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MINUTES
TOWN OF AVOCA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 10, 2024

Call to order

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Whitehorn

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of silence

Public forum (Agenda item)

Josh Henderson spoke to council about annexing property on Tucks Chapel Road into the town.

Council Roll Call – by Rec/Tres. Barnes

Present: Mayor Robert Whitehorn

Rec/Tres. Nanette Barnes

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

Absent: ALD: Oscar Alvarenga,

Staff

Present: Town Attorney: Ed McCure

Zoning Official: Tim DePue

Absent: Town Maintenance: Chris Rogers

Guests

Joshua Henderson

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. Rairdon. Discussion; None. Roll call:

Ald. Hansen: yes, Ald. Rollins; yes, Ald. Rairdon; yes, and Ald. King; yes. All approved. Motion carried.

Consent of minutes for council meeting

Ald. King made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 2024 regular council meeting, as written.

Seconded by Ald. Hansen. Discussion; none. Roll call: Ald. Rollins; yes, Ald. Rairdon; yes, Ald. King;

yes, and Ald. Rairdon; yes. All approved. Motion carried.

Financial Statement

Financial report presented by Rec/Tres. Barnes. Ald. Hansen made a motion to accept the August 2024

financials as presented. Seconded by Ald. King. Discussion; None. Roll call: Ald. Rairdon; yes, Ald.

King; yes, Ald. Hansen; yes and Ald. Rollins; no. Motion carried

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Staff Reports:

1. Avoca Fire & Rescue

Recorder/Treasurer Barnes informed council, Avoca Fire & Rescue ran a total of 52 calls for August and 349 for the year. *** There was no one at the meeting representing the fire department and no information on the breakdown of calls were given as requested by the council.

2. NEBCO EMS

Recorder/Treasurer Barnes informed council, NEBCO ran a total of 42 calls for August in the Avoca area.

3. Social-Media

a. Emails: Recorder/Treasurer Barnes asked council members to log into their town email accounts to set up the two-part verification. She explained the need for them to do this.

4. Business Permits (0 Renewal & 1 New) for August 2024 – Rec/Tres. Barnes

- a. Letter Sent to a business without License – Paid and in good standing per Rec/Tres. Barnes
- b. All American Hotdog Company (Food Truck)

5. Building & Inspection Permits for August 2024 – Rec/Tres. Barnes

Arkansas Log Homes – 994 Red Cedar Place

6. Events – Rec/Tres. Barnes

- a. Fall Clean-up: October 19th
- b. Trunk R Treat; October 26th

7. Town Maintenance – Chris Rogers.

- a. New Brush Hog: Mayor Whitehorn informed the council that the new brush cutter, has been making the tractor to over-heat. Springdale Tractor is coming to pick up the tractor to fix the problem.

Committee Reports:

1. Planning commission – Chairmen Alvarenga

- a. Zoning Book; Rec/Tres. Barnes informed council the planning members are working on the changes and they are almost complete.
- b. Resignation of Planning Member: Rec/Tres. Barnes informed council a planning member had to resign and notices have been posted to fill the open position.

2. Board of Zoning Adjustments– Chairmen Alvarenga

No Update

3. Zoning Official – Tim DePue

- a. Zoning Official DePue stated letters have been sent to 3 residents for Unsightly and Unsanitary. These homeowners and businesses have been working on cleaning these issues up.
- b. Rec/Tres. Barnes states the owner of the property that was sent a letter for abandoned property/house came in and asked for more time. He states he is elderly and has started cleaning the property up with the help of a neighbor. He is going to place the property up for sale once it is cleaned up.

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4. Streets – Mayor Whitehorn

Old Wire & Tucks Chapel Roads: Mayor Whitehorn stated the resurfacing of these roads should be started in the next two weeks.

6. Park – Ald. Hansen

Pickleball Court: Ald. Hansens and Recorder/Treasurer Barnes met with Attorney McClure to start the bidding process on this project.

7. Grants – Ald. Rairdon/Ald. Hansen

Ald. Rairdon states she has no current updates.

8. Animal Control – Ald. Rollins

Ald. Rollins reported she has no current updates.

9. Personnel – Ald. Rairdon/Ald. King

No Update per Ald. Rairdon.

10. Annexation – Ald. King/Ald. Rollins

Tucks Chapel Road: After the council meeting, Ald. King, Ald. Hansen, and Mayor Whitehorn are to meet with Josh Henderson to talk more about annexation of property on Tucks chapel Road.

Old Business

a. Rental Shop/Warehouse

Rent: Mayor Whitehorn informed the council T. Mills Construction has been hired to fix the roof. Once it is completed, an ad will be posted to rent the warehouse out.

Pursley: Attorney McClure stated Paul Pursley is in default and a Default Judgement will be filed against him.

Roof: Mayor Whitehorn informed the council T. Mills Construction has been hired to fix the roof. This project should be completed in the next few weeks.

b. Tornado Disaster

ER*Assist: Recorder/Treasurer Barnes states ER*Assist has been working with FEMA on the town's behalf and all projects are now completed. FEMA states they will pay 75% of damages and the state and other agencies are fighting for them to pay 100% of damages.

Pavilion repair: Mayor Whitehorn stated we hired T. Mills construction. This project has been completed.

Fence repair: The Fence Guys completed this project.

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New Business

- a. Resolution 06-24; A Resolution Authorizing the Rate of Property Taxes for the year 2024 to be collected in 2025. Attorney McClure read Resolution 06-24 in its entirety. A motion was made by Ald. Hansen to accept Resolution 06-24 on its first and final reading. Seconded by Ald. King. Discussion: none. Roll Call: Ald. Rairdon: yes, Ald. King: yes, Ald. Hansen: yes, and Ald. Rollins: yes. All approved. Motion carried.

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

Mayor Whitehorn reminded council members he will be meeting with people from the railroad and ARDOT on September 25th. They will be meeting at the RR crossing on Rose Street.

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

Council Member Hansen: None

Council Member King: None

Council Member Alvarenga: Absent

Council Member Rairdon: None

Council Member Rollins: None

Recorder/Treasurer Barnes: None

Upcoming Meetings:

1. Planning Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 17, 2024, at 6:30 pm
2. Fire Board Meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 31, 2024, at 5:30 pm
3. Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 8, 2024, at 6:30 pm
4. Board of Zoning meeting is scheduled for December 17, 2024, immediately after Planning Meeting

Adjournment

A motion was made by Ald. King and seconded by Ald. Rairdon to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 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