

## MARCH 15, 2022 TOWN MEETING MINUTES

### **Members present:**

Christopher Powers, Mayor  
Justin Addington  
Eileen Deckard  
Robert Hammonds  
Greg Smith  
Teresa Tilson  
Larry Wagner  
Michael Carrico, Town Attorney

The mayor opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with prayer by Justin Addington. All present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion was made to approve the **prior month's meeting minutes** by Teresa Tilson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larry Wagner; all Ayes except Justin Addington who abstained as he wasn't present at last meeting. Motion passed.

**Financial Report** – presented and motion was made to accept the financial report by Robert Hammonds, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eileen Deckard. All ayes; motion passed.

### Mayor opened the floor for **public comment:**

Troy Perdue asked about a leash ordinance due to stray dogs in his neighborhood and another resident down the street had her dog jumped. He was told when he called the County 911 that there is no leash ordinance in the town as it was repealed or taken off the books several years ago. Attorney advised that there is something on the books as it was addressed in the past down near the school and someone from council is to check the ordinance book pertaining to this and get back to attorney and to Mr. Doran.

Mr. Doran also asked about the trash pickup as the apartments above him are leaving their trash out and it is getting scattered and he's had to pick up after them; he has spoken with Greg and with Robert, councilmen, about this; also neighbor's at top of hill - their trash not being put in cans. Residents are leaving cardboard out that is not being picked up by trash trucks – some has been there since Christmas. Greg Smith suggested making it an ordinance. Animals getting in the trash bags and dragging it out making a mess. Robert Hammonds asked him if he wouldn't have a problem with the people leaving their cans there but just for them to put their trash inside the can and close the can.

Marti Whitt requested status on getting the garbage collection dumpster site reopened at Moccasin Gap and someone from Council was supposed to check with the County about it; she was advised by Greg Smith that at his discussions with VDOT they do not intend to reopen that site. He has spoken with Bill Dingus with the County and he is to check about another location for use so Weber City residents don't have to travel to Antioch or Yuma to take garbage to a collection site. Also mentioned that Waste Management doesn't pick up all residence trash as some put out cardboard and it is picked up and sometimes it's not; others put their trash out and it's not picked up and she wants to know what's the difference and some peoples don't use the can and it's picked up and others not picked up. Eileen asked council if there was a reason why VDOT won't allow use and another council member stated that they advised it was going to be used as travel area with the roadway.

No other public comment and public comment session was closed by Mayor.

**Old Business:**

- A. Street Lights issue was discussed and advised by Greg Smith and Robert Hammonds that it is currently on hold per their meeting with VDOT, Robert gave the report that VDOT did listen to their concerns about railroad crossings being closed – all is in the planning stages now with several proposals for each section – VDOT did acknowledge that Weber City cannot survive with only one RR crossing due to safety issue. Mayor advised that he talked to Danny Mann with the County and Danny mentioned maybe tying the railroad in with the bicycle trail. Also some discussions involving the bicycle trail along the railroad; the bicycle trail will be along the side of the railroad but this is in planning stages too per Greg Smith. Greg mentioned that the VDOT members they met with are not from here and didn't realize the area layout and agreed that the local officials need to be included in discussions. Also, VDOT, per Greg, are to talk to railroad about another crossing in town as VDOT is adamant about closing the crossing at Boone Street. Tried to talk them into putting one in at the red-light at Hutchin's Brothers but VDOT didn't think that would work. Will have to wait to hear from them.
- B. ARPA funds – Mayor asked if there was anything to discuss on this and council members discussed and advised that funds are being used for the purchase of the trash cans. Bids were made. Justin Addington advised that bids with Sourcewell are good and it is good to go. Teresa Tilson had questions about the number of cans and if someone from an apartment moves out then what happens to that designated can or if the person tries to take the can with them; she was answered by other council members about number and size of cans. Discussion ensued among council members about putting town logo on all cans to be used by residences along with a serial number with said serial number assigned to a particular residence. Motion was made by Teresa Tilson to purchase the cans with our logo on the side and assign serial numbers to each can with said serial number being assigned to a particular residence; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Robert Hammonds; all ayes and motion passed. Time-frame of getting the can was discussed and that is left open at this time until the town hears from Waste Management.

Mayor reopened public comment at this time for comment regarding trash cans. Troy Doran expressed concern about pick up as sometimes cans currently aren't being picked up/emptied. WM contract is still in effect for another year. Mr. Doran asked about number of cans and was advised by counsel that only one can per residence provided by WM; 96 gallon can.

Billy Hensley also asked about same for his rental properties and some residences may require more than one can, such as apartment buildings. Was advised by counsel that can would be one can per apartment unit; thus a 4 unit apartment building would have 4 cans.

Mr. Doran spoke about this and advised that some areas of the roadway won't allow for that many cans. Apartments above him would require 7 cans. He also advised that when WM is done emptying the trash that they most often throw the cans in the roadway and he's had to move them regularly.

Bruce Cross asked about business trash pickup. Council advised him that it can't afford that now but in the future if the town can obtain its own trash truck then it would be revisited.

Public comment closed by Mayor.

- C. Trash truck was addressed under old business and was passed on at this meeting to be revisited at a later meeting.

- D. Scott County Inspection Fee – the town has received another bill from County for inspection fees. Greg Smith made a motion not to pay. Teresa Tilson asked the Town Attorney if legally the town could do that. Attorney advised to amend the motion, which was done by Greg Smith to amend his motion to suspend paying the County Inspection fee at this time; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Robert Hammonds, all Ayes and motion passed.
- E. Renovations – heat pumps discussed. Gilliam’s has responded; Williams – no response. Boone Heating was present and he advised that the town heat pump is about to go out. Robert Hammonds or Justin Addington are to get quotes by next meeting.
- F. Liquor by the Drink – law was repealed per Town Attorney. No further discussion.
- G. Pipeline VDOT matter – Greg and Robert have met with VDOT and currently on hold until they hear from them again.

**New Business:**

- i. Personnel Committee report – will need to be addressed in closed session.
- ii. Police Report – presented by Chief Matt Bishop – He mentioned the budget and Teresa Tilson and Greg Smith to meet regarding same.
- iii. Fire Report – presented by Chief Bruce Cross. 18 calls in January, 14 in February and 7 in March to this date to which they have responded. He reported that the old Food City Building becoming the new fire-hall – he is working on grants, etc. Currently holding fund raising flea markets on all days of the week with lots of interest in renting of spaces; it has been near full capacity rental so far. Outdoorsmen can match \$1 per \$1 of fund raising funds raised up to \$2500. Other events being planned.
- iv. Mayor’s Report – fiscal end of year report provided and reviewed by council.
  - a. Robert Hammonds discussed budget provided for streets and pothole repair that is needed and how VDOT will not repair any potholes unless on Highway 23. It was discussed that since the snow season is about over that funds for that that have not been used be allocated to street repair to fix potholes. Larry Wagner mentioned Lee Street drain problem again as the drain is busted. Teresa Tilson asked about the funds from contracted service section of the budget being moved to Street Department for such repairs. Robert Hammonds and Larry Wagner to look for estimates for said repairs.
- v. Police Budget – Chief Bishop gave packet to Town Attorney and Proposals of Budget handed out to members by Chief. Budget includes three proposals which he discussed. Hazard pay is in proposal 1; proposal 2 includes a paydown and grant reimbursement to the town; proposal 3 includes hiring of officers based on new \$15/hour start pay for 90 day probationary period and \$16/hour after 1<sup>st</sup> year. Hazard pay and better insurance is what employees are needing and asking for. Insurance for town police discussed and Eileen and Teresa addressed looking into other providers such as Cigna, Blue Cross Blue Shield and United Health Care. K-9 dog discussed at length and the council wanted to know if having a K9 would increase the town insurance and was advised by Chief Bishop that it would not only if the Town chooses to cover the dog by its insurance. Chief Bishop advised that it would be a dual purpose K9 capable of use for dope and patrol. Deputy Austin

Hensley spoke on this scenario and what each would provide to the town.  
Budgeted for food, vet bills, etc. for the dog.

**CLOSED SESSION:** Motion made by Teresa Tilson; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Justin Addington; all Ayes and passed. Closed session began at 8:29 p.m.

Council returned from Closed Session. Robert Hammonds made motion to certify the closed session, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Teresa Tilson; and roll call vote made with all ayes; passed. Motion for acceptance of Employee A at a rate of \$16/hour for 90 day probationary period made by Justin Addington, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Teresa Tilson. 3 Ayes, 2 Abstentions, and 1 Nay; motion carried.

**Adjournment** - motion made by Robert Hammond to adjourn meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larry Wagner, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

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Mayor: Christopher J. Powers

\*\*Minutes recorded by Rhonda Bausell in the absence of the Town Clerk

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Interim Town Secretary: Pam Burke