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MINUTES
TOWN OF AVOCA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 12, 2024

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, Oscar Alvarenga, Jay King (came in after roll call), and Jeannie Rollins,

Absent: Kathy Hansen

Staff

Present: Zoning Official: Tim DePue

Absent: Town Attorney: Ed McClure

Town Maintenance: Chris Rogers

Guests

Jacob Davis (Battalion Chief - AFD)

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. Rollins. Discussion; None. Roll call: Ald. Rollins; yes, Alvarenga; yes, Ald. Rairdon; yes, and Ald. King; yes. All approved. Motion carried.

Consent of minutes for council meeting

Ald. Rollins made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 2024 regular council meeting, as written. 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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Financial Statement

Financial report presented by Rec/Tres. Barnes. Ald. King made a motion to accept the February 2024 financials as presented. Seconded by Ald. Alvarenga. Discussion; Ald. King asked what the \$12,001.90 was deposited from, Rec/Tres. Barnes will look and email all council members tomorrow. 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 50 calls for February, and 93 for the year.

Canceled: 10	Medical: 25	Animal: 1	Extrication: 1
Fire: 8	Public Service: 4	Fuel Leak: 1	

2. NEBCO EMS

a. Recorder/Treasurer Barnes informed council, NEBCO ran a total of 33 calls for February and 71 for the year.

Medical: 27	Lift Assists: 5	MVC: 1
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3. Social-Media

a. All social media is up to date per Recorder/Treasurer Barnes

4. Business Permits (13 Renewal & 0 New) for February, 2024

Acacia Cabinets	Eagle Permco	Red Wolf Technical
APAC – Central	Kathy’s Fireworks	Taco El Cholo Food Truck
Boulders Landscaping Materials	Mamma Sree Food Truck	Taquerio Brothers Food Truck
C & K Produce	One Stop	
Choo Choo’s	Pro Line Cabinets	

5. Building & Inspection Permits for February, 2024

999 Red Cedar Place; Victor Batres – New Home

6. Events

a. Avoca Easter Egg Hunt; March 23, 2024

Committee Reports:

1. Planning commission – Chairmen Alvarenga

- a. Hidden Forrest Subdivision (Phase I); Ald. Alvarenga states the streets are being worked on.
- b. Hidden Forrest Subdivision (Phase II): No updates, on the March 2024 planning agenda
- c. Tall Trees Subdivision (Phase I): No updates.
- d. Tall Trees Subdivision (Phase II): No updates.

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2. Board of Zoning Adjustments– Chairmen Alvarenga

- a. Zoning Book – Planning members met and started to work on updating the new zoning book. They will set a new work date at the March Planning Meeting.

3. Zoning Official – Tim DePue

- a. Cars on Hobbs; Recorder/Treasurer Barnes informed council no letters have been sent out at this time concerning this issue per Mayor Whitehorn.
- b. Dumpster Fences: Recorder/Treasurer Barnes sent a letter to all businesses, explaining the zoning rules concerning fences around dumpsters at businesses. Some businesses have corrected this issue. After a month, Zoning Official DePue will go and personally speak to the business owners/managers of the businesses that have not complied.
- c. Unsightly & Unsanitary Property: Recorder/Treasurer Barnes sent a letter to a few residents, explaining the zoning rules concerning unsightly and unsanitary conditions. Residents that received these letters, have started correcting this issue. After a month, Zoning Official DePue will go and personally speak to the residents, that have not complied.

4. Town Maintenance – Chris Rogers

- a. Chris states they are getting mowers, and other items ready for mowing season.

5. Streets – Mayor Whitehorn

- a. Old Wire & Tucks Chapel Roads: Mayor Whitehorn stated he had no updates on this issue at this time.
- b. Hwy 62 – Stripping: Mayor Whitehorn informed council the permanent stripping has been completed on Hwy 62.

6. Park – Ald. Hansen

- a. Pickleball Court: No updates.

7. Grants – Ald. Rairdon/Ald. Hansen

- a. Rural Community Grant: No updates

8. Animal Control – Ald. Rollins

- a. Loose Dogs: Ald. Rollins and Ald. Rairdon met to go over this issue. They will look into grants and other ideas on free/low cost on vaccinations and spay/neuter events the town can put on for the local residents and their pets.

9. Personnel – Ald. Rairdon/Ald. King

- a. None

10. Annexation – Ald. King/Ald. Rollins

- a. Ald. King and Ald. Rollins, met to go over options on annexing more property into the town limits. They will discuss this issue with Ald. Hansen.

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Old Business

- a. Rental Shop/Warehouse; Mayor Whitehorn states he is waiting on prices to get the metal fixed. Once this is done. All costs from damage to building from previous renters will be sent to town attorney McClue for legal action.
- b. Rail Road Crossing; Safety: Mayor Whitehorn stated he has no update and is still waiting on ARDOT's report.
- c. Raise Permit Fees: A motion was made by Ald. Alvarenga to table issue until the April Council meeting, so council members can look over the information Recorder/Treasurer Barnes handed out from neighboring cities. 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. None

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: None

Council Member Alvarenga: None

Council Member Rairdon: None

Council Member Rollins: None

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, March 19, 2024
2. Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, 2024
3. Board of Zoning meeting is scheduled for June 18, 2024

Adjournment

A motion was made by Ald. Rairdon and seconded by Ald. Alvarenga to adjourn meeting at 7:08 pm. Discussion: none. All approved. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Nanette Barnes
Recorder-Treasurer

Approved 
Mayor Robert Whitehorn

Attest 
Recorder/Treasurer Nanette Barnes

***Tape recorder did not record meeting