



P . O . Box 160 Avoca, Arkansas 72711

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MINUTES  
TOWN OF AVOCA  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
OCTOBER 11, 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: Kathy Hansen, Jay King and Katie Rairdon

Absent: Oscar Alvarenga and Jeannie Rollins

**Staff**

Present: Town Attorney: Ed McClure

Zoning Official: Tim DePue

Town Maintenance: Chris Rogers

Absent: None

**Guests**

Butch Stout – Avoca Fire Captain

Jim Mills

David Connelly

Kim Whitehorn

**Declaration of quorum**

Mayor Whitehorn declared a quorum was present

**Consent of Agenda**

Ald. Hansen made a motion for consent of amended agenda (62 Truck stop was added under Zoning official and Trees were added under parks). Seconded by Ald. King. Discussion; none. All approved. Motion carried.

**Consent of minutes for council meeting**

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

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**Staff Report – Rec/Tres. Barnes**

**1. Avoca Fire & Rescue**

Avoca Fire Captain Stout states Avoca Fire & Rescue ran a total of 50 Calls in September.

This brings us to 505 calls on the year so far.

Training in September; crews went over hose loads and deployments, The whole dept went thru CPR class and also Rogers and Nebco did walk thru of their medics with the crews.

Avoca Fire & Rescue had one Structure fire in the Avoca fire area.

**2. NEBCO EMS**

- a. None

**3. Social-Media**

- a. None

**4. Business Permits (0 Renewal & 0 New) for September 2022**

- a. None

**5. Building & Inspection Permits for September, 2022**

- a. None

**6. Events**

- a. Town Clean-Up: October 15, 2022; Rec/Tres. Barnes states everything is ready for the clean-up. She had the Benton County Inmates come and clean the roads, so any volunteers are asked to help unload bulky items that are brought in. Council would like to have the inmates come on a regular quarterly basis. Rec/Tres. Barnes will contact Benton County and get it set up.
- b. Trunk R Treat; October 29, 2022; Rec/Tres. Barnes states flyers have been posted and everything is ready for the Trunk R Treat.

**Committee Reports:**

**1. Planning commission – Chairmen Alvarenga**

- a. Zoning Book; Rec/Tres. Barnes states Jeff Hawkins will be at the October meeting, to go over the draft he has of the new zoning book.
- b. Hidden Forrest Sub-Division; Final Plat: Ald. Alvarenga states the final plat was denied due to being incomplete.
- c. Tall Trees Sub-Division: Ald. Alvarenga states this issue was tabled until the October meeting due to incomplete plans.

**2. Board of Zoning Adjustments– Chairmen Alvarenga**

- a. None – Next meeting is December 20, 2022

**3. Zoning Official – Tim DePue**

- a. 411 Sheppard Road; Leonard & Mindi Stewart: Tim DePue states he will check on the progress of the Stewart property, a record will be kept on file.

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- b. 62 Truck Stop: Council asked what the new owners were doing. Mayor Whitehorn and Rec/Tres. Barnes explained he is turning it into a sports restaurant, and the Benton County Risk Reduction has put a stop to the addition due to no permits being applied for or issued.

**4. Town Maintenance – Chris Rogers**

- a. Chris Rogers informed council they have been busy trimming the side of the roads. The County is going to trim the part of the trees along the roads that our workers can't reach. All three workers have taken and passed their CPR classes that the town sent them to.

**5. Streets – Ald. King**

- a. Impact Fees: Ald. Hansen informed council she feels we need to revisit this issue due to the new subdivisions and the new growth of the town. Rec/Tres. Barnes will get Ald. Hansen the information she has on this issue.

**6. Park – Ald. Hansen**

- a. Food Truck Court; Mayor Whitehorn states the food truck area is all level and ready for the food trucks. Ald. Rairdon asked about the water source due to new rules and regulations. Mayor Whitehorn informed council he is meeting with the health department and BCWD#1 concerning this matter.
- b. Monument; Ald. King received a quote for \$4,200.00 (four thousand, two hundred dollars) to demo, pour concrete, polish and reset the monument. This fee does not include the epoxy seal. Ald. King made a motion to appropriate funds of \$6,000.00 (six thousand dollars) to have the monument in front of town hall repaired. Seconded by Ald. Hansen. All approved. Motion carried.
- c. Tree Trimming; Rec/Tres. Barnes will contact Benton County to see about helping with trimming of the trees that are too high for our employees.

**7. Grants – Ald. Rairdon**

- a. Rural Community and Rural Services Block Grant for park equipment: Rec/Tres. Barnes states she has no updates at this time.
- b. Hazard Mitigation Grant; Town Hall Generator Rec/Tres. Barnes states she has no updates at this time.

**8. ARPA Funds (American Rescue Plan) – Ald. Rollins**

- a. No Update

**Old Business**

- a. None

**New Business**

- a. Air Conditioners; Town Hall; Georges came and installed the new HVAC units. Rec/Tres. states she called them on Thursday and they came and installed both units on Monday. They were really nice and easy to work with.
- b. Resolution 08-22; A Resolution authorizing the rate of Property Taxes. Attorney McClure read Resolution No. 08-22 in its entirety. A motion was made by Ald. Hansen to accept Resolution No. 08-22 on its first and final reading. Seconded by Ald. King. Discussion: none. Roll call; Ald. Rairdon: yes, Ald. Hansen: yes, and Ald. King: yes. All approved. Motion carried.



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- c. Air B & B/Hotel Taxes: Attorney McClure states he is working on this information and has no updates at this time.
- d. Banners; Rec/Tres. Barnes states she is working with the printers, and will have a draft for approval at the November meeting.

**Mayor for the Good of Town**

Mayor Whitehorn, would like to have a Craft Fair in the town park next year. He states a lot of the areas have closed, and crafters have no place to go. Council agrees this would be a great idea.

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

*Council Member Alvarenga* – None

*Council Member Rairdon* – Light: would like us to know a street light is out on Rose Street. Rates: she would like to see a day rate for the food trucks that will be there once or twice a week. Council decided on \$25.00 (twenty-five dollars) a day. Girl Scout Pantry: the door on the pantry is broken and needs to be fixed. Ald. Hansen volunteered to paint the back of the boxes. Dogs: would like something to be done concerning the dog problem and the puppy mills that are popping up in town. Rec/Tres. Barnes will place dogs on the November agenda and will contact Clay at the Humane Society and the Benton County Dog Catcher to see if they can come to the November council meeting to help us with this problem.

*Council Member Rollins* - None

*Council Member Hansen* – None

*Council Member King* – None

**Public Forum (Non-Agenda Items); 3 Minutes**

None

**Announcements**

1. Town Clean up scheduled for October 15, 2022
2. Planning Meeting scheduled for October 18, 2022
3. Trunk R Treat scheduled for October 29, 2022
4. Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, November 8, 2022
5. Board of Zoning meeting is scheduled for December 20, 2022

**Adjournment:**

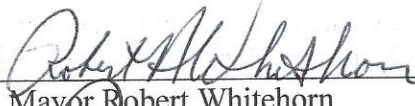
A motion was made by Ald. Hansen and seconded by Ald. King to adjourn meeting at 7:43 pm.

Discussion: none. All approved. Motion passed.

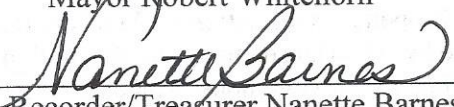
Respectfully submitted,

Nanette Barnes  
Recorder-Treasurer

Approved

  
Mayor Robert Whitehorn

Attest

  
Recorder/Treasurer Nanette Barnes