

WANATAH TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
November 3rd, 2022
6:30 pm

PRESENT: President Newburn, Councilman LaFoone, Councilman Cook, Attorney Shoffner and Clerk/Treasurer Ebert.

ABSENT: Bryant Oehmen and Councilman Mayo

GUESTS: Chuck Jonas, Chuck Mack, Suzi Mack, Students – (Joshua Richmond, Garrett Remisus, Wyatt Wyman and Lillian Tolman), Officer Wade Wallace, Sue Moore, Jodi Taylor and Jud Tolman.

Call To Order:

President Newburn called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
The Pledge of Allegiance was held.

Roll Call:

President Newburn-Here, Councilman Oehmen-Absent, Councilman Cook-Here, Councilman Mayo-Absent, Councilman LaFoone-Here. A quorum is present.

Correspondence

There was one correspondence mentioned by President Newburn and that was with Mediacom for program and rate changes.

Appointments Needed

None

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Motion by Councilman LaFoone; Second by Councilman Cook to approve the minutes of October 6th, 2022. Vote was taken, All Ayes. Minutes were approved as presented.

Officer's Reports

- Plan Commission – No Report
- BZA – No Report
- Traffic Commission – No Report
- Park Board – President Newburn reports that their last meeting will be in December.
- Animal Control – No Report.
- Building Commissioner – Clerk Treasurer reports 5 contractor registration, 1 accessory building and 2 Signs totaling \$450.00.
 - Fred asked Clerk Treasurer Ebert to report that he went out to Casey's two or three times to check on them. The rough part of the building is done, concrete is coming Monday, and the shell of the building is coming next week.
 - Also asked if Attorney Shoffner could please call Fred about the court date information.

Clerk's Office Reports

- Personnel Committee – No Report
- Facilities Coordinator – No Report
- NIRPC – No Report
- Other – No Report

Public Works

- Chuck Mack had several quotes that he brought before the Town Council:
 - Received a quote from Seth Culver to repair the drop Ceiling for Historical Society Room for \$4,200. It will be \$1,600 for materials and \$2,600 for labor. They won't be able to start this project until January or February of 2023. Motion by Councilman LaFoone; Second by Councilman Cook to approve this project. Vote was taken, all Ayes.
 - 2 Lawnmowers-. Estimated \$12,725 for Riggs (Hustler) and \$12,499 for one at Heinhold & Feller including Municipal discounts. We will buy one this year, and one next year so it doesn't hurt the Budget. Next year we could trade in the Spartan for a new

one. Chuck Mack asked the Council if they would approve not to exceed \$13,000.

Motion by Councilman LaFoone; Second by Councilman Cook to approve not to exceed \$13,000 for each lawnmower. Vote was taken, All Ayes.

- Overhead Garage Door replacement-estimated \$17,575 for just one door, but they need two doors. Only have one quote and will reach out to Tri-Star. If Tri-Star gives a better quote, they will go with them. Motion by Councilman LaFoone; Second by Councilman Cook to approve Overhead Garage door purchase. Vote was taken, all Ayes.
- Chuck Mack also reported that they have been stock piling top soil dirt from Casey's, estimated 26 loads. Casey's asked for some changes in the piping and hydrants, but Chuck found the piping that he would like them to use.
- Need road repair on Wanatah Road, behind the new school due to rusted out and collapsed 24-inch covert from 421 out to Eckert ditch. Estimated \$5,000 in repairs, should be able to complete it in a day sometime before Thanksgiving.

New Business

- Motion by Councilman LaFoone, second by Councilman Cook to read Resolution R12-2022 Transfer within the General Fund. Motion by Councilman LaFoone; second by Councilman Cook to approve Resolution R12-2022 Transfer within the General Fund. Vote was taken, All Ayes.

Unfinished Business

- None.

Financial Report and Claims Approval

- Motion by Councilman LaFoone Second by President Newburn, Councilman Cook abstained, to approve the Financial Report and Claims as presented. Vote was taken, all Ayes.

Any Other Business to come before the Council

- Clerk Treasurer requested approval from the Town Council to amend Resolution R5-2022 to include Premium Pay. The employees that will be effected from this will be Chuck Mack, Chuck Jonas, Jeff Crandall and Natalie Moore. On top of their regular pay, they will receive \$13.00 for 80 hours each pay period for 4 pay periods totaling \$16,640 dollars. We have received a total of \$227,533.62 in ARP Distributions, used \$49,650 in expenditures, less the total Premium Pay of \$16,640 dollars leaving \$161,243.62 to spend on infrastructure for the town. Clerk Treasurer Ebert would need Attorney Shoffner to update Resolution R5-2022 ARP Planning to include Premium Pay and she would also have to update the Salary Ordinance to include the Premium Pay. Discussion was held, motion by Councilman LaFoone; second by Councilman Cook. Vote was taken, all ayes.
- Discussion was held on Chuck Mack's possible retirement coming up in May. Chuck Mack replied that you have two very competent people that work for the town right now. He is very confident in their capabilities, but if the council would like to hire a third person in their department, that they could hire him after his departure. Chuck Mack would not like to give a definite date at this time but knows that time is coming soon.

Public Comment

- Kathy Hutchinson was on the agenda to request a speed bump on Grieger alley but she was not in attendance.
- Annie Flores was on the agenda to discuss her property issues but she was not in attendance.
- Jodi Taylor and Sue Moore were on the agenda to discuss amending our existing Ordinance for appearance of property. Aka; mowing grass that is too high, garbage, etc., complaining that the appearance of Annie Flores house is depreciating the value of their homes. This has been going on for six years and wants to know if it will ever stop.
 - Attorney Shoffner stated that there is a 20 day statue before you can respond again once a letter has been submitted. Jodi Taylor asked if she could address Annie Flores personally and Attorney Shoffner cautioned her not to and doesn't recommend it.
 - Discussion was held about the town hiring someone to mow the grass and pick up the garbage that was 80 lbs. shy of one ton. Councilman Cook reminded me to have Deputy Clerk call Justin Dallas about mowing the yard now that all of the garbage and debris have been picked up.

- Discussion was held about Councilman Cook removing the window air conditioner from the fire pit on this property with concern of possible Freon remaining in it. When asked by Jodi Taylor if there was someone that she could call about this, Attorney Shoffner replied that she could contact IDEM. There is also about 5 bags of unknown garbage in her back yard that they were afraid to move because of the smell. Attorney Shoffner said she could file a Civil Claim due to nuisance from the smell and possible rodents coming from it.
- Both Jodi and Sue wanted to thank everyone involved for all that they have done to help them through this process and the patience and support provided to them.

Adjournment

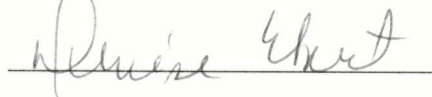
President Newburn asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion by Councilman LaFoone; Second by Councilman Cook. A vote was taken.

All Ayes.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:11 pm.

ATTEST:



Denise Ebert
Clerk-Treasurer

