

Town Council Meeting
July 8, 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, and Jenny Hardebeck. Bryan Gatewood called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm followed by the Pledge to the flag. President Gatewood read minutes from the June 10th meeting. The minutes were approved as read with one correction and Joyce made a motion to approve, seconded by Bryan. Bryan announced that the Republican Committee appointed John Organist to the Town Council to fill the late Richard Smith's position.

Monthly Bills and Adjustments were signed - The council reviewed an adjustment request from Daryl Wolterman which Joyce made a motion to approve, seconded by Bryan. Council also reviewed the sump pump adjustment for Bailey Yeager and determined that the consumption was higher on the second leak this year. Joyce made a motion to approve reversing the first adjustment and the Yeager's taking the second adjustment, seconded by Bryan.

Payroll Vouchers were signed

Cemetery Deeds were signed

Water and Sewer Report: Presented by Bryan Gatewood

Street and Cemetery Report: Presented by Bryan Gatewood

Marshal's Report: Presented by Joyce Brindley

Mainstreet Westport Report:

Joyce reported that Mainstreet met at the first of July and a state representative for the Mainstreet program attended the meeting to give positive feedback on how the group can continue to make progress. The representative told the group that they are doing well and couldn't believe how many members they have considering the size of the town. Joyce added that Kyle Alumbaugh is assisting the group by building a website and promoting the group through multi-media.

Animal Control Ordinance:

Joe Talkington reported on his investigation of the dog complaint, stating that he took pictures of the property, audio recordings and noted the horrendous smell. After discussion and review of Westport's ordinance Bryan recommended that Westport police officers file a police report and coordinate a plan with the county prosecutor to search the property based on the safety of the animals.

Mary Ortman also reported animal control issues regarding a barking dog in her neighborhood. Bryan stated that animal owners will be ticketed for leaving their animal's out after 10pm or when animals become a nuisance which is an ordinance violation.

Fire Hydrant Rentals:

Bryan explained that in 2007 a rate increase ordinance was established which included a fire hydrant rental which was to be paid by the Town of Westport to the Westport Water & Sewer Company. In 2009 the rental payments were stopped and have not been paid since that time resulting in a State Board of Accounts citation this year. Bryan stated that the council will be addressing this issue in the next few months to establish a repayment plan or some type of debt forgiveness along with correcting the 2007 water rate ordinance but the town would not be going bankrupt due to this citation.

Adjustments/Delinquent Letters—To extend disconnection notice:

Kristie & Scott Brannin requested an extension of their past due bill to pay \$97.68 on Friday July 18th. Joyce made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Bryan.

Westport Police Applicants:

Hillary England would like to train to be a reserve officer which Joyce made a motion to approve, seconded by Bryan. Joe Talkington reviewed all applicants for the Deputy Marshall position and selected Tony Blodgett to replace the Deputy Marshall position which Joyce made a motion to approve, seconded by Bryan. Bryan stated that a special session will be scheduled at a later date to swear in Tony Blodgett as well as new council member, John Organist.

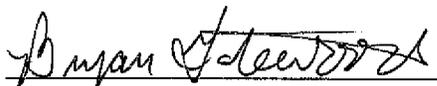
From the Floor:

Mike Bartlett reported that he is having issues with cats coming into his yard and spraying everything. Mike asked the town to work on this issue or he is going to take care of them himself. Mike also reported issues with a neighbor making noise at 4AM in the morning and asked if the town could also pass a noise ordinance.

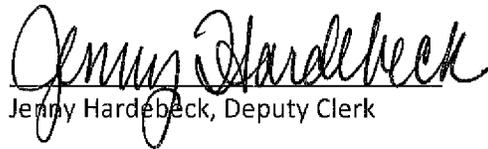
Tom Flemming announced that there are summer part time positions available for people looking to go into the radio business.

Delores Honeycutt questioned Tony Blodgett as to why he decided to apply for Deputy Marshall at Westport and Tony answered her questions. Tony stated that he likes the small-town atmosphere and is excited to work along Joe Talkington who is building a great deputy reserve program. This led to discussion on how quick police officers are able to respond when they live out of town. The town council stated that they do not require officers to live inside town limits and Tony Blodgett added that as the reserve program grows, they will be able to keep more officers on duty to eliminate issues with response time.

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



Bryan Gatewood, President



Jenny Hardebeck, Deputy Clerk



Joyce Brindley, Councilwoman



John Organist, Councilman