

Town Council Meeting
December 9, 2019
Westport Town Hall

The Westport Town Council met in regular session at the Westport Town Hall, with the following present; Bryan Gatewood, President, Joyce Brindley, John Organist and Gloria Alumbaugh. Bryan Gatewood called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm followed by the Pledge to the flag. President Gatewood read minutes from the November 11th, 2019 meeting. The minutes were approved as read and Joyce made a motion to approve, seconded by John.

Monthly Bills and Adjustments were signed

Payroll Vouchers were signed

Street and Cemetery Report: Presented by John Organist, Mike Gasper added that Solar lights have been installed at the Cemetery. Damon Land answered questions regarding street repairs.

Marshal's Report: Presented by Joyce Brindley

Presentation of Community Contracts/Checks: Bryan presented the checks and contracts to the Community Building, Westport Fire Department and Westport Kiwanis. John made a motion that the contracts continue which was seconded by Joyce, 3:0 vote

SIRPC Membership Certification: Bryan explained that the document was to certify who would represent Westport at the SIRPC Regional Planning Commission for 2020. Bryan stated that the • committee meets quarterly on the 1st Wednesday of the months of January, April, August and October. Joyce volunteered to sit on the SIRPC board and Bryan made a motion of approval, seconded by John. 3:0 vote

Commonwealth Project Updates:

Water: Brady Dryer reported on the Water project stating that all the work permits have been submitted and Commonwealth is waiting for them to be processed. Tom Bushhorn submitted a Legal Services Agreement for the council to sign as part of the legal requirements for the USDA loan. The Agreement included legal fees to not exceed \$20,000 which Bryan made a motion to approve, seconded by Joyce. 3:0 vote

Wastewater: Brady Dryer reported that a few months ago the town authorized Commonwealth to prepare a Stream Calibration Report which he gave to the council. Brady stated that the report will be submitted to IDEM which was a previous requirement. Brady reviewed the Town Compliance **plan** and brought a contract for the Preliminary Report that is the next step in the compliance plan. Brady asked for approval of the contract with Commonwealth to start the Preliminary Engineering Report once the Rural Water Loan is approved and the Council gives them permission to move forward. John made a motion to approve the contract, seconded by Joyce. Council President signed and Clerk Treasurer attested the contract with a unanimous vote of approval from the town council. 3:0

Westport Town Marshall/Deputy Contracts: The town council reviewed the Town Marshall and Town Deputy contracts, discussing the pay increases and change in benefits. Joyce made a motion to approve the contracts, seconded by John. 3:0 vote

Wages & Salary Ordinance 2019-7: The council reviewed Ordinance 2019-7 and Bryan made a motion to approve the Ordinance as is with a second from John. 3:0 vote

Utility Superintendent: John explained that he would like the council to vote on a change of structure in the Utility departments from Street, Cemetery, Water and Sewer to one department called the Westport Utility Department. John stated that in January the council could appoint a Superintendent to lead the Utility department so that there is one "go to" person and the rest of the employees would be called utility workers. Bryan made a motion that the new utility department structure be approved and John seconded the motion. 3:0 vote

Utility employee — Colton Davis 90 Day Review: Bryan explained that Colton Davis was hired in September at a 90-day trial payrate with the intention to increase to a set rate after that 90-day review. The council discussed Colton's performance and Bryan made a motion to make Colton full time at \$18.50 per hour, seconded by Joyce. 3:0 vote


From the Floor: Harry Pray mentioned the AIM training for new officials which Bryan reviewed with the council members. Gloria confirmed that she is scheduled for the training in December and January.

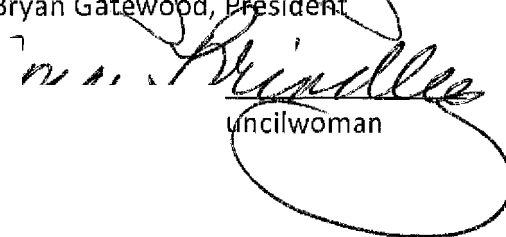
Jeff Emsweller, the executive director of the Greenburg Decatur County Chamber of Commerce presented a branding strategy that Decatur county is considering that includes logos that the town of Westport could consider using to promote the community. Jeff explained that the county was able to obtain grants to fund the branding creation and Westport is welcome to adopt the created logo. Jeff also reported that Decatur County is **1** of 5 counties in the state that is predicted to have growth in the next 5 years.

Town Council discussed Water/Wastewater customer Danny Toler and no vote was taken. Tony Blodgett reported that the two Reserve Officers will be completing their training in the next few weeks and will likely be presented at the January Council meeting.


Mike Gasper informed the town that the Westport Fire Department has met with the Insurance Service Organization to review their fire service rating to stay the same or at a lower rate to benefit town residents on their fire insurance.

Bryan made a motion to close the meeting, seconded by Joyce.


Bryan Gatewood, President


Joyce Prindle, Councilwoman

John Organist, Councilman


At: Gloria Alumbaugh, Clerk Treasurer