

The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the Municipal Building.

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 asked Alderman Anthony to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

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

Public Hearing – Mayor Ritchie opened the public hearing for the Brownfields Cleanup Grant Application Citizen Input at 6:06 pm by a motion from Alderman Johnson, seconded by Alderman Anthony. Brian Kvam with Cardno was present with updates on the EPA Brownfields Cleanup Grant Application which is set to be submitted by January 31, 2019. The grant amount was increased for this grant period to \$500,000 with a 20% match for the town. Mr. Kvam stated that they would also be applying for a waiver for the 20% match which in the past has been granted for small towns like Drexel. Mr. Kvam explained that when the Asbestos Containing Materials Survey was completed there was asbestos scattered throughout the property in the amount of approximately 31,000 cubic yards but there was no asbestos found in the soil. Wetlands Survey through ElectriCities will be used to determine how the site will be divided. The Phase II assessment showed no contaminants on the property and in the bed rock there was no groundwater found. Also, the heavy metals that were found were within the limits allowed. He stated there was nothing unexpected found in Phase II. He also stated that from a cleanup perspective the debris containing asbestos is the concern. The drums on the property will be removed but there were no contaminants found in the area of the drums. Mr. Kvam stated the Geotechnical Investigation was completed and showed that there are two areas on the property available for burying waste on the site and if that is approved then those sites would be unavailable for development. Alderman Anthony asked if one of the sites for burying waste would be enough space. Mr. Kvam stated that he was confident it would be enough and the prime site for waste burial is approximately 1.5 acres and 12.5 feet deep. A motion was made by Alderman Johnson, seconded by Alderman Anthony to close the public hearing at 6:32 pm.

Resolution of Appreciation for Benny Orders – Mayor Ritchie read the resolution of appreciation for Benny Orders which listed his many years in various positions with the Town. A motion was made for approval of the resolution of appreciation for Benny Orders by Alderman Yount, seconded by Alderman Anthony and the vote was unanimous.

Renaming the Boy Scout Hut – Mayor Ritchie stated he spoke with the Scout Leaders and the recommendation for the renaming of the Scout Hut will be the Donald F. Bumgarner Scout Lodge. Mayor Ritchie would like to make this a public affair at the Scout Hut when we actually announce the new name.

Parking Lot Lease/Sale – Attorney Willcox stated that if the Town chooses to do a lease of one year or less then it would just need approval by the Board. If the lease is longer than one year then you would need to publish in the paper, public hearings would have to be set and the town would have to go through the bid process. The Board agreed to have the manager contact Rick Ramsey to see if he would be interested in doing a yearly lease with stipulations placed in the lease for appearance issues. Alderman Yount expressed his concern that other property may decide to place storage trailers on their property also. A motion was made to approve the possibility of a lease of the property as opposed to sale of the property by a motion from Alderman Anthony, seconded by Alderman Johnson and the vote was unanimous.

Roster Certification for Fire Department – The Board approved the annual roster certification for 27 firemen on the NCSFA roster by a motion from Alderman Yount, seconded by Alderman Johnson and the vote was unanimous. Firemen's Relief Fund Board of Trustees needs approval of reappointment of two local government board members. A motion was made by Alderman Anthony, seconded by Alderman Yount to reappoint Jerry Brown and Sherry Dula to the Board of Trustees and the vote was unanimous.

Audit Contract - The Council unanimously approved the annual audit contract for fiscal year 2018-2019 from Boggs, Crump & Brown for \$11,400 by a motion from Alderman Yount, seconded by Alderman Anthony. A copy of the audit contract is attached as part of the minutes.

Departmental Reports – The Council reviewed the Police, Financial and Tax reports for the month of December, 2018. Chief Treadway was present to review the police report. A copy of each report is attached as part of the minutes.

A motion was made by Alderman Johnson, seconded by Alderman Anthony to release taxes for William David Cassida in the amount of \$94.73 per the County's request and the vote was unanimous.

Recreation Department – Manager Bradshaw updated the Board on the Recreation Department for the month of December. Basketball games are underway with 4 teams. Christmas 5K Chase was a success with 60 participants. Indoor Soccer sign ups have started. R.O. Huffman Center will be hosting Volleyball Travel Tournaments for the 12 and 13 year old teams.

Recreation Department PARTF Grant – Manager Bradshaw explained that she along with Tim Rhoney and Hunter Nestor would be meeting with an architect and engineer on Thursday, January 10th at 10 am to discuss ideas for renovation of the locker room set of restrooms at the center and the addition and improvements of the outdoor park facilities on the center's property. She stated that they were thinking that the tennis court area should be modified for outdoor basketball courts, cornhole, pickle ball and bocce. The swing set area and picnic shelter could use some improvements also as well as adding a restroom facility to this area. The discussion also included that the entire area of the picnic shelter, tennis courts and swing set area be surrounded by a walking track. All these ideas work with our Master Plan which we adopted in the past. The PARTF Grant is a matching grant of up to \$500,000 and in order to determine a match the town would be able to commit to then we will need cost estimates for the above-mentioned projects. After our meeting on Thursday, we should be able to determine a rough idea of a design and the cost involved in the project.

Attorney Report – No issues to report this month.

Miscellaneous –

- Drexel Christmas Parade Date Set for 2019 – December 14th at 10 am
- Alderman Anthony updated the Board that the sign design for the Baseball Field is looking good and should be done soon
- Next meeting February 5th, 2018 at 6 pm

Adjournment – A motion was made by Alderman Yount, seconded by Alderman Johnson to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:54 p.m. and the vote was unanimous.

TOWN CLERK _____

MAYOR _____

ALDERMAN _____

ALDERMAN _____

ALDERMAN _____

ALDERMAN _____