

The Rural Retreat Town Council held a regular meeting on October 23, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in the Rural Retreat Town Hall Council Chambers.

PRESENT RURAL RETREAT TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Timothy Litz
Vice-Mayor Jim Lloyd
Ed Schaack

Keith Crigger
Jerrell Hall

ABSENT

Scott Mecimore
Dale Yontz

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

Raymond Matney, Town Manager
Robert Lewis, Police Chief
Lori Guynn, Clerk/Treasurer

OTHERS PRESENT

Rev. Geary Jonas

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Mayor Litz called the meeting to order and determined the presence of a quorum.

INVOCATION

The invocation was delivered by Rev. Geary Jonas.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Litz.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilmember Ed Schaack, seconded by Councilmember Keith Crigger to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2007 meeting and the motion passed unanimously.

CITIZEN'S TIME

NONE

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 23, 2007 – PAGE 2

CORRESPONDENCE

NONE

POLICE REPORT

Chief Lewis explained his monthly activity report.

Chief Lewis stated he also assisted with the annual Pepper Run/Walk sponsored by the Rural Retreat Historical Society held the previous Sunday and the event was successful.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

DONATION OF PICTURES – Vice-Mayor Lloyd stated that Wiley Dutton had donated pictures of the construction of the Rural Retreat Volunteer Rescue Squad building to the Town.

RURAL RETREAT AND GEORGE WYTHE FOOTBALL GAME – Councilmember Schaack stated he was very impressed with the conduct of the Rural Retreat citizens and their sportsmanship shown at the annual Rural Retreat and George Wythe football game. Mayor Litz stated that Town Manager Matney and Wytheville Town Manager Wayne Sutherland had made an agreement on behalf of the Mayors in which they agreed the losing Mayor would wear a jersey from the winning team during the October Joint Governing Bodies Meeting.

SEWER SMELL ON RICHMOND AVENUE – Councilmember Schaack stated he was walking on Richmond Avenue recently and noticed a strong sewer smell behind the former Nancy Frye building. Mr. Matney stated that when Donald Vaught treats waste pumped from grease traps in restaurants occasionally it will produce an odor. However, Mr. Vaught had informed him he had treated waste from a restaurant chain that was not properly pre-treating the waste prior to him pumping it so he is no longer servicing that restaurant. Mr. Matney stated he had noticed the smell and upon speaking with Mr. Vaught he determined that particular treatment was being done at the time of the smell.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Personnel, Ordinance and Legal Matters Committee Chairman Ed Schaack stated that a copy of the current holidays observed by the Town and the holidays recognized by the governor have been given to each councilmember. Chairman Schaack asked that all councilmembers review both listings so that it may be voted on at the next meeting. The committee did not meet prior to the meeting as previously scheduled.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 23, 2007 – PAGE 3

TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT

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

WEB GIS SYSTEM – Councilmember Crigger asked what information would be available for public access. Mr. Matney stated he needed to consider if the public utilities need to be secured due to security issues and the parcel information would be kept for in house use only.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT – Upon reviewing a moving media channel screen and an in-channel fine screen and conducting research on both types of screening mechanisms a decision has been reached. Initially the moving media channel screen was preferred, but after reviewing the pros and cons of both systems the additional \$15,000 in cost could not be justified in order to purchase the moving media channel screen. Mr. Matney stated it was his recommendation to purchase the in-channel fine screen system for the cost of \$45,007. This system would also require the installation of three phase power. Councilmember Crigger asked what line item would be used to pay for the incurred cost. Mr. Matney stated that currently there is approximately \$120,000 in the wastewater plant maintenance account with the Local Government Investment Pool and approximately \$28,000 in the current year salt water treatment fund.

Vice-Mayor Lloyd made a motion to purchase the in-channel fine screen system at the cost of \$45,007 plus the cost to install three phase power at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Crigger and passed unanimously.

WATER ACCOUNTABILITY – Mr. Matney stated that personnel will be coming the following day to assist in determining if there is a water leak below the water treatment plant. Councilmember Schaack asked if the drought had any effect on Phillippi Spring. Mr. Matney stated it has had some but very little effect. Currently the spring is producing enough water that the pumps are pumping approximately 12 to 16 hours per day which varies depending on major leaks in the water system.

TREASURER’S REPORT

The bills were read and approved for October 9, 2007 and October 23, 2007.

TALK OF THE TOWN

Mr. Matney is to attend the Talk of the Town radio program at WYVE/WXBX radio station on Wednesday morning.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 23, 2007 – PAGE 4

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Councilmember Crigger.

Mayor

Clerk