

Roanoke Town Council Minutes July 15, 2008

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the Roanoke Town Council convene on Tuesday, July 15, 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 Troy Karshner and Councilman Nick Altman. Also present were Town Superintendent Paul Swain, Asst. Town Superintendent John Hitzemann, Marshal Kip Rupert, Fire Chief Chad Taylor and JoAnne Kirchner, Clerk/Treasurer.

Vice President Schwieterman moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of July 1, 2008 as written. Councilman Altman seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Brian Secor read his comments regarding his opposition to the extension of a municipal street, (High Street).

Mr. Junior Geiger, developer of Roanoke Professional Center which contains four building units with 16 businesses, was present to revisit the possibility of extending High Street to connect the business

development with the Town proper. Mr. Geiger expressed his tenants wishes to “become part of the Town”. Many of the business owners, doctors and service entities cater to elderly citizens who currently are forced to navigate Hwy #24 to enter the development.

The Council had copies of the documents from five years ago when the issue was initially considered. Junior decided to drop the issue at that time due to an elderly resident’s objections. The growth of the center over the last years and the business owners repeated requests to be connected to the Town was basically forcing the reconsideration of extending the Town’s street.

President Stoeckley suggested that the Council meet at the site on Sunday, July 20 at 2:00 P.M. to get a better feel for the request. The Council agreed by consensus to the meeting and time.

The Council next agreed by consensus to two home improvement requests as follows: 1) Mr. Craig Sloan, 556 Frederick Crossing for a new shed placement, 2) Mr. Nick Eckert, 838 N. Seminary St. for a deck sidewalk extension.

Superintendent Swain gave an update on the Eighth Street project stating they would need to shut down Main Street near Eighth on Thursday and detour signage would be placed accordingly, as 2 water lines, 1 gas line, 1

fiber-optics line and 1 sewer line were involved in that days construction work.

Paul also reported that the Town clean-up the previous weekend went very well. Utility employee Eric Parker had passed his CDL exam, several inmates were scraping the utility/court building for new paint, and he had received a quote for air conditioning repair to the extra Town Hall meeting room. Mr. Dave O'Brian was in the audience giving a quote of \$2,395 for a totally new unit (roof and interior) which included a new furnace and coil. Another option was \$800 for a scratch & dented unit, roof only while testing for re-charge inside. After discussion, the Council asked for an additional quote to just extend the current Town Hall ductwork to include that room to be presented at the next Council meeting.

Paul next requested Council approval to install four new handicap ramps at the corner of S. Main and Coe Streets at the block church. The project would include 4 ramps, sidewalk and curbing and handicap stamped for \$3,071.00. The Town 2008 CEDIT plan had set aside \$5,000 for the project. Vice President Schwieterman moved to approve the request as presented. Councilman Karshner seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Paul next informed the Council that five (5) residents had signed up for the Town sidewalk program which totaled

about \$5,100 Town share expense. After discussion, the Council agreed to move forward with the requests after Paul informed the residents of their 50% share and had signed contracts, along with informing the residents of possibly borrowing from the Town's Economic Revolving Fund at 1% over prime.

JoAnne then informed the Council of the expenses to E. J. Prescott for the year 2007 and 2008 to date totaling \$75,000 for the new utility meter replacement program. This had significantly reduced the \$500,000+ water operating fund balance from early 2007.

Marshal Rupert stated he was proceeding with the new anti-drug program at the elementary school. He also informed the Council his office needed a new computer which was ordered. President Stoeckley requested Kip get a copy of Huntington's fireworks ordinance and amend it to Roanoke's needs for consideration at the next Council meeting. John also wanted to increase to \$500 the fine for un-mowed grass. JoAnne stated she would check with Judge Turpin for clarification between a fine and repayment of services to the Town if the Town had already mowed the grass due to not being able to locate the property owner.

John also wanted the marshal to give warning to owners of a home in major disrepair and animal inhabited at 261 South Main Street.

Mr. Chris Jensen, President of the Roanoke Chamber, was present to request an additional block on Main between 2nd and 3rd Streets be cordoned off for the Taste of Roanoke event on August 16th to facilitate the new feature of artisans presenting for the day. After discussion, the Council denied that request, but agreed to blocking off First St. between the Town Hall and Post Office for the additional space required.

JoAnne reminded the Council of the WHARMM meeting in Warren on Monday, July 21 at 6:30 P.M., and the Roanoke Chamber Special Meeting on Tuesday, July 22 at 7:00 P.M. focusing on a future 10 year plan for Roanoke. She also reported on her Town Budget meeting with the DLGF the previous week.

JoAnne also stated that Mrs. Rose Meldrum, Director of the Huntington County Visitor Center has asked that the Council revisit her request for funds for repairing building damage since she now had acquired matching funds. After discussion, Councilman Karshner moved to donate \$500 to the center to be paid out of miscellaneous General Funds. Councilman Altman seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Last on the agenda was the presentation of bills for payment. Councilman Karshner moved to pay the bills as listed on the allowance of claims payable vouchers for

\$31,103.14. Vice President Schwieterman seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

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

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnne Kirchner, Clerk/Treasurer

Council Approve: