

The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at the Donald F. Bumgarner Scout Lodge.

The following members of the Governing Body were present:

Mayor: Danny Ritchie  
Alderman: Terry Yount  
Alderman: Dennis Anthony  
Alderman: Matt Johnson

Others present:

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

Mayor Ritchie opened the meeting and Boy Scout Troop #225 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 Johnson.

**Vacant Seat on Board of Aldermen** - Mayor Ritchie stated that we have a vacant seat to fill for Benny Orders. Mayor Ritchie commended Benny Orders for the years of service he gave to the town as Alderman, as a County Commissioner and with the Fire Department and said that these were mighty big shoes to fill. Mayor Ritchie explained that a committee was chosen to interview and recommend candidates for vacant Board seats and Alderman Anthony was a representative of that committee therefore he asked Alderman Anthony to announce the candidate the committee chose for the vacant seat and he stated Rick Cline had been chosen to finish out the term for Alderman Orders. A motion from Alderman Johnson, seconded by Alderman Anthony to accept Rick Cline for the vacant seat, as recommended by the committee and the vote was unanimous. Mayor Ritchie asked Rick Cline if he would accept this position and the oath of office and he accepted the Alderman position. Mabel Lowman, Burke County Clerk of Court was present to administer the oath of office to Rick Cline. After the oath was administered, Rick Cline took his position as Alderman and thanked the committee for choosing him for the position and he stated that he hopes he can fulfill all his duties and help the town because he knows it will probably be tough and asked for prayer as he takes this position.

**Certificate of Appreciation for Donald F. Bumgarner** - Mayor Ritchie presented a Certificate of Appreciation to honor one of our citizens, Don Bumgarner for his years of service to the Boy Scouts of America and Drexel's Troop # 225. Mayor Ritchie stated that Mr. Bumgarner spent a lifetime working with the youth and the scouts. Mr. Bumgarner had a concept for this building and went about the County to get funding and he also used his own time and ability to build the scout building. Mayor Ritchie stated that it's with great honor that he presents this Certificate of Appreciation and also to signify this appreciation, the scout hut will now be known as Donald F. Bumgarner Scout Lodge. A plaque signifying this name change was also presented to him. Mr. Bumgarner thanked everyone and stated this really means a lot to him and mentioned several people who were instrumental in helping with this project.

**Code Enforcement Overview** – Mr. Billy Rickles, Drexel’s Code Enforcement Officer through WPCOG was present to give an overview of how code enforcement will work in the Town of Drexel. He stated that Code Enforcement is a service provided for municipalities through a contract arrangement with WPCOG to control nuisances, minimum standards for non-residential and residential structures, abandon, junk and nuisance motor vehicles, and abandoned manufactured homes. He explained the process which was outlined in a handout presented at the meeting and then stated that enforcement helps eliminate nuisances that threaten life, health and safety of the public. Mr. Rickles made everyone aware that they could contact him at any time with any code enforcement concern that should arise in our community.

**Departmental Reports** – The Council reviewed the Financial and Tax reports for the month of January, 2018. Chief Treadway was present to review the police report and stated they had a very busy month with 10 cases open. He stated 7 of those were closed and 5 of those closed by arrest. Also, he stated that the department executed a search warrant for B.E.L. in which they located 23 grams of meth. Jerry Baker, Asst Fire Chief was present for Fire Department and he stated the department has 27 full time firemen at this time with 6 junior firefighters. Mayor Ritchie reviewed the annual fire report. A copy of each report is attached as part of the minutes.

**Recreation Department** – Manager Bradshaw updated the Board on the Recreation Department for the month of January. Basketball games are over and the 7-8 year old Peewee boys and 9-10 year old Mighty Might boys both won their county championships and are eligible to move on to the regionals. Indoor Soccer signups ended and we have 11 teams this year. Manager Bradshaw also made everyone aware that the replacement of the exterior doors has been completed at the R.O. Huffman Center and a lot of inside painting is complete.

**Attorney Report** – Attorney Willcox stated that he is looking forward to working with Code Enforcement and also with Alderman Rick Cline.

**Miscellaneous** –

- Manager Bradshaw made everyone aware that a meeting will be held at the Town Hall on Tuesday, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> from 10 am until 12 noon for public comments and general information on the Greenway Public Transportation
- Recreation PARTF Grant is still a work in progress
- Next meeting is March 5<sup>th</sup> and Mayor Ritchie asked if the Council would be willing to have the next meeting at the R.O. Huffman Center since the new repairs have been completed. A motion was made by Alderman Anthony, seconded by Alderman Cline to move the meeting to the R.O. Huffman Center for the March 5<sup>th</sup> meeting and the vote was unanimous.

Adjournment – A motion was made by Alderman Johnson, seconded by Alderman Anthony to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:29 p.m. and the vote was unanimous.

A reception was held immediately after the meeting in honor of Donald F. Bumgarner.

TOWN CLERK Sherry Oula

MAYOR [Signature]

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