

Town Council Meeting
May 14, 2018
Westport Town Hall

The Westport Town Council met in regular session at the Westport Town Hall, with the following present; Bryan Gatewood, President, Richard Smith, Joyce Brindley and Jenny Hardebeck. Bryan Gatewood called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge to the Flag. President Gatewood read minutes from the April 9th meeting. The minutes were approved as read on a motion by Richard, seconded by Joyce. President Gatewood also read the minutes from the Public Hearing on April 19th, 2018. The minutes were approved as read on a motion by Joyce, seconded by Richard.

Monthly Bills and Adjustments were signed

Payroll Vouchers were signed

Street and Cemetery Report: Presented by Richard Smith

Water and Sewer Report: Presented by Bryan Gatewood.

Marshal's Report: Presented by Joyce Brindley

Mainstreet Westport Report: Reported on the flower pots on Main Street & the nice paintings on them. They have been working a lot to make Main Street look better. Joyce stated that she is filling our papers to get a grant for trash cans that can be placed around town. Reported that there have been flowers uprooted from the flower pots & that if anyone ever sees this taking place please report it.

Update on Water Project: Vince Somers had open heart surgery. Bryan spoke with Rachel Runge about applications for funding from Rural Development and OCRA. Ronda and Bryan have a training session with Marsha Cotner at Rural Development in North Vernon on how to apply online. The engineering study has to be submitted electronically through their website (RSDARD apply). Once the accounts are set up online, Umbaugh will be able to submit their information on the website on behalf of the Town of Westport. The next application date is November but further information will be discussed at the next town board meeting regarding the application process.

Property at 308 S Walnut Street: Bryan reported that all the paperwork discussed in the last meeting was signed and posted at the property. Yellow caution tape still needs placed around the property. Ronda received three return letters where the property owner declined the mailing. Bryan stated that there are legal proceedings to move forward with the process but it is more complicated when the property owner is not cooperating.

MainSource Bank Transfer to Napoleon Bank: Napoleon Bank needs a signed copy of the Town Board Minutes as part of the process of opening a new account with them so the board members signed the minutes document for the bank. Bryan discussed the building plans for the new Napoleon Bank that will open in Westport March 2019. Jay Maddux marked water & sewer lines on the Town members discussed the bank parking lot expansion and potential for the old bial=tettgattig- getting tore down. Napoleon Bank representatives stated to Bryan that their contractors will work with the town to keep them informed of the plans.

Shady Lane Street Light: Bryan led the discussion about the street light that is needed at the end of Shady Lane to increase the security on that street. Neighbor, Sherry Warner has reported to the town clerk

that she is scared that someone will break into her property after several break-ins have occurred in the last month in her neighborhood. Bryan stated that he would visit Sherry and Richard stated that he will call Duke Energy.

Barn LED Light Update: Damon Land will install the LED lighting in the barn if the town will purchase the lights for approximately \$700. Joyce made a motion that the town proceed with updating the lighting and Richard seconded the motion.

Water/Sewer Deposit Refunds: Bryan reviewed written documentation from the Clerk Treasurer suggesting that the town determine a timeframe for returning homeowner deposits after they have paid their bill on time for so many months. Customers have been asking when their deposits will be returned to them and board members discussed why deposits are important since homeowners are moving more frequently than in the past. Bryan suggested that he review the ordinance, discuss it with the board members, make edits and bring it back to the next board meeting for a vote.

Disconnection Notice/Bill Adjustments: None

From the Floor: Mike Robbins spoke about a concern for the property next to his, stating that someone is bringing vehicle loads of trash and a semi load of tires (50-60 tires) onto the property. Damon Land spoke up saying that he bought 15 acres of property next to Mike and gave someone permission to store the tires there temporarily until they could be recycled. Damon stated that he would address the concern and Bryan added that if it was not taken care of, Mike should call Krista Duvall, Area Plan Director,

Rhonda Burtch presented a request for approval from the town for her to start a pick-up area on the side of her restaurant building where customers could park temporarily while picking up take out orders. Rhonda stated that she would like to place an awning over the doorway that would not hang out any farther than the cement step below the door. The town board recommended that she contact Krista Duvall, Area Plan Director since this would be a BZA or APC issue. Joyce made a motion to approve the pick-up area and Richard seconded the motion.

Erik and Becky Burkhead talked about the dog complaints on Gatewood Drive. They stated that there are at least 15 hound type dogs that start barking at 6AM and continue throughout the day preventing Becky from getting any sleep since she works nights and sleeps during the day. Erik stated that he would just like information on what is permitted in town so that he can go to the neighbor with information first. Erik stated that his own dog barks during the day too but the neighbor's dogs are becoming excessive. Bryan discussed the current ordinance and how many animals is permitted outside during the day. Bryan told Law Enforcement to intervene (at their discretion) by visiting the neighbor and giving him a highlighted copy of the town ordinance.

Bill Padgett discussed theft at the cemetery because a heart shaped, wrought iron plant hanger has gone missing from one of the graves.

Ron Barrett stated that he would be attending the covered bridge festival this year because he wants show his support locally.

