



P . O . Box 160 Avoca, Arkansas 72711

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MINUTES
TOWN OF AVOCA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2019

Call to order

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Whitehorn

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of silence

Public forum (Agenda item): None

Council Roll Call – by Rec/Tres. Barnes

Present: Mayor Robert Whitehorn

Rec/Tres. Nanette Barnes

ALD: Jay King, Oscar Alvarenga, Kathy Hansen & Jordan Sullivan

Absent: ALD: Kathy Miller

Staff

Present: Town Attorney: Joey McGehee

Zoning Official: Jim Mills

Guests

Butch Stout

Larry Parrish

Kim Whitehorn

John Faster

Tim DePue

Jeannie Rollins

Declaration of quorum

Mayor Whitehorn declared a quorum was present

Consent of Agenda

Ald. King made a motion for consent of agenda. Seconded by Ald. Alvarenga. Discussion; none. All approved. Motion carried.

Consent of minutes for council meeting

Ald. Hansen made a motion to accept the November minutes as written. Seconded by Ald. King. Discussion; none. All approved. Motion carried.

Financial statement

November 2019; Financial statement presented by Rec/Tres. Barnes. Ald. Hansen made a motion to accept the November Financials as presented. Seconded by Ald. Alvarenga. Discussion; none. Roll call: Ald. King; yes, Ald. Sullivan; yes, Ald. Alvarenga; yes and Ald. Hansen; yes. All approved. Motion carried.

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Staff Report – Rec/Tres. Barnes

1. Avoca Fire & Rescue
 - a. Monthly Report; November 2019; 45 Calls (EMS: 29, Fire: 11, Misc.: 1, MVA: 4, Roads: 0)
2. NEBCO EMS
 - a. None
3. Facebook & Website
 - a. None
4. Business Permits (0 Renewal & 0 New) as of November 30, 2019
 - a. None
5. Building Permits – as of November 30, 2019
 - a. None

Committee Reports:

1. *Planning commission – Chairmen James Mills*
 - a. Zoning Book; Rec/Tres. Barnes informed council she is planning on working on the Zoning Book after the first of the year.
 - b. Resignation of James Mills; Mayor Whitehorn informed council he received Jim Mills resignation from the Planning and Board of Adjustment Committee. December 17th meeting was his last meeting.
 - c. Appointment of John Faster; Mayor Whitehorn informed council he would like appoint John Faster to replace Jim Mills on the Planning and Board of Adjustment Committee. Council agreed.
 - d. Next meeting is scheduled for January 21, 2020
2. *Board of Zoning Adjustments– Chairmen James Mills*
 - a. Next meeting is scheduled for January 21, 2020
3. *Zoning and code enforcement – Mayor Whitehorn*
 - a. Resignation of James Mills; Mayor Whitehorn informed council he received Jim Mills resignation as the Zoning Official.
 - b. Appointment of Tim DePue; Mayor Whitehorn informed council he would like appoint Tim DePue as the Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer. Council agreed.
4. *Inspections*
 - a. BC Risk Management; Discussion was held concerning Building Inspections with councilmembers and guests. Pros and cons were discussed. Mayor tabled Building Inspections until the January 14, 2020 council meeting.
5. *Streets – Ald. Sullivan meeting.*
 - a. Culvert – End of Woods Lodge Road; Mayor Whitehorn informed council, he is waiting to hear from BC Road Engineers; they are working on the tornado clean-up.
6. *Park – Ald. Hansen*
 - a. Fences; Rec/Tres. Barnes recommended using the BC Inmates to do the labor when the town decides to start the new fences around the parks.
 - b. Dog Park; Discussion was held concerning adding a Dog Park to the Town Hall Park.
7. *Future of Avoca – Ald. Hansen*
 - a. Annexation – Ald. Hansen informed council she is in talks with a property owner who would like to annex his business and property into Avoca. She will keep the council informed as this progresses.

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8. *Personnel – Ald. King*

- a. Larry Parrish asked the council to consider placing William “Mac” Whitehorn on as a full-time employee. Ald. Hansen made a motion to hire a third full time employee. Seconded by Ald. Sullivan. Discussion; none. Roll call: Ald. King; yes, Ald. Sullivan; yes, Ald. Alvarenga; yes and Ald. Hansen; yes. All approved. Motion carried.

Old Business

1. Bank – Meeting with 1st Western Bank

- a. Rec/Tres. Barnes informed council, Ald. Hansen, Ald. King, Mayor Whitehorn and herself met with representatives of 1st Western Bank in Rogers to see about switching banks from Arvest to 1st Western. Ald. Hansen made a motion to change banks from Arvest to 1st Western Bank. Seconded by Ald. Alvarenga. Discussion; none. Roll call: Ald. Sullivan; yes, Ald. Alvarenga; yes, Ald. Hansen; yes and Ald. King; yes. All approved. Motion carried.

New Business

1. Town Employee Bonuses; Rec/Tres. Barnes asked council if they wanted to give town employees a yearly bonus. Ald. Sullivan made a motion to keep employee bonuses at \$75.00 (seventy-five dollars). Motion died from lack of second. Ald. Hansen made a motion to raise the employee yearly bonus to \$100.00 (one hundred dollars). Seconded by Ald. Alvarenga. Discussion; none. Roll call: Ald. Alvarenga; yes, Ald. Hansen; yes, King; yes, and Ald. Sullivan; yes. All approved. Motion carried.
2. Resolution; 08-19 – Continuation of half cent sales tax. Attorney McGehee read Resolution No. 08-19 in its entirety. A motion was made by Ald. Hansen to accept Resolution No. 08-19 on its first and final reading. Seconded by Ald. King. Discussion: none. Roll call; Ald. Hansen: yes. Ald. King; yes, Ald. Sullivan; yes and Ald. Alvarenga; yes. All approved. Motion carried.
3. Resolution: 09-19 – Adopting the 2020 Budget for the Town of Avoca, Arkansas. Attorney McGehee read Resolution No. 09-19 in its entirety. A motion was made by Ald. King to accept Resolution No. 09-19 on its first and final reading. Seconded by Ald. Sullivan. Discussion: none. Roll call; Ald. King; yes, Ald. Sullivan; yes, Ald. Alvarenga; yes and Ald. Hansen: yes. All approved. Motion carried.

Mayor for the Good of the Town – Mayor Whitehorn recommends making a safe place for people to meet in the front of the Town Hall to exchange sold and bought goods or to exchange children between ex-spouses. Rec/Tres. Barnes to ask local cities about their safe zone policies.

Public forum (Non-Agenda Item); 3 minutes

Announcements

1. Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 14, 2020
2. Planning Meeting scheduled for January 21, 2020
3. Board of Zoning meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 21, 2020

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Ald. Sullivan and seconded by Ald. King to adjourn meeting at 7:32 pm. Discussion: none. All approved. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Nanette Barnes
Recorder-Treasurer

Approved Robert Whitehorn
Mayor Robert Whitehorn

Attest Nanette Barnes
Recorder/Treasurer Nanette Barnes