

MINUTES

The Rural Hall Town Council held their agenda briefing and workshop meeting on November 7, 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; and Town Clerk Lynette E. Hendrick.

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

A moment of silence was held.

Adoption of Amended Agenda:

Councilmember Bennett amended the agenda by adding the storm drain at 6940 Broad Street to the New Business section. Councilmember Horn made the motion seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gordon to adopt the amended agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Announcements and Meeting Updates:

November 8, Tuesday Food Truck
Town Offices Closed November 24 and 25 for Thanksgiving Holiday
Christmas Tree Lighting December 1, 6:00 PM
Christmas Parade December 4, 2:30 PM

Unfinished Business

Councilwoman Carithers will have the Events Committee organized by the end of December and be ready to approve the 2023 Calendar of Events.

New Business/ Items of Discussion:

Manager Meadows explained the OSB grant funds (\$200,000) to be administered by the county. The manager mentioned we would like to use these funds on one thing for the reporting purposes. Manager Meadows stated she would like to see these funds used on the new fire station project.

Manager Meadows gave an overview of the department heads' reports.

Councilman Bennett said the storm drain at 6940 Broad St. needs to be fixed because someone is going to get hurt if they run into it. Manager Meadows said she will touch base with her NCDOT contact and get more information for the council.

The mayor read the proclamation supporting Operation Green Light for Veterans and mentioned that the Town will be lit up green to honor all our veterans.

Councilman Bennet felt that the internet at Covington Park was attracting people after hours. The Manager stated this was intended to be a service for the community and did touch base with the officers to see if they had seen an increase in calls after hours and they had not. Councilman Bennett made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Carithers to disconnect the internet at Covington Park. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Bennett brought up the ARPA funds and wanted to know if the funds had been moved to the general fund to begin spending. Finance Director Wade Gilley cautioned about moving all the funds at one time, this would cause a flag for the auditor. Consultant Niland suggested these funds be moved to salary accounts for revenue replacement.

Mayor Pro Tem wanted the council and staff to get the process started for issuing an RFP for a municipal attorney for the Town. The mayor mentioned we need to see what will happen with the litigation before we move forward with this.

The council wants to review the personnel policy. The manager recommended we review a few sections at each agenda briefing meeting until completed. The 12-5-22 meeting will review Articles I, II and III.

Board Comments/Questions:

Councilman Horn thanked citizens, staff, and council for working together. Mayor Pro Tem mentioned the ribbon cutting for the new beltway section in Rural Hall was exciting and Rural Hall was mentioned at the ribbon cutting. Councilman Bennett thanked everyone for coming.

Councilwoman Carithers made a motion to adjourn at 4:29 pm.

Lynette E. Hendrick
Town Clerk

APPROVED