

The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held today Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the Municipal Building.

The following members of the Governing Body were present:

Mayor: Danny Ritchie
Alderman: Benny Orders
Alderman: Terry Yount
Alderman: Dennis Anthony

The following members of the Governing Body were absent:

Alderman Carroll Franklin

Others present:

Town Manager: Sherri Bradshaw
Town Clerk: Sherry Dula
Attorney: Rod Willcox

Mayor Ritchie opened the meeting and asked Alderman Orders to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

Approval of Minutes: The Council voted unanimously to approve the January minutes by a motion from Alderman Anthony, seconded by Alderman Yount.

Public Hearing for Zoning Text Amendment and Annexation of Drexel Properties - The public hearing was opened at 7:03 pm by a motion from Alderman Yount, seconded by Alderman Orders. The Planning & Zoning Board recommended the text amendments for your review and approval. These amendments include keeping of backyard chickens, electronic gaming establishments and solar energy panels. Also this public hearing is needed to complete the process of annexing the back portion of the old Drexel Heritage Property into the town limits. With no one present for comments, the public hearing was closed at 7:06 pm by a motion from Alderman Anthony, seconded by Alderman Orders.

Ordinance to Amend Drexel Zoning Ordinance - The Council voted unanimously to adopt the zoning text amendments ordinance by a motion from Alderman Orders, seconded by Alderman Anthony. A copy of the ordinance is attached as part of the minutes.

Ordinance to Annex the Back Portion of Drexel Properties – The Council voted unanimously to adopt the Annexation ordinance for the back portion of Drexel Properties by a motion from Alderman Yount, seconded by Alderman Anthony. A copy of the ordinance is attached as part of the minutes.

Foreclosure of 203 Mill Street - Manager Bradshaw presented a request to start foreclosure proceedings on 203 Mill Street owned by Ronald Morgan. She stated taxes had not been paid since 2011 and we have made efforts to contact the owner with no response. A motion was made by Alderman Anthony, seconded by Alderman Yount to allow attorney to move forward with foreclosure proceedings and the vote was unanimous.

Departmental Reports – The Council reviewed the Financial and Tax reports for the month of January, 2017. A copy of each report is attached as part of the minutes.

Police Report – Chief Treadway was present to review the monthly police reports. Chief Treadway also made the Council aware that as of February 7, 2018, Drexel Kwik Mart has received their ABC permit and will now be selling beer. Chief also gave an update on the electronic gaming machines within our jurisdiction. The letters were redelivered to establishments on Hwy 70 with gaming machines for removal of the machines and the establishments will be complying soon.

Attorney Report – Attorney Willcox has no issues to report at this time.

Utility Bills – Manager Bradshaw explained that since the utility bills were extremely high for a lot of our customers, she feels it would be a help to the customers if we waive the 10% penalties on the bills for this month and that we don't send out second notices this month. The Council voted unanimously to approve the above-mentioned request by a motion from Alderman Orders, seconded by Alderman Anthony.

Miscellaneous –

- Budget Workshop will be on February 20, 2018. Alderman Anthony requested that the workshop meeting time be changed from 10 am to 1 pm due to a conflict with his work. The Council voted unanimously to move the meeting time from 10 am to 1 pm by a motion from Alderman Yount, seconded by Alderman Orders.
- Next meeting March 6th
- Drexel Properties update: Manager Bradshaw stated that the CDBG is still in progress. As part of the clean up process for the grant, the rubble will need to be tested for asbestos and lead paints which will determine whether the rubble can be covered up or would need to be hauled away. Bids are in process to cover that testing. She states that she is presently working on an electrical grant through Electricities. Also Norfolk-Southern Railway has visited the property several times and has shown interest in two possible spurs. Norfolk has more than one project interested in this site. They continue to say that this is prime property which is positive news for the Town. The B.R.I.D.G.E. crew has been busy with other weather related projects but will be back on site as soon as possible.

Adjournment - With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. upon a motion from Alderman Anthony, seconded by Alderman Orders.

TOWN CLERK _____

MAYOR _____

ALDERMAN _____

ALDERMAN _____

ALDERMAN _____

ALDERMAN _____

