

Roanoke Town Council Minutes

October 21, 2008

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the Roanoke Town Council convened on Tuesday, October 21, 2008 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, Vice President Michelle Schwieterman, Councilman Brian Young, Councilman Nick Altman and Councilman Troy Karshner. Also present were Officer Dave Laspas, Town Assistant Superintendent John Hitzemann, Fire Chief Chad Taylor and Chris Jenkins, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer.

Vice President Schwieterman moved to approve the regular Council meeting minutes of October 7, 2008. Councilman Young seconded the motion which was approved unanimously with President Stoeckley and Councilman Karshner abstaining.

The Council approved by consensus the splitting of Nancy Heffelfinger's property located at 563 S. Main St. into two parcels with the understanding that the back portion of the lot will be purchased by Mr. Junior Geiger.

Mr. Larry Davis who represents The Source updated the Council on the Health Reimbursement Arrangement with the Town employees regarding their health insurance benefits. He explained that as of September 31, 2008 the Town had spent 27.38% or \$7,885.26 of the dollars budgeted for 2008. He felt the plan was running very well and that he should have the renewal information for the next policy period by the end of the year. He felt that there should not be greater than a 0-3% increase in premiums unless something catastrophic happens.

Fire Chief Chad Taylor distributed an update to the department's bi-laws regarding number of personnel on the RVFD. Councilman Karshner

moved to approve the update which was seconded by Councilman Altman which was approved unanimously. Fire Chief Taylor stated also that he would contact Bill Horoho to put information into the Roanoke Village News Letter regarding burning brush in the Roanoke Village area next spring. He also discussed the fact that the third stage of the fire department's compressor may be failing. He said it would cost about \$20,000.00 to repair but the Council gave approval by consensus to purchase new bottles as needed to avoid this expense. Fire Chief Taylor said this should work well along with sharing Bippus' compressor if necessary. He also wanted to remind everyone not to park over dried leaves and to keep leaves out of the garage.

Officer Dave Laspas stated that Marshal Kip Rupert wanted him to let the Council know that the drug intervention program is scheduled at the elementary school on Tuesday October 28 between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m.

Assistant Superintendent John Hitzemann gave the utility report, copy on file at the utility garage during normal business hours. He stated the brush pick up was continuing and leaf pick up had started. Vice President Schwieterman raised concerns about the large piles of brush noticed around Town and asked John's opinion as to the time and man power it takes to pick up these larger piles. Assistant Superintendent Hitzemann stated that it was his understanding that if the Town resident cut down a tree themselves and stacked the brush neatly, the Town would pick it up for them. However, if a contractor cut down a tree it was their responsibility to haul away the debris. President Stoeckley asked Councilman Karshner to review and work on the ordinance regarding brush removal by the Town as there are growing concerns for the money and hours it is taking the Town to offer this service.

Assistant Superintendent John Hitzemann also stated that the sidewalk project was underway and construction for the salt and sand building has started. He also stated the Eighth Street project was near completion. Vice President Schwieterman moved to approve the third payment to Earth Construction in the amount of \$100,824.10 and Councilman Karshner seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

Vice President Schwieterman made a motion to see how the Town can acquire the land for the extension of High Street. Councilman Karshner moved to approve this motion and it was seconded by Councilman Altman and was approved by consensus.

Assistant Superintendent Hitzemann also discussed the letter from Dodzik Engineering recommending the \$2,000.00 expense for a new intensity sensor which regulates the UV bulbs at the waste water treatment plant. This previously discussed expense was approved by consensus. The Council also gave approval for doing a survey for the next phase of the IDEM mandate of wastewater infrastructure construction to begin in spring of 2009.

Councilman Karshner moved to waive the reading of the proposed Resolution 2008-8 regarding ETJ Issues which was seconded by Councilman Young and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

The discussion of the 2009 Salary Ordinances, 2008-5 and 2008-6 was again tabled until the next Council meeting.

The Council next considered adoption of Ordinance 2008-7 to amend the Roanoke Code of Ordinances specifically pertaining to traffic signs. Councilman Karshner moved to adopt the ordinance as written and it was seconded by Councilman Altman which was then approved unanimously. The Clerk/Treasurer is to publish the amended ordinance one time within the next 30 days.

Halloween hours were determined by the Council to be October 31 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Fire Chief Taylor asked for approval to hand out candy from the fire trucks as in years past.

Councilman Nick Altman stated the Roanoke Library Board met with members of the Huntington Library Board. President Stoeckley asked Councilman Altman to meet with the Park Board regarding a security

system for the park restrooms so they could be opened during park activities such as the Roanoke Fall Festival.

Councilman Young stated that the “old junk yard” is on the list for the Brown to Green project through the County Surveyor’s office.

Vice President Schwieterman stated that she brought the Roanoke second graders to the Town Hall that morning for a mock Council meeting.

President Stoeckley reported that he is involved in discussions with Mr. Pete Eshelman about possible long term plans for the ownership and development of the former C&M property and providing easement rights for the proposed senior complex which, as part of the package, would pay \$60,000.00 in tap fees to the Town. Vice President Schwieterman moved to proceed with development of the plan, seconded by Councilman Karshner and the motion passed by consensus. President Stoeckley asked JoAnne Kirchner to see if there are any current appraisals of the former C&M property, and if not to determine what qualified appraisers might be available to provide the appraisals required by statute. The matter will be on the agenda of the next regular council meeting.

President Stoeckley also mentioned that the Town might consider what they may want to do with the Nelson Machine building for a “new” Town Hall, etc. If not, perhaps the Town should get bids to go vertical at the current Town Hall location. He stated there could be an office for the Chamber of Commerce as well.

After consideration, Vice President Schwieterman moved to approve the bills for payment listed on the allowance of claims payable vouchers in the amount of \$69,666.28 which was seconded by Councilman Young and approved unanimously.

Councilman Young then moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Altman seconded and the motion was duly adopted.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Jenkins
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer