

The Rural Retreat Town Council held a regular meeting on December 11, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in the Rural Retreat Town Hall Council Chambers.

PRESENT RURAL RETREAT TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Timothy Litz
Keith Crigger
Scott Mecimore

Jerrell Hall
Dale Yontz

ABSENT

Ed Schaack

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Rev. Jason McNeese – Rural Retreat Baptist Church

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. Jason McNeese.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Litz.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilmember Scott Mecimore, seconded by Councilmember Dale Yontz to approve the minutes of the November 27, 2007 meeting and the motion passed unanimously.

CITIZEN'S TIME

NONE

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CORRESPONDENCE

NONE

POLICE REPORT

Chief Lewis explained his monthly report. He further stated the larceny/theft incidents were related in which warrants were issued. Additionally when the warrants were served it resulted in arrests for drug charges.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

APPOINTMENT TO FILL VACATED SEAT – Councilmember Crigger stated he had considered possibly nominating James A. Hall to fill the vacated seat however, he had not had the opportunity to speak with him. Mr. Matney stated he had spoken to Mr. Hall and he was interested in the appointment. Mr. Matney asked if anyone had an individual(s) to nominate so that all could be considered so that a decision can be made at the first council meeting in January. Councilmember Mecimore nominated Peggy Hash. Councilmember Yontz nominated Kristie Osborne and Mayor Litz nominated Geary Jonas. Mr. Matney stated Councilmember Schaack had spoken to Hugh Hopkins and Robert Atwell but neither expressed interest in the nomination. Councilmember Mecimore stated he thought all nominees should come in at the next council meeting to express their interest. Mayor Litz said he felt that that process causes hurt feelings for those involved.

Councilmember Crigger made a motion to appoint Kristie Osborne to fulfill the vacated seat on the Council. Councilmember Yontz seconded the motion. Councilmember Hall stated he does not know Ms. Osborne, which was echoed by Councilmember Mecimore. Councilmember Crigger rescinded the motion out of respect for Councilmembers Hall and Mecimore. Councilmember Crigger stated he thought all nominees should be made aware that the next town election is in May.

NEW BUSINESS

APPOINTMENT TO VICE-MAYOR SEAT - Councilmember Mecimore made a motion to nominate Councilmember Crigger as Vice-Mayor. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Yontz and it passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS – Newly elected Vice-Mayor Crigger asked if new appointments needed to be made to the council committees to replace former Vice-Mayor Lloyd. Mayor Litz stated that should be done after the vacated seat is filled.

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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:

JOINT IDA OPEN HOUSE AND RECEPTION – The Joint Industrial Development Authority will conduct their annual open house in conjunction with the retirement reception for Danny Gordon on December 20, 2007, from 11:30 until 1:30.

MONTHLY STATUS REPORT – The monthly status report from Anderson and Associates, Inc. was handed out to each councilmember.

VML LEGISLATIVE BULLITEN – The General Assembly for 2008 will begin their session in January. If anyone is interested in receiving those bulletins via email or regular mail was asked to contact the office.

VIRGINIA 2007 COMMUNITY PROGRAM – Mr. Bill Hall attended a meeting on behalf of the town, in which a certificate was presented to the town in recognition of our participation. Mr. Matney stated that someone needs to be put in charge of the local event so that meetings can begin as early as possible.

NORFOLK SOUTHERN – We have been working with Norfolk Southern on removing abandoned poles and wires in the Town. This work has begun and is expected to be completed by the end of the week.

TEA-21 CHANGE ORDER #2 – This change order included the drain work at the Virginia Hospice Center facility. This should be completed tomorrow and should resolve any drain issues that were created from the sidewalk project.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS – Charles Taylor was appointed to fulfill the unexpired term of Thomas Seagle which expired in November. Mr. Taylor is interested in being reappointed to serve on the Board. Councilmember Mecimore made the motion to nominate Charles Taylor to be reappointed to the Board of Zoning Appeals pending approval by the Circuit Court. Councilmember Yontz seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

TREASURER’S REPORT

The bills were read and approved for December 11, 2007.

TALK OF THE TOWN

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

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned by Vice-Mayor Crigger.

Mayor

Clerk