



P . O . Box 160 Avoca, Arkansas 72711

Phone/ Fax 479-621-5921

MINUTES
TOWN OF AVOCA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 9, 2019

Call to order

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Whitehorn at 6:30 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of silence

Public forum

Council Roll Call – by Rec/Tres. Barnes

Present: Mayor Robert Whitehorn

Rec/Tres. Nanette Barnes

ALD: Jay King, Thomas O'Dell, Kathy Hansen & Jordan Sullivan

Absent: None

Staff

Town Attorney: Edwin McClure: Present

Zoning: Jim Mills: Present

Guests

Linda Eckard

Jeannie Rollins

Marilyn Holloway

Ben Craig

Declaration of quorum

Mayor Whitehorn declared a quorum was present

Consent of Agenda

A motion was made by Ald. O'Dell to accept agenda. Seconded by Ald. King. All approved. Motion carried.

Consent of minutes for council meeting

March 12, 2019; A motion was made by Ald. Hansen to accept the minutes. Seconded by Ald. O'Dell. All approved. Motion carried.

Financial statement

March 2019; Presented by Rec/Tres. Barnes

MINUTES
TOWN OF AVOCA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 9, 2019

Staff Report – Rec/Tres. Barnes

1. Avoca Fire & Rescue
 - a. Monthly Report; March 2019; 54 Calls
 - b. 911 Addresses; Rec/Tres. met with Fire Chief Elliott concerning 911 addresses. Many Avoca addresses are not visible for EMT/Fire Services. Chief Elliott will bring Rec/Tres. more information to be mailed to town residents concerning this matter.
2. NEBCO EMS
 - a. None
3. Facebook & Website: Updated regularly
 - a. Updating Website Page; Eric Weems to be sent a dismissal letter for his service. Mobile app is being worked on.
4. Business Permits (8 Renewal & 0 New) as of March 31, 2019
 - Cajun Queen Cuisine
 - Choo – Choo’s
 - Don’s Canopies & Metal Products
 - East Lawn Care
 - Git – R – Done Landscaping
 - TCB Boxing
 - Sunny & Hair
 - Big Hammer/Coleman Bass
5. Building Permits – as of March 31, 2019
 - John McGraw; 2400 sq. ft Shop/Living quarters - 14656 Smith Ridge Turnoff
 - Ascencion Morales; 200 sq. ft Storage Building - 647 Tucks Chapel Road

Committee Reports:

1. *Planning commission – Chairmen James Mills*
 - a. Approval; changes to the Zoning Book; A motion was made by Ald. Sullivan to accept the updated/changes to the Zoning Book. Seconded by Ald. Hansen. Discussion; An ordinance will be created concerning the changes and to include misdemeanors. Roll call; Aldermen King: yes, Aldermen O’Dell: yes, Aldermen Hansen: yes, and Aldermen Sullivan: yes. All approved, motion carried.
 - b. Planning Commission By-Laws; Councilmembers were informed the Planning Members are rewriting their by-laws, to be approved at the April 16th meeting.
 - c. Waste Water; Chairmen Mills informed council; he is looking into a waste water system for the town.
 - d. 5-10-15-20 Year Plan; Chairmen Mills has asked the planning members to think about working on the future of Avoca.
 - e. Ald. O’Dell recommended Kim Whitehorn to serve on the Planning/Board of Adjustment Committees. Attorney McClure said it would not be a conflict of interest. Mayor Whitehorn, agreed and appointed Kim Whitehorn to the Planning/Board of Adjustment Committees. A motion was made by Ald. Hansen to appoint Kim Whitehorn to the Planning/Board of Adjustment Committees. Seconded by Ald. O’Dell. Discussion; None. Roll call; Aldermen O’Dell: yes, Aldermen Hansen: yes, and Aldermen Sullivan: yes, and Aldermen King: yes. All approved, motion carried.
 - f. Next meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2019

MINUTES
TOWN OF AVOCA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 9, 2019

2. *Board of Zoning Adjustments– Chairmen James Mills*
 - a. Variance; Weidler – Smith Ridge Road: Board of Adjustment Committee approved at the March 19th meeting
 - b. Lot Split; Buttrum – Tucks Chapel Road: Board of Adjustment Committee approved at the March 19th meeting
 - c. Board of Zoning By-Laws; to be approved by the Board of Adjustment Committee at the May 21st meeting
 - d. Next meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2019

3. *Zoning and code enforcement –*
 - a. Ruiz property – Tucks Chapel Road; Cease & Desist – Fines paid in full & File Closed per Rec/Tres. Barnes
 - b. Abandoned Cars; Chairmen Mills to look into all the abandoned cars in town.

4. *Streets – Ald. Sullivan*
 - a. Road damage due to flooding - Woods Lodge & Rader Road
 - i. FEMA – Update; Ald. Sullivan and Mayor Whitehorn met with NEC concerning the work done on Woods Lodge and Rader Road. NEC fulfilled their part of the contract per Ald. Sullivan. Ald. Sullivan recommends putting the project out to bid, to get the ditch work done to the town's expectations. A motion was made by Ald. O'Dell to advertise for bids. Seconded by Ald. Sullivan. Discussion; None. Roll call; Aldermen Hansen: yes, and Aldermen Sullivan: yes, Aldermen King: yes, and Aldermen O'Dell: yes. All approved, motion carried. Rec/Tres. Barnes to put a bid packet together and into the newspaper.

5. *Park – Ald. Hansen*
 - a. Steam Whistle Depot
 - i. Grant; No update.
 - ii. Landscaping & Water; Water and trees have been put in per Ald. Hansen.
 - iii. Sign; No update on Pavilion sign
 - iv. Tables; Tables and benches will be ordered after the farmers market is over for the year.
 - v. Port a Potty; Ald. O'Dell asked that the new Porta potty be moved. He feels it is an eye sore. Ald. O'Dell offered to build a wooden facade around the port a potty, at his expense, to make it look like an old-fashioned outhouse, if the town will pay to move it. Council agreed.
 - vi. Bike Race Series – Ben Craig; No problems or complaints. First race went well per Mr. Craig.

6. *Impact Fees – Ald. Hansen & Ald. O'Dell*
 - a. Capitalization Policy; No Update

7. *Future of Avoca – Ald. Hansen*
 - a. Annexation; No Update

8. *Food Trucks – Ald. Hansen*
 - a. None; No Update

9. *Farmers Market – Ald. Hansen*
 - a. Opening day is Saturday, April 27th at 8 am. Rec/Tres. Barnes informed council, she has received nine (9) vendor applications.

MINUTES
TOWN OF AVOCA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 9, 2019

10. *Personnel – Ald. King*

- a. Council; One open position
- b. Part time summer help for General & Streets; Filled
- c. Drug Testing; Council members discussed employee drug testing prior to hire. Rec/Tres. Barnes to look into the steps the town will need to take to implement drug testing on new hires, and if there is an accident with any town equipment.

11. *Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) – Avoca Heritage Trail –*

- a. Council discussed options on discontinuing the Avoca Heritage Trail, and to allocate funds to the roads. Ald. Hansen mentioned looking into more grants. Ald. King to call Elizabeth Bowen to see if there are any options. Council has decided to table any discussion concerning the trail at this time.

Old Business

1. None

New Business

1. None

Mayor for the Good of the Town

1. None

Announcements

1. Planning Meeting scheduled for Tuesday April 16
2. Board of Zoning meeting is scheduled for Tuesday May 20
3. Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Saturday April 20
4. Town Cleanup is scheduled for May 11
5. Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday May 14

Adjournment: A motion was made by Ald. Sullivan and seconded by Ald. King to adjourn meeting at 7:52 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