddie Horn; Councilwoman Janet M. Carithers; Town Manager Misty A. Meadows; Finance Manager Wade Gilley; Town Clerk Lynette E. Hendrick.

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by Town Clerk Lynette Hendrick.

A moment of silence was held.

Adoption of Amended Agenda:

Mayor Pro Tem Susan H. Gordon requested "Old Business" (Section 9) and "General Discussion" (Section 10) to be added to the agenda.

Mayor Pro Tem Susan H. Gordon made the motion, seconded by Councilman Bennett to adopt the agenda as amended, and motion passed unanimously.

Announcements and Meeting Updates:

June 9 Concert at the Hall 5:30-8:30 PM

June 14 Food Truck Tuesday 11:30 AM

July 3 Fireworks 6:30 PM Food Trucks, 9:15 PM Fireworks display

August 2 National Night Out

New Business/ Items of Discussion:

NCDOT Division 9 Project Engineers Ryan Newcomb and William Blanton updated the Council on the U-6005 sidewalk project on Hwy 65 from Angus St. to Northridge Park Drive. The current plans show a roundabout at Runningbrook Lane and Highway 65 and a new signal at Northridge Park Drive. NCDOT will notify the residents this project affects by letters and door to door visits once all right of way has been determined.

Report from Department Heads:

Jason Hill (Public Works) Councilwoman Carithers stated the area where the trees were cut at Town Hall looks good.

Dawn Tysor (LPA) Councilman Bennett suggested having a new filtration system put in, to help keep staff and customers safer. Council requested staff do some research and get quotes and move forward.

Mike Simone (Fire Department) The Fire Department has hired their second swing shift employee and he starts June 22 (Mark Thorpe). Mike said they cleaned up the old training room with help from Public Works for the County employees sleeping quarters. The Fire Department was able to purchase 5 air bottles with leftover funds from 21-22 budget.

Wade Gilley (Finance Director) The financial reports are in Council packets. ARPA funds will be discussed with council. The Town will receive the second distribution of funds in August.

Update on ATM at the LPA:

Manager Meadows announced that an ATM machine has been installed inside the LPA building at no cost to the Town. The contract with Ron Jakovic has been signed. Monthly report will be issued to the Town.

Adoption of Revised Public Comment Procedures:

A revision to item #2 now states, "Persons who wish to address the Council during the Public Comment Period will register on a sign-up sheet available on the table prior to the start of the meeting. No one will be allowed to have his/her name placed on the list by telephone request to Town staff."

Old Business:

Volunteer Events Committee- Councilwoman Carithers asked Lynette how many people and have shown an interest in being on the Volunteer Events Committee. Manager Meadows suggested to get some interest from the RHBA members. We only want volunteers to help execute Town events and not create. Councilmember Bennett would like for the committee to also investigate getting organizations to fund the events for the Town. Mayor Flinchum mentioned that Councilwoman Carithers would oversee this committee. She has contacted other municipalities to see how their events committee operates.

Fire Department Building - Staff has met with Bobbitt a design build company and have set up a meeting with RPM another design build company to do preliminary research.

Town Logo – Councilmember Carithers questioned a new town logo and does not want to get rid of the seal. Manager Meadows confirmed the seal was not get eliminated, but the intern is researching logo ideas. Jason Hill mentioned the new Public Works logo and recommended council allow staff to present new ideas in the future, because their logo was well received.

Newsletter – The Town did a survey in the last newsletter and less than two percent of the readers responded. Therefore, staff will continue sending out the Garden Spot Newsletter by-monthly for now.

Council Offices – After August 5, 2022 there will be an available office for Council to meet with public if needed.

Attorney - Councilman Terry Bennett opened discussion about a new attorney with expertise in government. Mayor Flinchum recommended not discussing this item in an open meeting and stated the interim attorney will not attend agenda briefing unless needed.

Councilwoman Carithers asked about an unfinished matter regarding former personnel banned from Town property. The mayor suggested this item be put on the next meeting agenda to be discussed in closed session with the interim attorney.

There being no further business, motion was made by Councilman Eddie Horn to adjourn at 6:30PM.

Lynette E. Hendrick
Town Clerk