



P . O . Box 160 Avoca, Arkansas 72711

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MINUTES
TOWN OF AVOCA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 8, 2021

Call to order

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Whitehorn

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of silence

Public forum (Agenda item)

Jordan Sullivan asked about the streets and if wire will be placed.

Council Roll Call – by Rec/Tres. Barnes

Present: Mayor Robert Whitehorn

Rec/Tres. Nanette Barnes

ALD: Kathy Hansen, Jeannie Rollins, Oscar Alvarenga, Audrey Oakes & Jay King,

Absent: None

Staff

Present: Town Attorney: Joey McGehee

Zoning Official: Tim DePue

Guests

Butch Stout – Avoca Fire Captain

Kim Whitehorn

Frank Duffy

Cealia Duffy

Ronnie Smith

Sawyer Smith

Cooper Smith

Trista Whisenhunt

Troy Ehase

Brandie Kirby

Jacob Davis

Brian Erving

Scott Bridges

Diane Bowen

Darlene Gregory

Charity Thornhill

Morgan Seamster

Brad Gabbard

Kayla Liddell

Gabby Thornhill

Stephanie Zortman

Stacy Latham

David Connelly

Hoss Cameron

Dan Deckard

Jerald Williams

Sean Johnson

Seth Johnson

Chris Liddell

Kim Liddell

Donald East

Tom O'Dell

Katie Elliott

Rachell Etoll

Amy Elliott

Declaration of quorum

Mayor Whitehorn declared a quorum was present

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Consent of Agenda

Ald. King made a motion for consent of amended agenda (Ald. Rollins added businesses under Facebook & Website, she asked that misinformation be placed under food trucks. At this time, she was informed food trucks were not on the agenda, she then said she wanted it under Ordinance 122, and she added professional courtesy under New Business); Seconded by Ald. Alvarenga. Discussion; none. All approved. Motion carried.

Consent of minutes for council meeting

Ald. Alvarenga made a motion to accept the minutes of May 2021, as written. Seconded by Ald. Hansen. Discussion; none. All approved. Motion carried.

Financial statement

May 2021; Financial report presented by Rec/Tres. Barnes. Ald. Hansen made a motion to accept the May Financials as presented. Seconded by Ald. King. Discussion; None. All approved. Motion carried.

Staff Report – Rec/Tres. Barnes

1. Avoca Fire & Rescue

- a. Captain Stout reported The Avoca Fire Department has gone on 52 Calls in May (Ems calls -34, Assist other departments -11, Mva-2, Brush/grass fire -1, Gas odor investigation -1, Road hazard-1, Structure fire-2).
- b. Rec/Tres. Barnes informed council the Fire Department was awarded a \$15,000 (fifteen thousand dollars) grant for new bunker gear.

2. NEBCO EMS

- a. None

3. Facebook & Website

- a. Facebook and the town webpage are both up to date per Rec/Tres. Barnes
- b. Ald. Rollins stated she was speaking on behalf of local business owners. She stated business owners were unhappy with the town promoting local businesses on the town Facebook page. Business owners who attended the meeting, stated this was not completely true and they were very happy and appreciated the town promoting their businesses and Ald. Rollins did not speak for them. Rec/Tres. Barnes, stated it was approved by the council to promote local businesses on the town Facebook page and town sign. When Ald. Rollins, stated that wasn't true, Rec/Tres. Barnes offered to get the signed minutes of that meeting to show the council. At that time, she was told that wouldn't be necessary. It was decided a committee would be formed with non- business owners to work with Nanette on promotions of local businesses on the town Facebook page. Ald. King, Brandie Kirby and Kayla Liddell all volunteered and were approved to form the committee.

4. Business Permits

Rec/Tres. Barnes reports there have been (1) one Business Permit issued in the month of May 2021
Mr. E. Appliance

5. Building & Inspection Permits – as of May 31, 2021

- a. None

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6. Code Enforcement – *Tim DePue*

- a. None

Committee Reports:

1. *Planning commission – Ald./Chairmen Alvarenga*

- a. Ald. Alvarenga informed council there is a public hearing being held before the Planning meeting scheduled on June 15, 2021 concerning a proposed 49 house subdivision off Old Wire Road being built by Franklin Miller

2. *Board of Zoning Adjustments– Chairmen Alvarenga*

- a. None

3. *Streets – Ald. King*

- a. Safety lights for town truck; Rec/Tres Barnes informed council the town truck will be having safety lights installed within the week.
- b. ER Assist – Disaster from Flooding; Ald. King informed council a meeting was held with ER Assist concerning the April 28th flooding, he will keep council informed on this matter. .

4. *Park – Ald. Hansen*

- a. Trail Lights; Rec/Tres. Barnes informed council the light poles have been started.
- b. Trail Grant: Ald. Hansen states she is looking into some grants to help with the park trails.
- c. Pavilions; Tabled at this time
- d. Food Pantry; Mayor Whitehorn informed the Elks Lodge placed a food pantry in the Town Hall Park.

5. *Personnel – Ald. Oakes*

- a. None

Old Business

- 1. Town Hall Buzzer; Rec/Tres. Barnes informed council, ADT changed the cost when she called to have it installed. She has tried contacting ADT concerning this matter and have yet to hear back from anyone. She will try and get another quote from a different security company.
- 2. Impact Fees; Ald. Hansen updated council on what she has learned concerning Impact Fees. She will continue to get information on this issue.

New Business

- 1. Ordinance 122; Food Trucks – A motion was made by Ald. Hansen to place Ordinance No 122; Ordinance 122; Food Trucks on its first reading. Seconded by Ald. Alvarenga. Roll call: Ald. Oakes; yes, Ald. King; yes, Ald. Hansen; yes, Ald. Rollins; yes, and Ald. Alvarenga; yes. All approved. Motion carried. Town Attorney McGehee read the ordinance in its entirety. A motion was made by Ald. Hansen to accept Ordinance 122 on it first reading. Seconded by Ald. King. Discussion: None. Roll call; Ald. King; yes, Ald. Hansen; yes, Ald. Rollins; yes, Ald. Alvarenga; yes, and Ald. Oakes; yes. All approved, motion carried.

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A motion was made by Ald. King to suspend the rules and to place Ordinance 122 on its second reading by title only. Seconded by Ald. Rollins. Discussion: none. Roll call; Ald. Hansen: yes, Ald. Rollins: yes, Ald. Alvarenga: yes, Aldermen Oakes: yes and Ald. King: yes. All approved, motion carried. Attorney McGehee read Ordinance 122 on its second reading by title only. A motion was made by Ald. King to accept Ordinance 122 on its second reading by title only. Seconded by Ald. Hansen. Discussion: None. Roll call; Ald. Rollins: yes, Ald. Alvarenga: yes, Ald. Oakes: yes, Ald. King: yes, and Ald. Hansen: yes. All approved, motion carried. A motion was made by Ald. Hansen to suspend the rules and to place Ordinance 122 on its third and final reading by title only. Seconded by Ald. Alvarenga. Discussion: None. Roll call; Ald. Alvarenga: yes, Ald. Oakes: yes, Ald. King: yes, Ald. Hansen: yes, and Ald. Rollins: yes. All approved, motion carried. Attorney McGehee read Ordinance 122 on its third and final reading by title only. A motion was made by Ald. Hansen to accept Ordinance on its third and final reading by title only. Seconded by Ald. Alvarenga. Discussion: None. Roll call; Ald. Oakes: yes, Ald. King: yes, Ald. Hansen: yes, Ald. Rollins: yes, and Ald. Alvarenga: yes. All approved, motion carried. A motion was made by Ald. Rollins to adopt the emergency clause on Ordinance 122. Seconded by Ald. Alvarenga. Discussion: none. Roll call; Ald. King: yes, Ald. Hansen: yes, Ald. Rollins: yes, Ald. Alvarenga: yes, and Ald. Oakes: yes. All approved, motion carried.

- a. Ald. Rollins stated she wanted to remove misunderstandings from amended agenda and made a statement to Sean Johnson concerning his family Food Truck, stating she is for food trucks.
2. Professional Courtesy; Ald. Rollins stated she wanted to remove professional curtesy off the amended agenda

Mayor for the Good of the Town

Mayor would like to inform council the Masonic Lodge will be placing a food pantry at the Steam Whistle Park.

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

Ald. Hansen; if anyone has any questions concerning the public hearing being held before the Planning meeting scheduled on June 15, 2021 concerning a proposed 49 house subdivision and impact fees, she will available to meet with them.

Ald. King; Wanted to thank and recognize all residents and business owners who came to the meeting and asked that they continue to come to further meetings.

Ald. Alvarenga; None

Ald. Oakes; None

Ald. Rollins; None.

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Public forum (Non-Agenda Item); 3 minutes

Tommy O'Dell talked about the memorial and flag placement, Mayor Whitehorn asked him to help place the flags when needed.

Diane Bowen stated she would like to see the town hall cleaned up. She asked the small pot hole on Old Wire Road be filled and the towns rental warehouse be cleaned up.

Darlene Gregory asked about the census, asked if the town employees can do a better job mowing the edges of the streets, and questioned why it takes 3 town employees to drive the streets in the mornings. Mayor Whitehorn informed Ald. Oakes, after looking at the area between Woods Lodge and Pearl, he feels it would be unsafe to plant flowers in that area due to traffic.

Kim Whitehorn states she has a friend who is going to come and clean the monument under the American Flag.

Charity Thornhill states she has been a long-time resident of the area, and would like to see the town come together more in situations.

Brandie Kirby thanked the Town, the Two Sisterz, the Dutch Oven Food Truck, the Avoca Fire Department and Rec/Tres. Barnes for all they did to help with her sister's fund raiser.

Announcements

1. Public Hearing scheduled for June 15, 2021; proposed subdivision on Old Wire & Dancer
2. Planning Meeting scheduled for June 15, 2021
3. Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 13, 2021
4. Board of Zoning meeting is scheduled for August 17, 2021

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Ald. King and seconded by Ald. Alvarenga to adjourn meeting at 7:56 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