



Town of Wyoming
Council Meeting Minutes
Wyoming Municipal Building
April 1, 2019, 6:30 P.M.

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Rife called the Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mayor Rife

MOMENT OF SILENCE – Mayor Rife

ROLL CALL

Council attending: Mayor, Frankie Dale Rife; Vice-Mayor, Doug Denison; Treasurer, Kyle Dixon; Secretary, Jonny Johnson; and Council Person Carlen Kenley

Council absent: None

Staff attending: Martin Willey, Chief of Police; and Laura Connor, Town Clerk

Audience attending: Mary Sard, Sheila Sard, Cheryl Kenley, Jimmy Winchell, Donna Mason, Elaine Bilow, Seth Greenberg, Joyce Stockslager, Mike Marasco and Sheryl Ford

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Mr. Winchell discussed his current water usage and made a request if a house is for sale and vacant, to request the water to be turned off. There was a recent incident that resulted in flooding because no one noticed running water for an extended period of time. Mr. Winchell also stated that there is a possibility of an increase that will come from Kent County that they will have to pass on to the residents.
- Mr. Greenberg asked Council if everyone received the Christmas ornaments that he made. Council responded.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Denison moved with a second by Mr. Kenley to adopt the agenda as published. Mayor Rife, Mr. Denison, Mr. Dixon, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Kenley, Aye. None Opposed. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – GOOD NEWS

- Mayor Rife stated that we are moving slowly forward on renovations on the bank
- She also stated that she will be on vacation the last week in March to go to Disney.
- Mrs. Bilow questioned the status of the lot behind the bank. Mayor Rife stated that settlement is scheduled for Friday, March 15, 2019.
- Mr. Marasco questioned the threshold and the bidding process for purchasing the lot. It was clarified that the process was followed and the appropriate motions were approved. He also requested clarification of the Charter. It was explained that the Charter allows Council to proceed with the purchase since there was no monies being borrowed. Funds were used from Realty Transfer.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Correspondence is available in Town Hall for anyone interested.

ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The following minutes were presented:

- February 4, 2019, Council Meeting Corrected
- March 4, 2019, Council Meeting
- March 4, 2019, Council Executive Session

Mr. Denison moved with a second by Mr. Johnson to approve the minutes as presented. Mayor Rife, Mr. Denison, Mr. Dixon, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Kenley, Aye. None Opposed. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Mr. Dixon presented the Treasure's Report Balances, Profit & Loss, Check Register, and Delinquent Taxes Report for review.
- It was stated that the property located next to 10859 Westville Road is proceeding with monitions.
- Council was asked to provide any items for their Wish List for the next budget
- Mayor Rife stated that all spending within the 4th quarter will be approved prior to proceeding.

Mr. Denison moved with a second from Mr. Kenley to approve the reports as presented subject to audit. Mayor Rife, Mr. Denison, Mr. Dixon, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Kenley, Aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

POLICE REPORT

- Chief Willey presented report for March.
- He stated that the new hire Cali Echeverri is in the academy. She should be completed by mid-September.
- Chief Willey announced that he has been working with Lighthouse Church and Deep Water Church. There is an Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for Saturday, April 13, 2019 from

11:00 am until 1:00 pm at the Park. There will be hidden eggs, snacks, chips and water. Mrs. Bilow stated that she has some extra baskets she will donate for the event.

- Chief Willey stated that the Police Department is in the process of creating a Facebook account.
- Mr. Dixon acknowledged the Police Department for their involvement last Thursday and Friday at W.B. Simpson School.
- Mayor Rife questioned the vehicle activity on North and South Drive. Chief Willey responded with his presence he has noticed approximately six (6) vehicles per hour.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

- Mr. Neese presented the reports for January and February
- Mr. Johnson questioned who pays for the EMT Salaries. Mr. Neese replied that they do receive federal and state funding, but donations also greatly assist.
- Mr. Neese announced several upcoming events: April 11th – Spaghetti Dinner and April 14th – Sunday Bingo.
- Mr. Neese also stated that they recently had the annual banquet where several individuals were recognized. He also stated that everyone will see the fire trucks parked outside of the bays because they will be getting new poxy completed on the bay floors.

C/W SEWER & WATER REPORT

- Mr. Winchell spoke earlier in the meeting

PLANNING & ZONING

- Mr. Greenberg stated that there is nothing new to report since they did not have a meeting.

BUILDING PERMITS

- February Building Permit Report was provided for review.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

- Properties surrounding Pine Street have been sent a letter and have until April 15th to remove any items
- There is a property on Broad Street that has been sent letters regarding the trash in their yard and we are currently waiting for them to respond.
- It was questioned how Code Enforcement issues fines. It was explained that unless it is police issued fine or associated with the grass ordinance it needs to be convicted in a court of law to receive the revenue.
- The noise complaints at the church on Camden Wyoming Avenue are still continuing. Chief Willey stated that the church and the landlords are working with B&B Music to address the issue. He also stated that our noise ordinance does not reference any decimal readings. There is still a question on the status of the Conditional Use for the church.
- Mr. Kenley mentioned that the pool in Wyoming Mills is another issue that needs to be addressed.

- Mrs. Bilow asked about the status of street sweeping. It was noted that it is an item that will be considered in next year's budget. She also requested that the flags on the streets either to be replaced or all taken down due to several of them being tattered. It was noted that this request will be taken care of with Maintenance. Mr. Marasco mentioned that an option would be to leave them up for shorter periods of time.
- Mrs. Mason requested to include in the newsletter a reminder for dog owners to pick up after their dogs. A reminder for no grass clippings in the streets will also be included in the newsletter.

PARK/STREET

- There is a possibility of opening the Park bathrooms prior to Good Friday because of recent nice weather.
- The pipe project at Wingate is completed with the exception of filling in around the grate located in the grass area next to the pond.
- The paving of Railroad Avenue is tentatively scheduled for the beginning of May, but may slide depending on the weather. Updates will be communicated once it gets closer.
- Mr. Dixon requested a list of streets in need of repair organized by priority.
- It was questioned on what we pay for the Municipal Street Aid (MSA) funding that we receive. It was clarified that we use the MSA funds to pay for the street lights.
- It was stated that there are grants out there to assist in repairs, but we just need the time to find them and apply.

PEACH FESTIVAL

- Mrs. Mason stated that the applications were recently sent out. She stated that there is no longer a charge from DelDOT for the signage due to us being a municipality.

NEW BUSINESS

- New Hire – Audrey Lindale – Mayor Rife introduced Audrey Lindale as the newest member of the office staff and welcomed her to the team.
- Ordinance 12-11 – Regulating Overgrown Grass & Weeds. Summary of ordinance was read for a reminder to all that this ordinance will start being enforced for the season. Mr. Johnson questioned section 6 (penalty). Mayor Rife clarified that this penalty is enforced if there is continuous offenses and we take the person to court. It was questioned where dog waste was enforced. It was explained that there is a separate ordinance in reference to animal waste, but it is difficult to enforce because the identity of the person is to be verified.
- Appreciation Lunch – being held on April 24, 2019 from noon-4 pm at the CW Fire Company. It was requested to promote this event in the newsletter, website and Facebook. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Denison moved with a second from Mr. Dixon to donate \$250 toward the Law Enforcement/First Responders Appreciation Lunch. Mayor Rife, Mr. Denison, Mr. Dixon, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Kenley, Aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

- Building Permits – update was presented that changes the number of inspection required and time frames for building permits. The number of inspections presented better represents the inspections performed by First State Inspections.

Mr. Johnson moved with a second from Mr. Denison to approve the updated documents as presented. Mayor Rife, Mr. Denison, Mr. Dixon, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Kenley, Aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

- Upgrade of Software – Information was presented to upgrade the current software (GovCollect) currently used to process property taxes. The upgrade would provide the functions to also process all licensing and building permits. Discussion ensued. It was requested to schedule a demo for Council. Item is tabled at this time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Scholarship Committee – Scholarship Committee recommendations include: Mayor Rife, Chief Willey and Dennis Dixon. Applications are being picked up from CR High School on April 15th. A meeting with the Committee Member will be scheduled after applications are received.

Mr. Dixon moved with a second from Mr. Denison to approve Mayor Rife, Chief Willey and Dennis Dixon as 2019 Scholarship Committee Member. Mayor Rife, Mr. Denison, Mr. Dixon, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Kenley, Aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

- Parking Restrictions on the west side of N. Caesar Rodney Avenue between North and South Drive – No parking signs have been ordered and will be installed when they are received.
- Town Hall Status – update provided earlier in the meeting.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS – Tentative schedule of meetings. Please check with Town Hall for any changes or cancellations.

- CWSWA, 04/09/19, 7:00 p.m., CWSWA Office
- Peach Festival Meeting, 04/17/19, 7:00 p.m., Municipal Building
- Planning & Zoning Meeting, 04/24/19, 6:30 p.m., Municipal Building
- Town Council Meeting, 05/06/19, 6:30 p.m. Municipal Building

It was stated that there will also be a Reorganization Meeting held at 6:00 pm just before the regular scheduled Town Council Meeting in May. There will also be Budget meetings held in May and the tax rate will be set at the June meeting.

Due to a scheduling conflict, it was requested to schedule the May 2019 Council Meeting for Tuesday, May 7, 2019.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Mr. Greenberg questioned the enforcement of grass and pooh. Discussion ensued.
- It was stated with the “big” rains we have received that there is a lot of water on S. Layton Avenue.
- Mr. Marasco asked about projecting a possible tax increase with the expenses on renovating the new building. It was explained that the renovations are being paid from Realty Transfer Tax and is not from the income received from property taxes.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Mr. Kenley requested to Mrs. Mason in the letter to the Railroad in reference to the train during the Peach Festival event to include possibly no parking next to the railroad tracks. Chief Willey stated that the Police Department will not enforce “no parking” during the event since he is not enforcing it now.

Mr. Denison moved and was seconded by Mr. Kenley to move into Executive Session at 9:20 p.m. Mayor Rife, Mr. Denison, Mr. Dixon, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Kenley, Aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

Council returned to regular session. Exact time is unknown.

The meeting adjourned. Exact time is unknown.

Exact times as notes above are due to Mrs. Connor leaving the meeting during Executive Session. No motions were made.

Laura Connor
Town Clerk