

REGULAR MEETING

The Town Council of the Town of Weber City met in a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 16, 2020. This meeting was held in the assembly room of the Weber City Town Hall in Weber City, Virginia. Prayer was led by Justin Addington. Pledge of Allegiance by all in attendance.

PRESENT: Mayor: Patrick Deskins
Town Attorney: Michael Carrico
Council Members: Justin Addington, Eileen Deckard, Casey Kinkead, Greg Smith, Steve Smith, Teresa Tilson

ABSENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to accept the May 19, 2020 Regular Monthly meeting minutes was made by Teresa Tilson, was seconded by Eileen Deckard, motion passed with 6 voting AYES: none voting NAY.

Motion to accept the May 21, 2020 Special Called meeting minutes was made by Justin Addington, was seconded by Casey Kinkead, motion passed with 6 voting AYES: none voting NAY.

Financial

Greg Smith did not talk to Charles Bridwell CPA about contract between Mr. Bridwell and the town.

Matt Bishop reported that the initial bid for the vehicles posted for sale on Govdeals.com did not result in enough money so he did not accept them. He has relisted them through the 26th. The odometer does not work on the 2008 Ford Crown Vic Vin ending 89644 but it is estimated that there is 140,000 miles on the car. It would cost more to repair this than it is worth since the car would only sell for \$1000 - \$1500.

Eileen Deckard talked to the railroad about the town needing a letter absolving us of liability should someone from the town weed eat and mow the grass near the railroad tracks. The lady said it would take a while, but she would work on it.

Eileen Deckard made a motion to approve financials; Justin Addington seconded, and motion passed with 6 AYES; none voting NAY.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

Lola Dean wanted to ask the town to help the Town of Weber City promote something for our children and our youth. Ms. Dean wants the council to appoint a committee to do something for them. She mentioned the possibility of asking businesses to donate, citizens to donate and investigating available grant money. Lola thinks that the current fire department would be a good location since it is not the best place for the fire department. She has recently purchased a basketball goal for existing community center. She thinks that swing sets and playground equipment would be great for them and would like to help.

Ms. Dean also mentioned that the town needs to enforce business and landowners to keep their property up, mowing and cleaning up around them when vacant. She also thinks that a bicycle trail would be a good thing to have in the town. She also thinks that town could buy some property to have a place to offer food.

Boundary Adjustment /Ordinance Committee Due to Covid-19 currently have not been able to meet with the county board of supervisors this remains on hold until meetings open back up.

Real Estate Tax no discussion was made at this time.

Fire Department. No Report

Legal Affairs. Town Attorney Mike Carrico states a closed session is necessary to discuss the trash. He said that the state of Virginia is going to allow the town to collect up to \$20 on tickets that they have written. It was \$10. Justin made a motion to adopt this and allow Mike to do a resolution; Casey Kincaid seconded it and the motion passed with all voting AYE; none voting NAY.

Maintenance Committee: Mayor Deskins added Casey Kincaid and Justin Addington; The list of complaints for high grass listed on the Agenda were discussed. This is a civil action and a letter sent to the people is the most economical way to get people to do this. Towns can pay for the mowing and then attempt to get the people to reimburse them. Mayor Deskins said that he and the Town Clerk had already sent some letters and Attorney Carrico said that he would also send letters from his office.

Mayors Report No Report

Personnel Committee the Personnel Committee will discuss issues in closed session.

Police Department Interim Chief of Police Matt Bishop reported that locks had been changed for security purposes. Mr. Bishop also discovered a grant for up to \$1200 to purchase body cams for the department. He found some for under \$1100, ordered them and the grant will reimburse 100% of the cost.

The 911 Center is asking the town to reimburse them annually for paper and office supplies as per past agreement which had not been done since 2012 in the amount of \$293. Mike will discuss with Sally. Discussion tabled at this time.

The department received an invoice for \$1750 from the police academy for \$350 per officer based on the town having 5 police officers. We can pay based on the officers that we now employee and pay as we fill positions.

Chief Bishop would like to propose changing the striping on the old vehicles to the new design which is on the two new vehicles. It is better quality vinyl with clear coat that does not peel or get as dirty. This would bring uniformity to the fleet and would cost \$425 per vehicle.

Chief Bishop would like to look at uniform design and go for a mor modern look that allows more accessories. The current design is only sold at one supplier and switching would allow the department to have more options for purchase.

The department has implemented a program to check residents houses when that are on vacation. They are asked to call the department to let them know the dates that they will be out of town, answer a few questions and officers will go by the houses, walk around on foot, check doors, windows, etc. to make sure that they are secure and give the residents peace of mind and

community awareness. The department is also offering businesses and residents a security assessment to help them ensure that their property is safe and secure.

Chief Bishop is also involved with the Gate Keepers Program at Weber City Baptist Church. The church is going to put a landing zone for helicopters in their parking lot for med-flights now that our area does not have a level one trauma center in Kingsport. Matt is helping coordinate with the church.

Street Committee Sunnyvale Street repairs are going to be done per Mayor Deskins.

The Pierce Street light pole installation was thought to have already been approved but it was discussed again because approving the dollar amount was not already agreed upon. After thoroughly discussing the particulars of what had been investigated, the underground utilities and the placement of the light, Eileen Deckard made a motion to approve, Justin seconded and Motion passed with 5 voting AYE; Steve Smith abstaining because he did not know about the project; none voting NAY.

Paving on Lee Street can be done for \$500 per Mayor Deskins and he will discuss with paver and handle it. If something changes, he will fill the council in at the next meeting.

The high grass was brought up again by Justin Addington who asked if police officers can stop and mention it to the residents in question. This is not a good idea for officers due to possible security issues, so it was agreed to let Mike send letters.

Old Business No Report

CLOSED SESSION

A motion to enter a closed session to discuss financial and personnel issues was made by Justin Addington and seconded by Greg Smith, motion passed with 6 voting AYES: none voting NAY 8:11 p.m.

Mayor Patrick Deskins stepped out of the closed session.

Motion to go out of CLOSED SESSION and back into regular session was made by Teresa Tilson and seconded by Greg Smith. Motion passed with 6 voting AYES: none voting NAY.

CERTIFICATE OF CLOSED SESSION

The Mayor, Council members and the Town's Attorney entered closed session.

After returning from closes session, the mayor and council members, hereby certify that only financial and personnel matters for which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting by the Mayor, and Council members. Voting "AYE" were Mayor Patrick Deskins, Eileen Deckard, Greg Smith, Justin Addington; Teresa Tilson; Casey Kincaid, Steve Smith and voting "NAY" were: NONE.

Action from closed session:

A motion to hire Austin Hensley as a police officer was made by Eileen Deckard, was seconded by Teresa Tilson, motion passed with 6 voting AYES: none voting NAY

ADJOURNMENT: Greg Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Steve Smith passed with 6 voting AYES; none voting NAY; Meeting adjourned 8:53 p.m.

Mayor Patrick Deskins

Town Secretary