



P . O . Box 160 Avoca, Arkansas 72711

Phone/ Fax 479-621-5921

MINUTES
TOWN OF AVOCA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 12, 2022

Call to order

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Whitehorn

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of silence

Public forum (Agenda item)

None

Council Roll Call – by Rec/Tres. Barnes

Present: Mayor Robert Whitehorn

Rec/Tres. Nanette Barnes

ALD: Oscar Alvarenga, Kathy Hansen, Katie Rairdon and Jeannie Rollins

Absent: Jay King

Staff

Present: Town Attorney: Ed McClure

Zoning Official: Tim DePue

Town Maintenance: Chris Rogers

Guests

Frankie Elliott – Avoca Fire Chief

Benjamin Craig

Kim Whitehorn

Declaration of quorum

Mayor Whitehorn declared a quorum was present

Consent of Agenda

Ald. Hansen made a motion for consent of agenda; Seconded by Ald. Rollins. Discussion; none. All approved. Motion carried.

Consent of minutes for council meeting

Ald. Alvarenga made a motion to accept the minutes of March 2022, council meeting, as written. Seconded by Ald. Hansen. Discussion; none. All approved. Motion carried.

Financial statement

March 2022; Financial report presented by Rec/Tres. Barnes. Ald. Hansen made a motion to accept the March 2022 Financials as presented. Seconded by Ald. Rairdon. Discussion; None. All approved. Motion carried.

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Staff Report – Rec/Tres. Barnes

1. Avoca Fire & Rescue

Per Fire Chief Elliott, for the month of March, the fire dept ran a total of 52 calls. 26 calls for the month came between the hours of 7-5. We logged 300 hours of training. We have 1 member starting at the Benton co fire academy. We have added 2 new members onto the roster. Our Average response time has dropped to 7 minutes & 46 sec from last year's average response time; was 14 min & 41 sec.

Breakdown of call types:

Fire alarm: 5	MVC: 2	Lift Assist: 1
Outside Fire: 3	Car fire: 1	EMS: 27
Tree Down: 1	Structure Fire 7	Grass fire: 5

2. NEBCO EMS

a. None

3. Facebook & Website

a. Updated per Rec/Tres. Barnes

4. Business Permits (10 Renewal & 0 New) for March 2022

Becky Hedden (FM)	K & K Auto Sales	TCB Boxing
C & K Produce	Kimball Automotive	Wolfe's Waypoint Marine
East Lawn Care	Mad Scientist Customs	
Family Treasurers	Pit Ridge Rescue	

5. Building & Inspection Permits for March, 2022

a. G & M Investments LLC; 195 N. Hwy 62

6. Events

- a. Easter Egg Hunt – Rec/Tres. Barnes states the Easter Egg Hunt was a great success. She recommends Charity Thornhill be reimbursed for the Easter Bunny Costume. Council agreed.
- b. Spring Clean-Up; May 21, 2022 (8:30 am to 11:00 am) – Rec/Tres. Barnes states everything is set up and ready for the Spring Clean-up. The BC inmates will be here to clean the roads a week before the clean-up.

Committee Reports:

1. Planning commission – Chairmen Alvarenga

- a. Recreational Vehicle Rules and Regulations; Chairman Alvarenga informed council, the planning members are working on Recreational Vehicle Rules and Regulations.
- b. Zoning Book; Chairman Alvarenga states we are in the mist of having Jeff Hawkins help us with updating our Zoning Book; no updates at this time.

2. Board of Zoning Adjustments– Chairmen Alvarenga

a. None

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3. Streets – Ald. King

- a. ER* Assist; Mayor Whitehorn and Rec/Tres. Barnes are meeting with Justin with ER Assist this week, no updates at this time.
- b. Stripping: Council has approved to have the stripping done on Rader, Old Wire, Woods Lodge, Smith Ridge and Pearl.
- c. Guard Rail along Prairie Creek Road; Per Ald. Alvarenga, Franklin Miller has agreed to pay half of the cost of a guard rail along Prairie Creek Road where the trees were cut down. Fire Chief Elliott states this is a bad area for a car to roll off the side. Council agreed. Rec/Tre. Barnes states she has a call into Time Stripping for an estimate.

4. Park – Ald. Hansen

- a. Food Truck Court; Mayor Whitehorn states he is still in the process of getting a waste water tank placed.
- b. Slide; Rec/Tres. Barnes informed council she has been notified that the new slide has been shipped. Town employee Chris Rogers states the chain link fence needs to be replaced along the northern part of the park in the near future. He will patch the polls for now.
- c. Bike Races: Ben Craig addressed the council with tikes and dates for this year's bike races. Rec/Tres. Barnes will hang up the fliers and post it on the town Facebook page.
- d. Steam Whistle Port A Potty; Rec/Tres. Barnes explained to council members she has had a few complaints that the porta potty at the Steam Whistle Park is over flowing and needs to be cleaned. She contacted BBB Septic who states the ground is too soft due to all the rain and asked if the town could have some gravel placed in that area so the trucks don't sink. Council agreed to have Rec/Tres. Barnes contact the Avoca Quarry and have a load of SB2 delivered.

5. Grants – Ald. Rairdon

- a. None

6. ARPA Funds (American Rescue Plan) – Ald. Rollins

- a. Ald. Rollins, states she went to another online class concerning the APRA funds. Ald. Hansen made a motion to allocate the funds to: \$10,000 (ten thousand dollars) to the roads for stripping, an estimated amount of \$26,000 (twenty-six thousand dollars) to the guard rail on Prairie Creek Road, \$1000.00 (one thousand dollars) to essential workers Chris Rogers; \$500.00 (five hundred dollars) and Nanette Barnes \$500.00 (five hundred dollars) and \$10,000 (ten thousand dollars) to the Avoca Fire & Rescue for an air-pack. The remainder of the funds will stay in the money market. Seconded by Ald. Rollins. All approved. Motion passed.

Old Business

1. None

New Business

1. None

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Mayor for the Good of Town

Mayor Whitehorn states he met with BC Chief Deputy Meyer Gilbert with the BC Sheriff's department. They are working on a MOA for the town and the Sherriff's department so the BC deputies can uphold our town ordinances. BC Chief Deputy Meyer Gilbert will be attending the May council meeting to discuss the pros and cons of a police department in Avoca.

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

Council Member King -Absent

Council Member Alvarenga – states Franklin Miller will be placing street lights going into the new subdivision.

Council Member Rairdon – worried that a lady is driving around town throwing bones into people's yards at their dogs. It was advised she contact BC Sheriff's office.

Council Member Rollins - None

Council Member Hansen – asked where the sales tax revenue was going when residents purchase items online.

Public Forum (Non-Agenda Items); 3 Minutes

Announcements

1. Town Hall will be closed April 14 – 22, 2022
2. Planning Meeting scheduled for April 19, 2022
3. Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 10, 2022
4. Board of Zoning meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2022
5. Town of Avoca Spring Clean-up scheduled for May 21, 2022

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Ald. Alvarenga and seconded by Ald. Rairdon to adjourn meeting at 7:28 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