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MINUTES  
TOWN OF AVOCA  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 13, 2024

**Call to order**

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Whitehorn

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Moment of silence**

**Public forum (Agenda item)**

Ben Craig, from Avoca Race Series, asked the council if he could hold the bike races in town on May 8th & 22nd, June 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, and July 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Council Roll Call** – by Rec/Tres. Barnes

Present: Mayor Robert Whitehorn

Rec/Tres. Nanette Barnes

ALD: Katie Rairdon, Kathy Hansen, Oscar Alvarenga, Jay King, and Jeannie Rollins,

Absent: None

**Staff**

Present: Zoning Official: Tim DePue

Absent: Town Attorney: Ed McClure

Town Maintenance: Chris Rogers

**Guests**

Zach Oldebeken (Fire Chief - AFD)

Ben Craig (Bike Races)

**Declaration of quorum**

Mayor Whitehorn declared a quorum was present

**Consent of Agenda**

Ald. Rairdon made a motion for consent of the amended agenda (Bike races were put under parks per Ald. Hansen). Seconded by Ald. King. Discussion; Ald. Rollins questioned why loose dogs were put under animal control, it was explained to her it was listed under animal control, so the council can discuss this issue. Roll call: Ald. Rairdon; yes, Ald. Hansen; yes, Ald. Alvarenga; yes, Ald. King; yes and Ald. Rollins; no. Motion carried.

**Consent of minutes for council meeting**

Ald. Alvarenga made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 2024 regular council meeting, as written. Seconded by Ald. Rairdon. Discussion; none. All approved. Motion carried.

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**Financial Statement**

Financial report presented by Rec/Tres. Barnes. Ald. Alvarenga made a motion to accept the January 2024 Financials as presented. Seconded by Ald. King. Discussion; None. Roll call: Ald. Rairdon; yes, Ald. Hansen; yes, Ald. Alvarenga; yes, Ald. King; yes and Ald. Rollins; no. Motion carried.

**Staff Reports:**

**1. Avoca Fire & Rescue**

- a. Recorder/Treasurer Barnes introduced the new Avoca Fire Chief: Zach Oldebeken.
- b. Fire Chief Oldebeken states the Avoca Fire & Rescue ran a total of 43 calls for January, and a total of 43 calls for the year.  
Canceled: 7    Fire: 7    Medical: 26    Public Service: 2    Smoke: 1

**2. NEBCO EMS**

Recorder/Treasurer Barnes informed council, in January, NEBCO ran a total of 38 calls in Avoca and a total of 38 for the year.

**3. Social-Media**

- a. All social media is up to date per Recorder/Treasurer Barnes

**4. Business Permits (22 Renewal & 1 New) for January 2024**

A to Z Golf Carts	Dollar General	Nautical Marine
Assembled Products/Jotto Desk	Dons Canopies	OCH Clinic
Avoca Boat & Storage	Freedom Fire Pro	Pinnacle Lawns
Avoca Tire Shop	Goodwood	Smith & Betts BBQ
Beaver Storage	John Zito Landscaping	Two Feathers Transport
Boat Dock World	Johns Lawn Service	Two Sisterz Liquor
Charles Tree Service	Lamar Outdoor	Wolfs Waypoint Marine
Chrysalis Studios	Latham Cabinets	

**5. Building & Inspection Permits for January 2024**

None

**6. Events**

- a. Non-Town Events: The council discussed having non sanctioned town events come into town hall and get a permit. Fees were discussed for these permits, council decided, at this time, to wait on adding fees to the permit. Recorder/Treasurer Barnes will write up a permit form.

**Committee Reports:**

**1. Planning commission – Chairmen Alvarenga**

- a. Hidden Forrest Subdivision (Phase I); Ald. Alvarenga states the culverts are being worked on;
- b. Hidden Forrest Subdivision (Phase II): No updates.
- c. Tall Trees Subdivision (Phase I): No updates.
- d. Tall Trees Subdivision (Phase II): No updates.

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**2. Board of Zoning Adjustments– Chairmen Alvarenga**

- a. No updates per Chairmen Alvarenga

**3. Zoning Official.– Tim DePue**

- a. Cars on Hobbs; Zoning Official, Tim DePue stated he has attempted numerous times, with no avail, to contact home owners on Hobbs Road, concerning cars being parked in the front yard and in the fire lane. Council has decided to have Recorder/Treasurer Barnes send a letter to all home owners on Hobbs, explaining the zoning rules concerning this issue.
- b. Dumpster Fences: Fences around dumpsters at businesses was discussed by council. Some businesses have them and some do not. Council has decided to have Recorder/Treasurer Barnes send a letter to all businesses, explaining the zoning rules concerning this issue.
- c. Unightly & Unsanitary Property: There are a few properties inside the town limits, both business and residential that need to be cleaned up per council. Zoning Official DePue will get Recorder/Treasurer Barnes a list of addresses for her to send letters to, concerning this issue.

**4. Town Maintenance – Chris Rogers**

- a. Mayor Whitehorn informed council the blade on the plow was damaged and has been fixed. The spinner on the sander is not working, and is in the process of getting repaired.

**5. Streets – Mayor Whitehorn**

- a. Old Wire & Tucks Chapel Roads: Mayor Whitehorn informed council, the towns portion for the overlaying of Old Wire & Tucks Chapel Roads will be \$50,300.98 (fifty thousand, three hundred and ninety-eight cents).

**6. Park – Ald. Hansen**

- a. Pickleball Court: No updates. More information on this issue will be forthcoming, Ald. Hansen is looking into what all is needed to be done to turn the volleyball court into a pickleball court.
- b. Bike Races: Ald. Hansen made a motion to allow Ben Craig to hold the Avoca Race Series on May 8th & 22nd, June 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, and July 13<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Ald. King. Discussion: Recorder/Treasurer will get with Mr. Craig concerning the permit. Roll call: Ald. Rairdon; yes, Ald. Hansen; yes, Ald. King; yes, Ald. Rollins; yes and Ald. Alvarenga; no. Motion carried.

**7. Grants – Ald. Rairdon/Ald. Hansen**

- a. Rural Community Grant: No updates

**8. Animal Control – Ald. Rollins**

- a. Loose Dogs: Ald. Rollins was asked to look into what options there are for the town concerning loose/dumped dogs, and to bring these options to the March council meeting.

**9. Personnel – Ald. Rairdon/Ald. King**

- a. None

**10. Annexation – Ald. King/Ald. Rollins**

- a. No update.

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**Old Business**

- a. Rental Shop/Warehouse; Mayor Whitehorn informed council the gas company is working on getting gas to the warehouse. Red Wolf Technologies will be signing the lease next week.
- b. Rail Road Crossing; Safety: Mayor Whitehorn stated he has no update and is waiting on ARDOT's report.
- c. Raise Permit Fees: Council discussed raising permit and other town fees. A motion was made by Ald. Alvarenga to have Recorder/Treasurer Barnes contact neighboring cities to find out what their fees are. Seconded by Ald. King. Discussion; why fees should be raised. Roll call: Ald. Rairdon; yes, Ald. Alvarenga; yes, Ald. King; yes and Ald. Rollins; no. Motion carried.

**New Business**

- a. None

**Mayor for the Good of Town – Mayor for the Good of Town**

Mayor Whitehorn informed council, gravel was placed at the food court, and more gravel maybe be needed, due to the large amount of traffic that gets food from the food trucks daily.

**Town Council Member's Personal Privilege (Any matter); 3 Minutes**

Council Member Hansen: had to leave meeting early

Council Member King: asked if the town knew what was going to happen to the house on the corner of Orchard and Main. He was informed the property belongs to BCWD#1, and they are donating it to the Avoca Fire & Rescue for a training burn.

Council Member Alvarenga: asked if the town hall parking lot can be restriped. Mayor Whitehorn will have the town employees do this in the spring.

Council Member Rairdon: there is a culvert sign bent over on the corner of Orchard and Center Street. Mayor Whitehorn will inform Chris.

Council Member Rollins: None

Recorder/Treasurer Barnes: None

**Upcoming Meetings:**

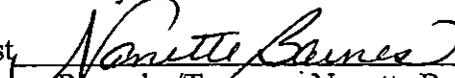
1. Planning Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 20, 2024
2. Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 12, 2024
3. Board of Zoning meeting is scheduled for June 18, 2024

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Ald. Rairdon and seconded by Ald. Rollins to adjourn meeting at 7:43 pm. Discussion: none. All approved. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nanette Barnes  
Recorder-Treasurer

Approved   
Mayor Robert Whitehorn

Attest   
Recorder/Treasurer Nanette Barnes