



P . O . Box 160 Avoca, Arkansas 72711

Phone/ Fax 479-621-5921

MINUTES  
TOWN OF AVOCA  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

**Call to order** – Meeting was called to order by Mayor O’Dell at 6:30 pm

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Moment of silence**

**Guests** – Jason Verzani – Verzani Construction  
Jeanne Rollins – Choo Choo’s Pizza  
Joe Mills – Planning Member

**Public forum**

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

Present: Mayor Thomas O’Dell  
Rec/Tres. Nanette Barnes  
ALD: Jay King, Harry Simons, Robert Whitehorn,  
Kathy Hansen & Dennis Pinkley

**Declaration of quorum** - Mayor O’Dell declared a quorum was present

**Staff** –Town Attorney: Joseph McGehee: Present  
Zoning: Larry Parrish: Present

**Consent of Agenda** – APAQ Central Scale House was added to Zoning & Code Enforcement  
Lease for Food Trucks added to Parks

**Consent of August 14, 2018 council meeting minutes** – Minutes will stand as presented.

**August 2018 Monthly Financial Statement** – Presented by Rec/Tres. Barnes

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**Staff Report – Rec/Tres. Barnes**

1. Avoca Fire & Rescue
  - a. Monthly Report; August 2018 – 38 calls
2. NEBCO EMS
  - a. None
3. Facebook & Website: Updated regularly
4. Business Permits (0 Renewal & 0 New) as of August 9, 2018
  - a. None
5. Building Permits – as of August 9, 2018
  - a. Cristina Batres – 824 N. Old Wire Road; Detached garage with upstairs apartment
6. Audit for 2016 & 2017 – Finished

**Committee Reports:**

1. *Planning commission – Ald. King*
  - a. The Zoning Book is being cleaned up and will be presented to council for approval when finished per Ald. King.
  - b. Town Attorney, McGehee informed council, Mr. Ruiz daughter has left a message with our attorney concerning property on Tucks Chapel Road. Town Attorney, McGehee stated they have tried returning her call with no avail. Ald. King asked if they are accruing fines. Town Attorney, McGehee will see if this is an option.
2. *Board of Zoning Adjustments– Ald. King*
  - a. Board of Zoning meeting is scheduled for October 16<sup>th</sup> after the Planning meeting per Ald. King.
3. *Zoning and code enforcement – Larry Parrish*
  - a. Zoning Official Parrish, informed council he is looking into three lawn care owners doing business without a license. He is also looking into Warpspeed, to see if they are still in business.
  - b. Mayor O'Dell would like to turn the Avoca Truck Stop over to the town attorney for further action.
  - c. Ald. Hansen asked if APAQ came in for a building permit for the new scale house. Rec/Tres. Barnes informed her no they did not. Zoning Official Parrish, will look into it.
4. *Streets – Ald. Whitehorn*
  - a. Road damage due to flooding
    - i. FEMA Update –Ald. Whitehorn will contact ER\* Assist once council approves a company to do the road work.
    - ii. Ald. Whitehorn opened three bids for Woods Lodge and Rader Road; 2 inches of ditch work.  
N.E.C, Inc.: 92,666.00  
Verzani Construction, LLC: 132,445.00  
Diamond Construction Co.: 197,010  
A committee was formed and will meet on September 17<sup>th</sup> to go over bids. Ald. Whitehorn will present findings to the council at the October 9<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

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5. *Park – Ald. Hansen*
  - a. Steam Whistle Depot
    - i. Grant – No update
    - ii. Pavilion - Ald. Hansen informed council the metal work is being constructed and erected. Rec/Tres. Barnes praised and thanked Rick Austin and Mayor O'Dell on the work they are doing.
  - b. Food Trucks
    - i. Lease – A discussion was held concerning leasing fees, signs and spacing, A committee was put together to go over these issues.
6. *Personnel – Ald. Pinkley*
  - a. Rec/Tres. Barnes to attend Municipal Clerks Institute – Fayetteville; Sept 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>.
7. *Future of Avoca – Ald. Hansen & Ald. Simons*
  - a. Ald. Hansen is looking into having a Harps built inside town limits.

**Old Business**

1. Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) – Avoca Heritage Trail – Ald. Pinkley
  - a. No Update
2. Impact Fees – sponsored by Ald. Hansen; Town Attorney, McGehee updated council on implementing Impact fees on new construction. A committee was put together to get a capital plan in place.

**New Business**

1. Agreement with Avoca Extension Homemakers Club; Mayor O'Dell informed council he is working with Jackie Buttrum concerning the towns lease with the Fire Department and the Avoca Extension Homemakers Club. He will keep the council informed as he gets more information.
2. Gun Control in town limits; Mayor O'Dell informed council there a have been some complaints concerning people shooting guns inside the town limits. Ald. Simons will look into this matter and report back to the council.
3. Document Scanning; Rec/Tres. Barnes asked the council about destroying old documents that no longer need to legally be saved per the Arkansas Municipal League. Council agreed to let Rec/Tres. Barnes shred old documents and keep a record of what has been shredded.
4. The Avoca Oaks; Rec/Tres. Barnes informed the council; Oxy Murphey with The Avoca Oaks has requested a letter from the town stating we are welcoming them to our town. Rec/Tres. Barnes told Mr. Murphey, we can write a letter welcoming him to the town but the town cannot back funding for his business. Town Attorney, McGehee approved the letter that was read by Rec/Tres. Barnes.

**Mayor for the Good of the Town**

1. Mayor O'Dell wanted to thank Edwin Wells, who, loaned the town some equipment to help with the Steam Whistle Pavilion.
2. Mayor O'Dell informed council he is looking into lost sales tax the town is due, and will keep the council informed as he gets more information.
3. Mayor O'Dell informed the council, Ald. Whitehorn, Rec/Tres. Barnes and himself met with Waste Management concerning a current contract. Once we receive the new contract, he will bring it before the council.

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**Announcements**

1. Planning Meeting scheduled for Tuesday September 18, 2018
2. Town Picnic/Firemen's BBQ scheduled for Saturday September 29, 2018
3. Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday October 9, 2018
4. Board of Zoning meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2018

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Aldermen Pinkley and seconded by Aldermen Hansen to adjourn meeting at 8:00 pm. Discussion: none. All approved. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Nanette Barnes  
Recorder-Treasurer

Approved Thomas W. O'Dell  
Mayor Thomas O'Dell

Attest Nanette Barnes  
Recorder/Treasurer Nanette Barnes

\*LOM: Lack of merit