



P . O . Box 160 Avoca, Arkansas 72711

Phone/ Fax 479-621-5921

MINUTES
TOWN OF AVOCA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 14, 2025

Oath of Office

Recorder/Treasurer Barnes swore council members in.

Call to order

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Whitehorn

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of silence

Public forum (Agenda item)

Ben Craig came before council stating he would like to continue having the bike races in May as they have in the past. He will get Recorder/Treasurer Barnes the exact dates closer to time.

Council Roll Call – by Rec/Tres. Barnes

Present: Mayor Robert Whitehorn

Rec/Tres. Nanette Barnes

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

Absent: None

Staff

Present: Town Attorney: Ed McCure

Zoning Official: Tim DePue

Town Maintenance: Chris Rogers

Absent: None

Guests

Avoca Fire Chief Zach Oldebeken

Linda Council

Ben Craig

Avoca Assistant Fire Chief Brian Ervin

Ronnie Smith

Declaration of quorum

Mayor Whitehorn declared a quorum was present

Consent of Agenda

Ald. Alvarenga made a motion for the consent of agenda. Seconded by Ald. Rairdon. Discussion; None.

Roll call: Ald. Aikins: yes, Ald. Rollins; yes, Ald. Alvarenga; yes, Ald. Rairdon; yes, and Ald. King; yes.

All approved. Motion carried.

Consent of minutes for council meeting

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

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Financials:

- a. December Report: Financial report presented by Rec/Tres. Barnes. Ald. Alveranga made a motion to accept the December 2024 financials as presented. Seconded by Ald. Aikins. Discussion: None. Roll call: Ald. Rairdon; yes, Ald. King; yes, Ald. Aikins; yes, Ald. Rollins; no, and Ald. Alvarenga; yes. Motion carried.
- b. ARPA Funds: Recorder/Treasurer Barnes informed council members this account has been closed, and all funds were transferred into the General money market account.

Staff Reports:

1. Avoca Fire & Rescue

Chief Oldebeken informed council, Avoca Fire & Rescue ran a total of 45 calls for the month of December and 610 for the year.

Canceled: 5 Fire: 6 Medical: 31 Misc.: 2 Public Asst: 5

The Fire Station was manned 26 out of 26 days in December per Chief Oldebeken.

2. NEBCO EMS

- a. Ran a total of 37 calls for December in the Avoca area

Lift Assist: 5 Medical: 30 MVC: 2

- b. Station: Mayor Whitehorn informed council, he received two appraisals for the warehouse and they were both around \$400,000 (four hundred thousand dollars), council agreed to not sell the building at this time and to continue to rent it out at \$2000.00 a month. Recorder/Treasurer Barnes will get it advertised on the town's social media sites and in the newspaper.

3. Social Media

- a. No updates

4. Business Permits (0 Renewal & 0 New) for December 2024 – Rec/Tres. Barnes

None

Recorder/Treasurer Barnes informed council she updated the business applications and added if there are living quarters, and if there are security companies and Knox boxes, this was more information in case the fire department needed it. She also asked if she should put businesses in the new civic guides if they do not check the box next to the free advertising that we do on our social media pages. The council agreed to put them on the civic guides even if they do not check that area on the business application.

5. Building & Inspection Permits for November 2024 – Rec/Tres. Barnes

Hals Home Service	916 Red Cedar Place	New House
Hals Home Service	862 Tucks Chapel Road	New House
BCWD#1	144 Main Street	Demolition

6. Events – Rec/Tres. Barnes

Recorder/Treasurer Barnes wanted the council to know Mike and Diana Witte, the owners of Avoca Boat & RV Storage made a \$50.00 (fifty dollars) donation toward candy for future town events.

7. Town Maintenance – Chris Rogers.

Chris has a new blade and the lift on the truck being fixed.

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Committee Reports:

- 1. Planning commission – Chairmen Alvarenga**
 - a. Zoning Book: Ald. Alvarenga informed council Recorder/Treasurer is making the changes the planning members wanted.
 - b. Martin & Melissa Fox: Sugar Creek Road – Lot Spits x2 – Passed
 - 2. Board of Zoning Adjustments– Chairmen Alvarenga**

Met in December - No Update
 - 3. Zoning Official – Tim DePue**
 - a. Zoning Official DePue stated no updates, Mayor Whitehorn, Recorder/Treasurer Barnes and himself are going to drive around town in a few weeks and see who needs letters sent out.
 - 4. Streets – Mayor Whitehorn**
 - a. Mayor Whitehorn stated the snow removal went well; he was grateful to Benton County who came and treated some of our roads before the storm, that helped a lot.
 - b. Part of Tucks Chapel Road will be closed for 24 – 48 hours on January 22, 2025
 - 5. Park – Ald. Hansen**
 - a. Pickleball Court: The new pickleball court has been started.
 - b. Wooden Fence Repair/Replace: Mayor Whitehorn states he is waiting on an estimate for bushes, and would like the council to come up with some ideas for different fencing or shrubbery to replace the existing fencing.
 - 6. Grants – Ald. Rairdon/Ald. Hansen**
 - a. Playground Equipment: No Update
 - b. Black plastic barrier for rubber mulch: No update
 - c. Fence: No Update
 - 8. Animal Control – Ald. Rollins**

Ald. Rollins reported she has no current updates.
 - 9. Personnel – Ald. Rairdon/Ald. King**

Ald. King reported no updates.
 - 10. Annexation – Ald. King/Ald. Rollins**

No updates
- Old Business**
- a. Rose Street Warehouse
 - i Pursley: Attorney McClure states there is a court date set February 12, 2025
- New Business**
- a. Community Building – Ald. Alvarenga would like to see an allocated expense report and receipts at the end of the year from the Avoca Fire Department on what the \$6000.00 (six thousand dollars) was spent on to show where the money went that the town gives to them for the upkeep on the building. The council agrees.

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- b. Resolution 01-25 Meeting Rules of the Town Council - Attorney McClure read Resolution 01-25 by title only. A motion was made by Ald. King to accept Resolution 01-25 by title only. Seconded by Ald. Alvarenga. Discussion: None. Roll Call: Ald. Rairdon: yes, Ald. King: yes, Ald. Aikins: yes, Ald. Rollins: yes, and Ald. Alvarenga: yes. All approved. Motion carried.
- c. Resolution 02-25 Adopting a Pay Schedule - Attorney McClure read Resolution 02-25 by title only. A motion was made by Ald. Alvarenga to accept Resolution 02-25 by title only. Seconded by Ald. King. Discussion: None. Roll Call: Ald. Rairdon: yes, Ald. King: yes, Ald. Aikins: yes, Ald. Rollins: yes, and Ald. Alvarenga: yes. All approved. Motion carried.
- d. Resolution 03-25 Health Insurance for Office Admin. - Attorney McClure read Resolution 03-25 by title only. A motion was made by Ald. Rairdon to accept Resolution 03-25 by title only. Seconded by Ald. Rollins. Discussion: None. Roll Call: Ald. King: yes, Ald. Aikins: yes, Ald. Rollins: yes, Ald. Alvarenga: yes, and Ald. Rairdon: yes. All approved. Motion carried.
- e. Resolution 04-25 Posting Bylaws & Ordinances - Attorney McClure read Resolution 04-25 by title only. A motion was made by Ald. Aikins to accept Resolution 04-25 by title only. Seconded by Ald. Rairdon. Discussion: None. Roll Call: Ald. Aikins: yes, Ald. Rollins: yes, Ald. Alvarenga: yes, Ald. Rairdon: yes, and Ald. King: yes. All approved. Motion carried.

**Mayor for the Good of Town – Mayor for the Good of Town
Assign Committee Chairman**

Planning & Board of Zoning – Ald. Oscar Alvarenga
Streets – Ald. Travis Aikins
Park – Ald. Katie Rairdon
Grants – Ald. Paula “Jeannie” Rollins
Annexation – Jay King

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

Council Member Aikins - None

Council Member King – Wanted to state the streets looked good after the snow

Council Member Alvarenga - None

Council Member Rairdon - None

Council Member Rollins - None

Recorder/Treasurer Barnes – Financial statements need to be into her office by the end of January 2025
Campaign Contribution Sheets needed to be filed by December 31, 2024

Upcoming Meetings:

1. Planning Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 6:30 pm
2. Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 6:30 pm
3. Fire Board Meeting scheduled for January: TBD
4. Board of Zoning meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2025, after Planning Meeting

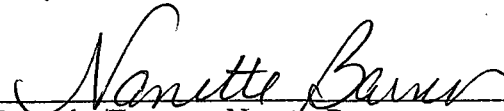
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Adjournment

A motion was made by Ald. Alvarenga and seconded by Ald. Rairdon to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 pm.
Discussion: none. All approved. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Nanette Barnes
Recorder-Treasurer

Approved 
Mayor Robert Whitehorn

Attest 
Recorder/Treasurer Nanette Barnes