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MINUTES  
TOWN OF AVOCA  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 9, 2024

**Call to order**

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Whitehorn

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Moment of silence**

**Public forum (Agenda item)**

Ronnie Smith, Jody & Steve Latham had questions and concerns about the letter they received concerning dumpster fences.

Ronnie Smith stated he will not fill out the Event Registration Form for the Christmas Parade that the town is requesting. He feels his parade is being picked on.

Jody Latham would like to see more communication between the town and business owners. She asked if the town can email all businesses when there are special meetings or events.

Dave Masaria stated he would also like more communication between the town and the businesses.

**Council Roll Call – by Rec/Tres. Barnes**

Present: Mayor Robert Whitehorn

Rec/Tres. Nanette Barnes

ALD: Katie Rairdon, Oscar Alvarenga, Jay King, and Jeannie Rollins,

Absent: ALD: Kathy Hansen

**Staff**

Present: Zoning Official: Tim DePue

Town Attorney: Brendan Snieski

Town Maintenance: Chris Rogers

Absent: None

**Guests**

Jacob Davis (Battalion Chief - AFD)

Ronnie Smith

Dave Masaria

Jody Latham

Zach Oldebeken (Fire Chief – AFD)

Richard Rangel

Steve Latham

Kim Whitehorn

**Declaration of quorum**

Mayor Whitehorn declared a quorum was present

**Consent of Agenda**

Ald. Rairdon made a motion for consent of agenda. Seconded by Ald. King. Discussion; None. Roll call:

Ald. Rollins; yes, Alvarenga; yes, Ald. Rairdon; yes, and Ald. King; yes. All approved. Motion carried.

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**Consent of minutes for council meeting**

Ald. Alvarenga made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 2024 regular council meeting, as written. Seconded by Ald. Rairdon. Discussion; none. Roll call: Ald. Rollins; yes, Alvarenga; yes, Ald. Rairdon; yes, and Ald. King; yes. All approved. Motion carried.

**Financial Statement**

Financial report presented by Rec/Tres. Barnes. Ald. Alvarenga made a motion to accept the March 2024 financials as presented. Seconded by Ald. King. Discussion; Ald. Rollins wanted it known; she has had people come into her place of business asking why she always votes no on the financials. She states she wants to see the bank statements and Visa bills. Other members of the council informed her she can see them at any time during business hours. Roll call: Ald. Alvarenga; yes, Ald. Rairdon; yes, Ald. King; yes and Ald. Rollins; no. Motion carried.

**Staff Reports:**

**1. Avoca Fire & Rescue**

a. Battalion Chief Davis states the Avoca Fire & Rescue ran a total of 51 calls for March, and 144 for the year.

Canceled: 11	Fire Structure: 4	Public: 6
Fire Outside: 8	Medical: 21	Unknown: 1

b. Fire Dues: Battalion Chief Davis states the Avoca Fire & Rescue Board will be having a meeting in July to discuss options and where the new fire dues will be spent.

**2. NEBCO EMS**

a. Recorder/Treasurer Barnes informed council, NEBCO ran a total of 34 calls for March and 105 for the year.

Medical: 27	Lift Assists: 6	MVC: 1
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**3. Social-Media**

a. Recorder/Treasurer Barnes states she will start promoting seasonal businesses

**4. Business Permits (3 Renewal & 2 New) for March, 2024**

BCWD#1

Downtown Poppin Food Truck

TriStar Automotive

Williams Tree Service

Get R Done Landscaping

Recorder/Treasurer Barnes informed council there are two businesses who have yet to come in and get a business license, she turned these businesses over to the Town Attorney.

**5. Building & Inspection Permits for February, 2024**

942 Tucks Chapel Road; Cliff Black – New Home

**6. Events**

a. Avoca Town Clean-Up; Saturday, May 11, 2024 (8:30am – 12:00pm)

Recorder/Treasurer Barnes states she is having the inmates come and clean the roads a week before the Spring Clean-up. Free Trees will be given away at that time.

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- b. Event Reservation Permit Form: All council members were given the Reservation Form. Recorder/Treasurer Barnes will put the returned forms in a folder and add the events to a calendar. She will place the form on the town web site as well as announcing it on Facebook.

**Committee Reports:**

**1. Planning commission – Chairmen Alvarenga**

- a. Zoning Book – Meeting is being held on April 17<sup>th</sup> to continue to update and go over changes to the zoning book.
- b. Hidden Forrest Subdivision (Phase I); No new update
- c. Hidden Forrest Subdivision (Phase II): All work has stopped due to a change in the plans. This issue is on the April 2024 planning agenda
- d. Tall Trees Subdivision (Phase I): No updates.
- e. Tall Trees Subdivision (Phase II): No updates.

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

- a. None

**3. Zoning Official – Tim DePue**

- a. Dumpster Fences: Zoning Official DePue let the public know the letters were sent out per him due to he is working a full-time job and when he gets off, most businesses are closed. He feels this is the best way to contact business owners. The Council and Zoning Official DePue explained the town is trying to get everyone in compliance with the zoning book and to try and make the town look nice. Letters were sent to every business and no one was personally singled out.
- b. Unsightly & Unsanitary Property: Zoning Official DePue states the addresses that letters were sent to concerning this issue, have cleaned their areas up.

**4. Town Maintenance – Chris Rogers**

- a. Chris states they had to spend one whole day cleaning up the graffiti in the parks.

**5. Streets – Mayor Whitehorn**

- a. Old Wire & Tucks Chapel Roads: Mayor Whitehorn stated the remainder of the ARPA money might be needed if any extra costs occur.
- b. New Banners: Recorder/Treasurer Barnes informed council the street banners are old and new ones are needed. She will contact the printers to see about incorporating a stage couch into the new welcome sign logos. She will present work ups of banners to the council before they are ordered.

**6. Park – Ald. Hansen**

- a. Pickleball Court: No updates.
- b. Bike Repair Station: Council was shown pictures of a bike repair station. Council asked Recorder/Treasurer Barnes to contact Ben Craig to see if the bikers would like to donate funds for this project.
- c. Park Vandalism: Pictures were shown to the council of all the vandalism and graffiti that was done to the park. Per Recorder/Treasurer Barnes, the sheriff's department came out and made a report.

**7. Grants – Ald. Rairdon/Ald. Hansen**

- a. No updates

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**8. Animal Control – Ald. Rollins**

- a. Animal Control: Ald. Rollins states she is looking into grants to help with this issue.

**9. Personnel – Ald. Rairdon/Ald. King**

- a. None

**10. Annexation – Ald. King/Ald. Rollins**

- a. Ald. King states he would like to update the information he has on annexation before going out and talking to residents. Recorder/Treasurer Barnes told him once he gets that information, she would put it on the town's social media pages.

**Old Business**

- a. Rental Shop/Warehouse; Mayor Whitehorn states he has received two bids to replace the damaged metal on the building. Both bids are under his purview.
- b. Raise Permit Fees: A motion was made by Ald. Alvarenga to table issue until the May Council meeting, so council member Hansen could be in attendance. Seconded by Ald. Rairdon. Discussion; None. Roll call: Ald. Rairdon; yes, Ald. King; yes, Ald. Rollins; yes, and Ald. Alvarenga; yes. Motion carried.

**New Business**

- a. Resolution 05-24; Providing Surrender of Property: Attorney Snieski read Resolution No. 05-24 on its first and final reading. A motion was made by Ald. King, for Attorney Snieski to accept Resolution 05-24 on its first and final reading. Seconded by Ald. Rairdon. Discussion: BCWD#1, Manager Davis, explained where the property is located. Roll Call: Ald. King; yes, Alderman Rollins; yes, Ald. Alvarenga; yes, and Ald. Rairdon; yes. All approved. Motion carried.
- c. New IT Company: Recorder/Treasurer Barnes informed council members, Pinnacle IT came and looked at the computer and all protections for the computer. Ald. Alvarenga made a motion to table this issue until other IT companies can give a quote. Seconded by Ald. Rairdon. Discussion: was held concerning a new computer, cost and the need for all the updates. BCWD#1, manager Davis, stated they use Pinnacle IT and they found many discrepancies on their computer. BCWD#1 was using the same IT company the town is currently using and he highly recommended Pinnacle IT. Roll call: Ald. King; yes, Ald. Rollins; yes, Ald. Alvarenga; yes, and Ald. Rairdon; yes. Motion carried.
- d. Security Cameras for Park & Town Hall: Mayor Whitehorn explained the need to update the security cameras inside the town hall and all around the parks. He will have some quotes at the May council meeting.

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**Mayor for the Good of Town – Mayor for the Good of Town**  
None

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

Council Member Hansen: Absent

Council Member King: One common concern: communication, would like to have businesses emailed information on special meetings and events.

Council Member Alvarenga: Communication; his phone is public and if anyone has any comments or concerns to call him.

Council Member Rairdon: Asked that the new event form be put on our town website.

Council Member Rollins: States she is a positive and nice person and the only negativity she hears about herself, is from the council, and states she has many people come to her asking why the town is so secretive about things, she said her rely is always “I don’t know”.

Recorder/Treasurer Barnes: Informed council members she included in their packets, a list of all council and planning member contact information and asked if any changes needed to be made to please let her know.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

1. Planning Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 6:30 pm
2. Planning Meeting (Special-Zoning Book) scheduled for Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 5:30 pm
3. Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 6:30 pm
4. Board of Zoning meeting is scheduled for June 18, 2024, immediately after Planning Meeting

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Ald. Alvarenga and seconded by Ald. Rairdon to adjourn meeting at 7:42 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