

The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held today Tuesday, November 1, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the Municipal Building.

The following members of the Governing Body were present:

Alderman: Carroll Franklin
Alderman: Benny Orders
Alderman: Terry Yount
Alderman: Richard Propst

The following members of the Governing Body were absent:

Mayor: Danny Ritchie

Others present:

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

Mayor Pro Tem Yount opened the meeting with Alderman Orders leading in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by prayer and a moment of silence.

Approval of Minutes: The Council voted unanimously to approve the October minutes by a motion from Alderman Franklin, seconded by Alderman Propst.

Drexel Elementary School Grant – Mrs. Karen Auton, Principal of Drexel Elementary School, was present to inform the Council of a grant opportunity for Drexel Elementary. Mrs. Auton explained the Kate B. Reynolds grant opportunity for a community-based physical fitness effort which involves possibly updating the playground, adding a greenway track or walking track. The facilities would be accessible to the school during the day and the community in the evenings. Mrs. Auton would like for the Council to have input and submit ideas for the project. The location could be at the school or anywhere in town that would be accessible to the school and the community.

Resolution for Street Name Change - The Town has another street name conflict with the City of Morganton for Oak Dale Drive. All the property owners of Oak Dale Drive were mailed a memo requesting input for the renaming of the street. After reviewing citizen input, the Town recommends the street name be changed from Oak Dale Drive to Oak Dale Lane. A motion was made by Alderman Orders, seconded by Alderman Franklin to adopt the resolution to change the street name for Oak Dale Drive to Oak Dale Lane and the vote was unanimous. A copy of the resolution is attached as part of the minutes.

Veteran's Day Holiday – A motion was made by Alderman Franklin, seconded by Alderman Orders to adopt the ordinance to add Veteran's Day as a paid holiday to the Town's Personnel Policy and the vote was unanimous.

R. O. Huffman Center Discussion – Manager Bradshaw reviewed some of the short term goals for the center which includes repairs and improvements to the front lobby. Some of the items addressed was painting and patching of walls and ceiling, new blinds in lobby and floor repairs including baseboard trim at a cost of \$8,200. Also new glass doors for the lobby at a cost of \$3,400 and new doors for the gym at a cost of \$7,600. Alderman Yount stated that he thought glass doors would take away from the original look of the center. Alderman Propst stated that it would be great to do these updates but what happens at the end of 2017 when we are out of money and can't

keep the center open. Then it will have been a waste to spend that money. Manager Bradshaw also reviewed the contractor recommendations for updating the field house. After visiting the site, he recommends that since the field house needs so many updates it would be cheaper to start from scratch. New drawings will be compiled for a structure that will include concessions, restrooms, storage, office space and meeting rooms. Chief Treadway suggested the Town take a look at the press box at the Valdese Football field. He stated this was built as a boy scout eagle project. The Town of Valdese paid for the materials and volunteers did the work. The Council discussed possibly researching the high school programs for masonry or carpentry work to see if they would be interested in a building project for the town. A motion was made by Alderman Propst, seconded by Alderman Orders for the final \$125,000 settlement payment (December 2017) to be placed in reserves for future matching grant possibilities and the vote was unanimous.

WPCOG – Recreation Master Plan – Erin Schotte from Western Piedmont Council of Governments was present to review the Recreation Master Plan. The Council of Governments has proposed the contract for services in assisting and preparing a town-wide recreation plan. The contract runs from January 1, 2017 through June 30, 2017. The cost for the service is \$10,000 and would come from monies budgeted in the Recreation Department. Ms. Schotte stated that by having this plan in place, it would help the Town's chances when applying for grants. She also explained that we would need to have public meetings or surveys to get citizen input and we could also go into the schools and get input from the students. The scope of services would also include evaluating existing recreational facilities and parks. A motion was made by Alderman Franklin, seconded by Alderman Propst to proceed and approve the agreement between the WPCOG and the Town of Drexel to provide a Recreation Master Plan and the vote was unanimous.

NCMPA1 Nominations – Manager Bradshaw reviewed the nominations submitted for the NCMPA1 Board of Directors' seats that expire in December and the nominations will be voted on at the November 15th ElectriCities meeting. She recommends that Drexel support the nominations for James Gallagher, Gastonia and Barry Hayes, Granite Falls. A motion was made by Alderman Propst, seconded by Alderman Franklin to approve the nominations for James Gallagher and Barry Hayes and the vote was unanimous.

NCLM 2017-2018 Advocacy Goals – Fifteen legislative goals were approved as priorities for the 2017-2018 legislative session at the Advocacy Goals Conference. Manager Bradshaw stated that Drexel will benefit from the NCLM lobbying for these advocacy goals.

Town Website – ElectriCities has a program available that offers financial assistance for website design. In order to take advantage of this program, Board approval is needed. The goal for administration is to make the site more user friendly for citizens and employees. Adding online payment capabilities is also part of the redesign plan. Updating or changing the Town's logo can also be part of the process and needs Board approval as well. A motion was made by Alderman Franklin, seconded by Alderman Orders to approve allowing ElectriCities to help with changing the Town website and the vote was unanimous.

Miscellaneous –

- Fair Parking Report was reviewed by the Board
- Thanksgiving Breakfast is Tuesday, November 22nd at 9 am
- The Council approved that we cancel the December meeting unless issues should arise that we would need to call a special meeting
- Drexel Properties Update – Town was not approved for the 1st cycle of the ARC grant funding but we are still in the running for the 2nd cycle, they just need more information

Departmental Reports – The Council reviewed the Financial, Tax and Police reports for the month of October, 2016. A copy of each report is attached as part of the minutes.

Chargers Update – Manager Bradshaw updated the Council on the Chargers. Lowell Summey was out tonight because they are having Basketball drafts and practice starts November 4th. Homecoming for the Chargers will be November 5th and games will be from 9 am until 1 pm. Soccer Team won regular season championship and midget football won regular season championship. Playoffs will start November 12th.

Recreation Department – Lisa Butler was present to update Council on ROH Center activities. Recreation revenues for the month were \$2,390. Volleyball will be closing out this week. She made the Council aware of the expanding hours for the center, mornings will remain the same but it will open back up from 1 pm until 8pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and 1 pm until 5 pm on Saturday.

Attorney Report – No issues to report at this time.

Adjournment - With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m. upon a motion from Alderman Franklin, seconded by Alderman Propst.

TOWN CLERK _____

MAYOR _____

ALDERMAN _____

ALDERMAN _____

ALDERMAN _____

ALDERMAN _____