



P . O . Box 160 Avoca, Arkansas 72711

Phone/ Fax 479-621-5921

MINUTES
TOWN OF AVOCA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 14, 2023

Call to order

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Whitehorn

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of silence

Public forum (Agenda item)

Ben Craig: gave council members a flyer for the May Bike Race Series, and asked to use the Avoca streets for the bike races.

Ronnie Smith: stated, he was still opposed to the increase in business license fees, says some businesses are not doing well and this only hurts them.

Council Roll Call – by Rec/Tres. Barnes

Present: Mayor Robert Whitehorn

Rec/Tres. Nanette Barnes

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

Absent: ALD: Jay King

Staff

Present: Town Attorney: Ed McClure

Zoning Official: Tim DePue

Town Maintenance: Chris Rogers

Absent: None

Guests

Frankie Elliott: Chief (AFD)

Ben Craig

Randy Bryant

Paul Krugler: Captain (AFD)

Martin Salas

Ronnie Smith

Declaration of quorum

Mayor Whitehorn declared a quorum was present

Consent of Agenda

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

MINUTES
TOWN OF AVOCA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 14, 2023

Consent of minutes for council meeting

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

Ald. Hansen made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 21, 2023 special council meeting, as written. Seconded by Ald. Alvarenga. Discussion; none. All approved. Motion carried.

Financial statement

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

Staff Report – Rec/Tres. Barnes

1. Avoca Fire & Rescue

Chief Elliott states the Avoca Fire & Rescue ran a total of 38 calls for February: Fire: 3, Hazmat: 2, Tree Down: 1, EMS: 27 & Canceled: 5, this makes 107 total calls for the year.

2. NEBCO EMS

Rec/Tres. Barnes states NEBCO went on a total number of 28 medical calls and 2 lift assist calls to Avoca for the month of February. This makes 78 total calls for the year in the Avoca responding area.

3. Social-Media

None

4. Business Permits (17 Renewal & 0 New) for February 2023

Acacia Cabinets, LLC	Chrysalis Studio	OCH; BC Clinic
Avoca Boat & RV Storage	Pinnacle Lawns	Smith and Betts BBQ
Avoca One Stop	Don's Canopies & Metal Products	Tacos El Cholo
Avoca Tire Shop	Freedom Fire Pro	Two Feathers Transport
Boat Dock World	Kathy's Fireworks	Two Sisterz Liquor
Charley's Tree Service	Latham Cabinets	

5. Building & Inspection Permits for February 2023

a. None

6. Events

- a. Easter Egg Hunt Scheduled for Saturday, April 8, 2023
- b. Spring Clean-up scheduled for Saturday, May 20, 2023
 - ❖ The town will be giving away free trees (while supplies last)

MINUTES
TOWN OF AVOCA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 14, 2023

Committee Reports:

1. Planning commission – Chairmen Alvarenga

- a. Zoning Book: Planning Members agreed to meet at 6:00 pm March 21, 2023 to start working on the Zoning book.
- b. Hidden Forrest Sub-Division; No update
- c. Tall Trees Sub-Division; No update at this time. Per Chairman Alvarenga, they are waiting on the electrical and water design.
- d. Old Wire Road; curb and sidewalks – Planning members discussed options concerning water drainage between Hobbs and Dancer Road. This issue was tabled until the March 21st Planning meeting.

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.

4. Town Maintenance – Chris Rogers

- a. Chris states they have been working on the culverts and whistles to help with the drainage issues.

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 was out, no updates at this time.

6. Park – Ald. Hansen

- a. Bike Races; Ald. Hansen made a motion to allow Ben Craig to host the Avoca Bike Race Series, April 26, May 3, 10 and 17th. Seconded by Ald. Rollins. Discussion None. Roll call: Ald. Hansen; yes, Ald. Rollins; yes, Ald. Alvarenga; no, and Ald. Rairdon; yes. Motion carried.

7. Grants – Ald. Rairdon

- a. Hazard Mitigation Grant; Town Hall Generator – Rec/Tres. Barnes states we waiting on states approval to begin work.

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

- a. No Update per Ald. Rollins; Mayor Whitehorn asked Ald. Rollins to look into what we can spend these finances on and update the council at the April meeting.

Old Business

- a. Monument; Mayor Whitehorn states the monument has been completed. A dedication service will be held at a later date.
- b. Police; Rec/Tres. Barnes will contact Benton County to get things set up.

MINUTES
TOWN OF AVOCA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 14, 2023

New Business

1. Ordinance 128: Banning Puppy Mills in the Town of Avoca; Ald. Rairdon made a motion to place Ordinance 128: Banning Puppy Mills in the Town of Avoca on its first reading. Seconded by Ald. Alvarenga. Roll call: Ald. Hansen; yes, Ald. Rollins; yes, Ald. Alvarenga; yes and Ald. Rairdon; yes. All approved. Motion carried. Town attorney McClure read Ordinance 128 in its entirety. A motion was made by Ald. Alvarenga to accept Ordinance 128 on its first reading. Seconded by Ald. Hansen. Discussion: Ald. Rollins wanted to clarify how many dogs can be non-neutered/spayed. Roll call: Ald. Rollins; yes, Ald. Alvarenga; yes, Ald. Rairdon; yes, and Ald. Hansen; yes. All approved. Motion carried. A motion was made by Ald. Hansen to suspend the rules and place Ordinance 128: Banning Puppy Mills in the Town of Avoca: on its second reading, by title only. Seconded by Ald. Rairdon. Roll call: Ald. Alvarenga; yes, Rairdon; yes, Ald. Hansen; yes, and Ald. Rollins; yes. All approved. Motion carried. Town Attorney McClure read the ordinance 128 by title only. A motion was made by Ald. Hansen to accept Ordinance 128 on its second reading, by title only. Seconded by Ald. Rairdon. Discussion: none. Roll call: Ald. Rairdon; yes, Ald. Hansen; yes, Ald. Rollins; yes, and Ald. Alvarenga; yes. All approved. Motion carried. A motion was made by Ald. Alvarenga to suspend the rules and place Ordinance 128: Banning Puppy Mills in the Town of Avoca: on its third and final reading, by title only. Seconded by Ald. Rairdon. Roll call: Ald. Hansen; yes, Ald. Rollins; yes, Ald. Alvarenga; yes, and Rairdon; yes. All approved. Motion carried. Town Attorney McClure read the Ordinance 128 by title only. A motion was made by Ald. Rairdon to accept Ordinance 128 on its third and final reading, by title only. Seconded by Ald. Alvarenga. Discussion: none. Roll call: Ald. Rollins; yes, Ald. Alvarenga; yes, Ald. Rairdon; yes, and Ald. Hansen; yes. All approved. Motion carried. A motion was made by Ald. Hansen to adopt the emergency clause on Ordinance 128: Banning Puppy Mills in the Town of Avoca. Seconded by Ald. Rairdon. Discussion; none. Roll call: Ald. Alvarenga; yes, Ald. Rairdon; yes, Ald. Hansen; yes, and Ald. Rollins; yes. All approved. Motion carried.

Mayor for the Good of Town

Mayor Whitehorn, states the town employees have been doing a great job cleaning the streets.

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

Council Member Rollins – None

Council Member Hansen – Asked about fencing companies who have worked on the park fences in the past. She would like to contact them to see about the cost of either repairing or fixing the fence around the playground of the park. Blue mulch was also discussed, Rec/Tres. Barends will place an order or two bags of blue mulch.

Council Member King – None

Council Member Alvarenga – None

Council Member Rairdon – Asked about no semi/truck signs to be placed on Main and Orchard. A large semi-truck tried to turn off Orchard and Main and got stuck and tore up her yard.

Recorder/Treasurer Barnes – None

Announcements

1. Planning Meeting scheduled for March 21, 2023
2. Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 11, 2023
3. Board of Zoning meeting is scheduled for June 20, 2023

MINUTES
TOWN OF AVOCA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 14, 2023

Adjournment:


A motion was made by Ald. Rairdon and seconded by Ald. Alvarenga to adjourn meeting at 7:03 pm.
Discussion: none. All approved. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Nanette Barnes
Recorder-Treasurer

Approved 

Mayor Robert Whitehorn

Attest 

Recorder/Treasurer Nanette Barnes

