

WANATAH TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
October 3rd, 2024
6:30 pm

PRESENT: Councilman Higgins, President Newburn, Councilman Sutton, Vice President Mayo, Clerk/Treasurer Ebert & Attorney Shoffner.

ABSENT: Councilman LaFoone

GUESTS: Pam Manos, Justice Atchley, Deb Smoker, Greg Smoker, Justin Higginson, Chuck Jonas, Chuck Mack & Fred Matuszak

Call To Order:

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

Roll Call:

- Councilman LaFoone-Absent, Councilman Higgins-Here, President Newburn –Here, Councilman Sutton - Here, Vice President Mayo-Here, A quorum is present.

Correspondence

- None

Appointments Needed

- Motion by Councilman Mayo; Second by Councilman Sutton to approve Councilman Higgins to replace Bryant Oehmen’s position as Secretary for Planning Commission.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

- Motion by Councilman Higgins; Second by Councilman Mayo to approve the minutes of the 9.5.24 Public Hearing Meeting. Vote was taken. All Ayes. Minutes were approved as presented.
- Motion by Councilman Mayo; Second by Councilman Higgins to approve the minutes of the 9.5.24 Regular Meeting. Vote was taken. All Ayes. Minutes were approved as presented.

Officer’s Reports

- Plan Commission – Councilman Higgins gave a brief report on the rezoning of the Smokers property stating steps were missed and that we would have to start over with the process by having a Public Hearing first.
- BZA – No Report
- Traffic Commission – No Report
- Park Board – President Newburn reported that they could not meet in September due to a quorum not met but will meet in October.
- Animal Control – Clerk Treasurer Ebert reported for Bryan Spears stating that he received a call from Deborah Reed requesting a humane trap to catch some cats on their property at 702 Harmon Court in Wanatah. He will be dropping off a trap Friday October 3rd, 2024 for her.
- Building Commissioner –Fred Matuszak reported 3 Fences, 1 Contractor Registration and 1 Electrical Upgrade totaling \$210.00. He also reported that the gas service has been ran for the Bos house.

Clerk's Office Reports

- Personnel Committee –No Report
- Facilities Coordinator – Clerk Treasurer reported there has been a delay in moving forward with the repairs of the REMC building so we are having to switch construction companies and basically start from the beginning in getting new estimates.
- NIRPC –Clerk Treasurer Ebert reported that she attended a NIRPC meeting on 9/14/2024 for the Executive Board. Afterwards she had a meeting with the SBOA with other Clerk Treasurers, Town Presidents, and other NIRPC officials to discuss the cost of our Audits and to talk about things the SBOA could improve on for us.
- Other – Clerk Treasurer Ebert asked if Halloween still going to be on October 31st, 2024 from 5-7 PM? Council responded with a Yes.
Clerk Treasurer let the Council know that they have a copy of the Opioid Settlement Distribution which shows that we received a total amount of \$223.81 in Restricted/Abatement Shares for this month, which gives us a final total of \$1,131.05 of Unrestricted Shares and \$1,611.36 for Abatement Shares to use. Grand total to date is \$2,742.41 of our Opioid Settlement. She encouraged the Council to start thinking of ways of which we should spend it.

Public Works

- Chuck Mack reported that he is in the process of doing some tree trimming with Affordable Tree Service for the Park and the Town. He has a \$10,000 budget with the Town, needs about \$4,300 and would like the Council to approve a “Do No Exceed” \$6,500 in case he finds some additional branches or stumps that need removed. He would need about \$4,300 for the Park and would like a “Do Not Exceed” \$6,500. President Newburn told Chuck Mack that he would have to wait until he had his next Park Board meeting to get that approved which is on October 8th, 2024 at 6:00 PM. No motion was made for the Town.
- Chuck hasn't heard from High Star yet that will be doing our striping for the town.
- He staked the easement on the gravel road in the Park. Suggested that this could be a part of the 2025 Community Crossing project for next year.

New Business

- None

Unfinished Business

- Motion by Councilman Higgins; second by Councilman Sutton to read and adopt ordinance 05-2024 Budget. Councilman Mayo abstained.

Financial Report and Claims Approval

- Motion by Councilman Mayo; Second by Councilman Higgins to approve the claims as presented. Vote was taken. All Ayes.

Any Other Business to come before the Council

- Discussion was had between the Council and Attorney Shoffner regarding the increase in the wastewater rates. There were two proposals, one being for a 19.5% increase and the second was for a 25% increase. Clerk Treasurer Ebert will be sending out text/email reminders for the Public Hearing for November 7th, 2024 at 6:15 PM.

Public Comment

- Non

Adjournment

President Newburn asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion by Councilman Mayo; Second by Councilman Higgins. A vote was taken.

All Ayes.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm

ATTEST:

Denise Ebert
Clerk-Treasurer