



P . O . Box 160 Avoca, Arkansas 72711

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MINUTES  
TOWN OF AVOCA  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 11, 2023

**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: Katie Rairdon, Jay King, Jeannie Rollins and Kathy Hansen

Absent: ALD: Oscar Alvarenga

**Staff**

Present: Town Attorney: Ed McClure

Zoning Official: Tim DePue

Town Maintenance: Chris Rogers

Absent: None

**Guests**

Kim Whitehorn

Betty Wasserman

**Declaration of quorum**

Mayor Whitehorn declared a quorum was present

**Consent of Agenda**

Ald. King made a motion for consent of amended agenda (craft fairs were added under parks) Seconded by Ald. Rairdon. Discussion; none. All approved. Motion carried.

**Consent of minutes for council meeting**

Ald. King made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 14, 2023 regular council meeting, as written. Seconded by Ald. Hansen. Discussion; none. All approved. Motion carried.

**Financial statement**

March 2023; Financial report presented by Rec/Tres. Barnes. Ald. King made a motion to accept the March 2023 Financials as presented. Seconded by Ald. Hansen. Discussion; None. All approved. Motion carried.

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**Staff Report – Rec/Tres. Barnes**

**1. Avoca Fire & Rescue**

Rec/Tres. Barnes states the Avoca Fire & Rescue ran a total of 40 calls for March, and 147 for the year.

Vegetation Fire: 2	Medical: 23	Extrication Rescue: 1	Animal Rescue: 1
Public Service: 2	Canceled: 8	Controlled Burn: 1	Misc.: 2

**2. NEBCO EMS**

Rec/Tres. Barnes states NEBCO ran a total of 33 calls for March, and 111 for the year.

Medical calls: 23	Fires: 3	MVA: 3	Lifts: 4
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**3. Social-Media**

Rec/Tres. Barnes asked council members to keep her updated if they are having problems with the new email accounts.

**4. Business Permits (14 Renewal & 1 New) for March 2023**

Assembled Products	John Zito Landscaping	Sunny & Hair
Beaver Storage LLC	John's Lawn Maintenance	Tri Star Automotive
Choo-Choo's	Lamar Outdoor	Wolfs Waypoint Marine
Dollar General	Nautical Marine	
Good Wood	Pro Line Cabinets	
Hoss's RV Repair & Restoration	Sister Solutions	

**5. Building & Inspection Permits for March, 2023**

a. None

**6. Events**

- a. Easter Egg Hunt was a huge success per Rec/Tres. Barnes.
- b. Spring Clean-up scheduled for Saturday, May 20, 2023 at 8:30 am
  - ❖ The town will be giving away free trees (while supplies last)
- c. Monument Dedication scheduled for Saturday, May 20, 2023 at 12:00 pm

**Committee Reports:**

**1. Planning commission – Chairmen Alvarenga**

- a. Zoning Book: Planning Members have started working on updating the Zoning book.
- b. Hidden Forrest Sub-Division; No update
- c. Tall Trees Sub-Division; No update
- d. Old Wire Road; curb and sidewalks – Planning members discussed options concerning water drainage on Old Wire Road in front of the Hidden Forrest Subdivision.

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

- a. No update per Ald. Alvarenga.

**3. Zoning Official – Tim DePue**

- a. Main Street – no update per Zoning official DePue.

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**4. Town Maintenance – Chris Rogers**

- a. Chris states they have been working on the mowing and weed-eating equipment. States they have started mowing the parks.

**5. Streets – Ald. King**

- a. Impact Fees: Ald. King was out, no updates at this time.
- b. Bids on work for Old Wire Road: Ald. King states he is working on getting a media release for bids.

**6. Park – Ald. Hansen**

- a. Flower Beds in front of town hall; Rec/Tres. Barnes states she would like to see more colorful flowers and bushes in the flower beds in the front of town hall. Council members agreed. Ald. Hansen and Chris Rogers will tend to this issue.
- b. Craft Fairs; Ald. Hansen would like to see the Steam Whistle Park be used during the Fall craft fairs. She will see about getting help to get this started. Mayor Whitehorn suggested having a swap meet at the Steam Whistle Park during Bike Blues and BBQ.

**7. Grants – Ald. Rairdon**

- a. Hazard Mitigation Grant; Town Hall Generator – A motion was made by Ald. Hansen to accept the Turn Key quote of \$48,260.00 (forty-eight thousand, two hundred and sixty dollars) for the price and installation of new generator, with the town portion being \$12,065.00 (twelve thousand, sixty-five dollars). Seconded by Ald. King. Discussion: none. Roll call: Ald. Rairdon; yes, Ald. King: yes, Ald. Hansen: yes and Ald. Rollins; yes. All approved. Motion carried. Rec/Tres. Barnes will contact ER\*Assist to get this project started.

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

- a. Ald. Rollins states these funds can be used for anything. Council agreed to use part of these funds for the towns portion of the new generator.

**Old Business**

1. **Police;** Mayor Whitehorn states he has been in contact with Deputy Chief Gilbert with the Benton County Sheriff's Department concerning this issue, and will have an update at the May council meeting.

**New Business**

1. Ordinance 129: Requiring licenses for the privileged of carrying a business within the Town of Avoca, Arkansas Prescribing the manner of fixing fees therefore, fixing the time, when such licenses shall be paid, the penalty for non-compliance with the Ordinance; repealing ordinance No. 96 declaring an emergency and for other purposes; Ald. Hansen made a motion to place Ordinance 129: Requiring licenses for the privileged of carrying a business within the town of Avoca, on its first reading by title only. Seconded by Ald. Rairdon. Discussion; None. Roll call: Ald. Rairdon; yes, Ald. King; yes, Ald. Hansen; yes, and Ald. Rollins; yes. All approved. Motion carried. Town attorney McClure read Ordinance 129 by title only. A motion was made by Ald. Rairdon to accept Ordinance 129 on its first reading by title only. Seconded by Ald. King. Discussion: None. Roll call: Ald. King; yes, Ald. Hansen; yes, Ald. Rollins; yes, and Ald. Rairdon; yes. All approved. Motion carried. A motion was made by Ald. Hansen to suspend the rules, and place Ordinance 129: Requiring licenses for the

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privileged of carrying a business within the town of Avoca, on its second reading by title only. Seconded by Ald. King. Discussion; None. Roll call: Ald. Rollins; yes, Rairdon; yes, Ald. King; yes, and Ald. Hansen; yes. All approved. Motion carried. Town Attorney McClure read the ordinance 129 by title only. A motion was made by Ald. Hansen to accept Ordinance 129 on its second reading, by title only. Seconded by Ald. Rairdon. Discussion: none. Roll call: Ald. Rairdon; yes, Ald. King, Ald. Hansen; yes, and Ald. Rollins; yes. All approved. Motion carried. A motion was made by Ald. Rairdon to suspend the rules and Ordinance 129: Requiring licenses for the privileged of carrying a business within the town of Avoca, on its third reading by title only. Seconded by Ald. Hansen. Discussion; None. Roll call: Rairdon; yes, Ald. King; yes, Ald. Hansen; yes and Ald. Rollins; yes. All approved. Motion carried. Town Attorney McClure read the ordinance 129 by title only. A motion was made by Ald. Hansen to accept Ordinance 129 on its third reading, by title only. Seconded by Ald. Rairdon. Discussion: none. Roll call: Ald. Rairdon; yes, Ald. King, Ald. Hansen; yes, and Ald. Rollins; yes. All approved. Motion carried. A motion was made by Ald. Rairdon to accept Ordinance 128 on its third and final reading, by title only. Seconded by Ald. Rairdon. Discussion: none. Roll call: Ald. King; yes, Ald. Hansen; yes, Ald. Rollins; yes, and Ald. Rairdon; yes. All approved. Motion carried. A motion was made by Ald. Hansen to adopt the emergency clause on Ordinance 129: Requiring licenses for the privileged of carrying a business within the town of Avoca, Seconded by Ald. King. Discussion; none. Roll call: Ald. Rairdon; yes, Ald. Hansen; yes, Ald. King; yes, and Ald. Rollins; yes. All approved. Motion carried.

**Mayor for the Good of Town**

Mayor Whitehorn, states the town has applied for a grant to help the town with the overlay projects on Old Wire, Rose/Woods Lodge and Tucks Chapel Roads.

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

**Council Member Rollins** – None

**Council Member Hansen** – None

**Council Member King** – None

**Council Member Alvarenga** – None

**Council Member Rairdon** – wanted it on the record, that Garfield does in fact charge business license fees. (A resident stated last month Garfield does not charge these fees). She would also like the town to charge Firework sellers a separate fee besides just a business license.

**Recorder/Treasurer Barnes** – None

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**Announcements**

1. Planning Meeting scheduled for April 18, 2023
2. Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 9, 2023
3. Board of Zoning meeting is scheduled for June 20, 2023

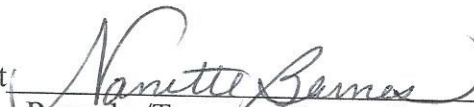
**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Ald. Rairdon and seconded by Ald. King to adjourn meeting at 7:17 pm.  
Discussion: none. All approved. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Nanette Barnes  
Recorder-Treasurer

Approved   
Mayor Robert Whitehorn

Attest:   
Recorder/Treasurer Nanette Barnes