

The Rural Retreat Town Council held a regular meeting on October 12, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the Rural Retreat Town Hall Council Chambers.

PRESENT RURAL RETREAT TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Timothy Litz
Ed Schaack
Dale Yontz

Jerrell Hall
Peggy Hash

ABSENT

Vice-Mayor Keith Crigger
Scott Mecimore

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

Raymond Matney, Town Manager
Lori Guynn, Clerk/Treasurer
Scott Mitchell, Police Chief

OTHERS PRESENT

There were no others present.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Mayor Litz called the meeting to order and determined a quorum was present.

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Rev. Ed Schaack.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Litz.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilmember Hash, seconded by Councilmember Yontz to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2010 regular meeting as written. The motion passed by a vote of three (3) for: Hash, Schaack, Yontz; zero (0) against; one (1) abstention: Hall, due to being absent at previous meeting; two (2) absent: Crigger, Mecimore.

CITIZEN'S TIME

There being no citizens present, Mayor Litz proceeded with the agenda.

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CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to be reported.

Councilmember Yontz reported he had attended the Annual Fire Prevention parade in Wytheville. He stated the town should be proud of the investments made in Rural Retreat Fire Department's equipment. Mr. Matney added the first responders take a lot of pride in the equipment provided to them.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Mitchell explained his September activity report. He stated the activity was low due to extended vacation time during the month. Chief Mitchell also explained he is beginning to work on the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles Grant for next year.

Councilmember Schaack commented he had noticed Deputy Vaught with the Wythe County Sheriff's Office had recently stopped a speeder on North Greever Street. Chief Mitchell explained Deputy Vaught works this traffic area before and after school. Councilmember Yontz added he had received a complaint about speeding on Sherwood Avenue from a citizen and asked Chief Mitchell to monitor the area.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PROPOSED TOWN NEWSLETTER – Councilmember Yontz reported he is still continuing to work on a town newsletter. Mr. Matney suggested the Councilmember's review the template previously distributed and offer comments and/or suggestions. Councilmember Hash suggested including information about The Crooked Road since the town participates in this program and Jim Lloyd is now becoming involved with the program as well. Mrs. Guynn added she would send information to Councilmember Yontz concerning town taxes and utility bills to be included in the newsletter. Discussion was held concerning a date to issue the first newsletter. The consensus was to submit all information to Councilmember Yontz before November 15 for potential distribution is December.

COMMUNITY WARNING SYSTEM – Mr. Matney reported he had submitted a topographical map to the manufacturer of the system for review and so that recommendations for additional coverage can be made.

RECORDING OF MEETINGS AND INSTALLATION OF MONITOR – This item is under review and is to remain as unfinished business.

KLÖCKNER PENTAPLAST REQUEST – Mr. Matney reported a response to Mayor Litz's letter has not been received.

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NEW BUSINESS

There were no items offered for discussion.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE – Chairman Hall reported on the roof repairs to the fire department building. He explained while attempting to replace the screws he discovered additional problems. Chairman Hall stated by replacing the screws the roof life will not be extended as expected. He suggested sealing the cracks instead in order to salvage the roof. Mr. Matney asked if during the next few budget cycles the council should consider allocating money to replace the roof in approximately 2-3 years. Chairman Hall concurred with Mr. Matney.

TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT

The Town Manager’s report is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes. The following items were discussed and/or acted upon:

TEA-21 SIDEWALK/BIKEWAY PROJECT – Mr. Matney reported this project is progressing. The sidewalks between North Main Street and Catron Street have been poured. The contractors are working on the driveway entrances which will require East Buck Avenue to be closed for 72 hours which has been approved by VDOT.

OUT-OF-TOWN WATER PROJECT UPDATES – The Myrtle Lane and Rural Retreat Lake Road lines have been pressurized and are being disinfected. The construction on the Cedar Springs Road line should be completed this week and will then need to be pressurized and disinfected. Mr. Matney stated the lines are pressurized and disinfected 2,000 ft. at a time. This allows for the process to be done between the water valves.

IN-TOWN WATER PROJECT – The notice to proceed has been issued and work will begin on West Lee Highway.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT ELECTRICAL SURGE PROTECTION – Two proposals were received. Proposal 1 proposed adding surge protection to the individual motors for \$20,360 and proposal 2 proposed upgrading all the out dated electrical motor control system for \$40,825. Due to the proposal costs, Mr. Matney recommended including this in the next upgrade project at the wastewater plant.

COUNTY WIDE FULL SCALE EXERCISE – Wythe County is hosting a full scale emergency exercise tomorrow beginning at 9:00 a.m. at Klöckner Pentaplast. The exercise will include a train derailment and chemical spills. The purpose of the exercise is to evaluate how first responders handle the activities during the exercise.

5K PEPPER RUN – The Rural Retreat Historical Society’s 5K Pepper Run will be held Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

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WELLNESS / FITNESS CENTER – Councilmember Schaack asked for an update on the Wellness / Fitness Center. Mr. Matney responded by explaining a letter was sent to Klöckner Pentaplast requesting they consider allowing the town to build this type of facility on their vacant property. No response has been received. Alan Hawthorne, Executive Director of the Joint Industrial Development Authority has requested to be present if a meeting is scheduled with Klöckner Pentaplast. Mr. Hawthorne feels this will allow a marketing opportunity for the residual property.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Mrs. Guynn reported she had signed the contract with Business Information Systems to set up credit card services. One card reader was purchased to use in the office. This service should be available by November 1. Mrs. Guynn also reported tax bills are being printed and will be mailed by Friday.

The bills for October 12, 2010 were read and approved.

TALK OF THE TOWN

No councilmember was available to attend the *Talk of the Town* radio program at the WYVE/WXBX radio station on Wednesday morning.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business for discussion, the meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Councilmember Hall and was duly seconded and approved.

Mayor

Clerk