

June 16, 2009

Roanoke Town Council Minutes

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the Roanoke Town Council convened on Tuesday, June 16, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. at the Town Hall in accordance with this Council's rules and applicable laws. Those present from the Council were President John Stoeckley, Councilman Brian Young, Councilman Troy Karshner and Councilman Nick Altman. Also present were Town Superintendent Paul Swain, Asst. Town Superintendent John Hitzemann, Fire Chief Chad Taylor, and JoAnne Kirchner, Clerk/Treasurer.

Councilman Brian Young moved to approve the minutes of the regular Council meeting of June 2, 2009 as written. Councilman Altman seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

The Council approved three (3) property improvement requests as follows: 1) Elizabeth Reust-Holden, 335 Crestwood: new fence, 2) Tina Whitney, 402 Rockwell: new fence, 3) Gary Fry, U.S. #24 E. Changing Seasons Nursery: new out building and additional fence.

Resident Mr. Tom Risk, 704 S. Main Street, was present to inform the Council and police department of the loud stereo speakers from cars going up and down Main Street. Council took note and Councilman Altman, police liaison, would notify the department.

Mr. Jack Squier from Unison Site Management was present to introduce the Council to the company and their proposal to place hardware on the Town's water tower, distributed materials on file in the Clerk/Treasurer's office. The Council asked Mr. Squier to put together a list of other surrounding Town's and their programs for the Council to study.

Fire Chief Chad Taylor and Asst. Fire Chief Brandon Taylor next talked about applying for possible stimulus grant funds. Some specifications of the grant were reviewed as well as considering what architect might be utilized. Various measures such as "going green" with the plans were mentioned to help increase the score for the Town's application. After lengthy discussion Councilman Altman moved to have the fire department officers begin to collect the necessary information to initiate the grant process as well as include the Jackson Township trustees in the process. Councilman Karshner seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Chief Taylor next informed the Council of several recent large expenses for repairs to the 1987 tanker, but stated the department had funds in their maintenance account to cover the costs. Chad then said the pool fill issues on Oak Park Drive had all been resolved.

Town Superintendent Paul Swain presented the utility department report, copy on file in the utility garage during normal business hours. He stated the annual water quality report for 2009 was ready to be sent out by the Clerk's office before July 1, 2009.

Paul stated he had received two (2) quotes for a striping machine per Council

request and was waiting on a third one. The quotes for different models so far were between \$3,000 - \$6,000.

The Council asked about hydrant flushing and the procedure was described by Paul along with the precautions that needed to be taken. He stated flushing, flow and pressure testing would probably begin in a month or so.

Upon reviewing the amended contract between Parkview Hospital and the Town regarding the EMS quarters in the fire garage, President Stoeckley requested that JoAnne get with Dave Mettler of Mettler Insurance and ask about some liability costs and wording in the amended agreement before the Council approves the document.

The Council next interviewed candidates to fill the recently vacated Council seat held by Michelle Schwieterman, as advertised. The four timely submitted letters of intent/resume's were from 1) Mr. Brian Secor, 2) Ms. Patty Wasmuth, 3) Ms. Celia Bandelier and 4) Mrs. Ann O'Briant (Mr. Secor was out of Town and not present). President Stoeckley first explained the interview process to the candidates and how a vote would proceed. Questioning then commenced with all candidates having the opportunity to answer a question first. Afterwards, Councilman Altman moved to appoint Ms. Wasmuth. Councilman Karshner seconded and the vote was a 2-2 tie. Next President Stoeckley nominated Mrs. O'Briant. Councilman Young seconded and the vote was 3-1 in favor of Mrs. O'Briant. Clerk/Treasurer, JoAnne Kirchner, next administered the oath of office to Mrs. O'Briant and Ann took her seat at the Council table.

President Stockley next thanked all the candidates for their interest and commented on all their outstanding education and experience. He stated he felt it was the best pool of highly qualified persons in some time willing to publically serve the community and the decision was very difficult.

Councilman Altman stated several residents had mentioned the difficulty in navigating around all the double parked traffic in the Roanoke Village subdivision during the Town wide garage sales. They had expressed concern regarding the ability of emergency vehicles to pass. After discussion, it was determined that as the event is only once a year, the department would get through somehow.

JoAnne explained after questioning about retrieving costs from the Town utility department having to mow lawns at foreclosed properties. Deputy Clerk, Chris Jenkins, had been very successful in recouping those costs for the Town at about \$60 - \$80 per property. JoAnne was aware that liens may also be placed on the properties if necessary.

President Stoeckley reminded Councilmen Karshner and Young of the prevailing wage meeting on July 20st at 6:00 PM before the Council meeting.

John S. then initiated a lengthy discussion about the use of CEDIT funds and the proposed plan for 2009 and 2010. He recommended saving the planned \$12,000 toward a new police car and encumbering the funds into 2010 for a total of \$24,000 for that one time cost share from CEDIT funds for that purpose. More discussion of prudent use of CEDIT funds for economic

development followed with each line item of the 2009 plan being discussed, copy on file in the Clerk/Treasurer's office.

The \$5,000 listed for improvements to the outside of the Town Hall facade included possible construction of a new trussed roof over the Town Hall entrance and police office to eliminate the persistent roof leaks and mold inside and outside the office walls.

After each line item in the 2009 proposed CEDIT plan had been discussed, President Stoeckley requested that the Council consider an immediate issue of \$5,000 toward Roanoke's cost sharing for an environmental study of the proposed A-7 Corridor project through Huntington County at the County's request. After discussion Councilman Karshner moved to approve the funds. Councilman Young seconded and the motion was approved unanimously. John stated he needed a volunteer to assist him in the A-7 Corridor meetings on occasion and JoAnne volunteered to do that.

In short, President Stoeckley asked all Council liaisons to meet with their departments and reconsider what they absolutely needed as far as the CEDIT fund line items and other budgeted funds before the next Council meeting in three weeks on July 7, 2009.

There were questions to JoAnne as to some high dollar needs for the water department. Referring back to Paul's ongoing list of several years, she mentioned a new well field which needed to be purchased, the fracture studies that had already been paid for to that end, a new tower at about \$400,000 and a new iron filter for about \$230,000 that were probably the most critical. During discussion, it was obvious bond financing would need to be procured, thereby raising water utility rates which had not increased in over 14 years. JoAnne was asked to supply copies of the last two (2) water rate studies from Greg Guerrettaz in their next packets for the Council to review.

For the record, JoAnne asked how the cost of fireworks for \$5,000, approved two Council meetings ago, was to be paid for. She was told to take the monies out of the Rainy Day Fund upon receiving the invoice.

Asst. Town Superintendent John Hitzemann requested Council permission to take a beginner computer class. He stated he would arrange for the class but wanted the Town to pay for books, mileage and his straight hourly rate if the class was during traditional non-working hours. The Council discussed other options for the Excel program i.e. an on-line class, "Excel for Dummies" publication, work force development classes for minimal fees, etc. They asked him to bring the information and time of the class he was looking at to the next Council meeting for their review.

Last on the agenda was the presentation of bills for payment. After review, Councilwoman O'Briant moved to pay the bills as listed on the allowance of claims payable vouchers for \$43,825.49. Councilman Altman seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Councilman O'Briant then moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Young seconded and the motion was duly adopted.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnne Kirchner, Clerk/Treasurer

Council approve:
