

Town Council Meeting
August 12, 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 July 8th and July 29th meetings. The minutes were approved as read and Joyce made a motion to approve, seconded by John.

Monthly Bills and Adjustments were signed - The council reviewed a 2nd adjustment request from Walter & Marcia Hunter for \$62.70 which Joyce made a motion to approve, seconded by John.

Payroll Vouchers were signed Cemetery Deeds were signed Water and Sewer Report: Presented by Bryan Gatewood

Street and Cemetery Report: Presented by John Organist

Marshal's Report: Presented by Joyce Brindley

Mainstreet Westport Report:

Joyce announced that the Mainstreet Fall Festival will be October 12th at the park so Main Street will be closed during the day. Joyce encouraged people to call any of the Mainstreet members if they have questions about being a vendor or attending the event. Joyce reported that the volunteers from Cummins will be cleaning downtown again this Fall.

Common Wealth Project Update:

Vince Summers and Rachel Runge gave an update on projected bids for the Water Treatment Plant which increased the cost of the overall water project. Rachel reported that due to the increase in pricing, Commonwealth needs to submit a Memorandum to USDA as required, to show that the current option of updating the Westport Water Treatment Plant was still the most cost-effective solution for the town. Vince also explained that this would not affect the amount of money that the town is committed to paying for the project and that once exact costs were identified during the project, if more money was needed, they would go back to USDA to request the difference. Vince explained that Westport should hear results from the OCRA grant on Thursday, August 15th. Joyce made a motion to approve submittal of the Memorandum to USDA, seconded by John.

Combining Street & Water/Sewer to Westport Utilities:

John stated that currently there is a clear division of labor between the Water, Wastewater, Street and Cemetery departments. John stated that he would like to combine the departments into one Utility Department where all employees work together and there be one person identified as a working supervisor to give field direction to the others. John asked approval to look into this idea which Bryan and Joyce approved as long as the current employees were given opportunity to give their own feedback. Bryan also read a retirement letter from Mike Tichenor which stated that his last day would be September 27, 2019. Joyce made a motion to accept the retirement letter, seconded by John. Bryan added that this is the time to evaluate staffing needs since they will be hiring to replace Tichenor's position.

Relocating Storage for Equipment/Gravel Pit:

John stated that he would like to look at the cost of moving the gravel pits, cleaning up the area and eventually asphaltting the parking lot in front of the Police Department to make it more professional. John and the council also discussed updating the Police Department building and moving street equipment to another property owned by the town. Gloria asked to move funding from the Town Coordinator fund which was not used this year to the Police Operating fund so that Central Heating and Cooling can be installed in the Police Department Building which Joyce made a motion to approve, seconded by John. Joyce also made a motion to move the gravel pit, seconded by John. Bryan suggested that additional research be completed before making decisions on the other storage issues.

Fund Transfer to Purchase Street Truck:

Gloria explained that \$30,000 was reserved in the budget this year to purchase a utility truck for the Street department but bids came in a little over \$40,000 so she would like permission to move excess funding from the Community Crossing Grant reserve fund over to the street operating fund to purchase the truck. Gloria explained that \$55,000 is reserved in

the CCMG fund but only \$37,000 of it will be needed if approved for the grant this year. Joyce made a motion to move the funds, seconded by John

Westport Kiwanis Street Closure on 9-7-19 for BBQ:

Joyce approved a motion to close a portion of Main street during the Westport Kiwanis BBQ on 9-7-2019, seconded by John.

Petition to change W. Gatewood to Stott St:

Bryan stated that this topic would be tabled for now, due to the number of topics to cover at the meeting.

Fire Hydrant Rentals/Ordinance No. 2019-5:

Bryan explained that due to a citation during the state audit this year, Ordinance No. 2019-5 is needed to remove the annual Fire Hydrant rental fees originally established in Ordinance No. 2007-3. Joyce made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2019-5, seconded by John.

Faulkner Survey Lines:

Bryan explained that the Faulkner's surveyed their property lines and found that there is a difference of 6-8 feet along the fence row which they are willing to donate to the Town if the town agrees to pay for the legal fees of updating the deeds. Joyce made a motion they accept the offer to update the deeds, seconded by John.

Community Contracts:

Representatives from Kiwanis, Westport Fire Department and Westport Community Building accepted checks from the Town of Westport as part of their yearly service contract with the town. Joyce made a motion that contracts continue, seconded by John.

Delinquent Letters— To extend disconnection notice:

Angela Reynolds requested an extension of her past due bill to pay \$104.67 on August 19th, 2019. Joyce made a motion to approve the request, seconded by John.

Sarah Williams requested an extension of her past due bill to pay \$121.09 on August 16th, 2019. Joyce made a motion to approve the request, seconded by John.

Thomas Kedrowitz attended the meeting and stated that the Town Trustee would be helping him with his bill this month but it would be late. Joyce made a motion to approve his request, seconded by John.

From the Floor:

Judy Brewer stated that she would like to start Senior Activities in the community such as serving coffee and playing bingo. The council discussed options for this at the Town Hall but Ronda Bartlett also suggested that Judy Brewer reach out to the Westport Christian Church new Pastor for Seniors, Kim Huffman who is starting Senior Activities in the community.

Tom Flemming announced that the Radio station is still looking for student workers interested in going into Communications/Journalism.

Jayne Gault reminded the community that the Community Building is available, for free, to non-profit groups.

Mike Gasper announced that the Business Association in conjunction with Decatur County Memorial Hospital is holding a health fair on October 26th at the Venue on 3. Free Flu shots will be offered and the Blood Mobile will also be there.

There was discussion regarding dog and nuisance ordinances in town due to barking dog complaints. Bryan stated that the dog complaint on Gatewood Drive has been abated and Jacob Ross confirmed that it is much quieter in that neighborhood. Gloria is working on a nuisance ordinance that the council will be reviewing.

Roll:No.12

Jeff.erre4we•stated that he is considering the purchase of property off the Deer Run addition and asked what was the possibility that he could connect to the Westport Sewer. Bryan stated that he would make contact with IDEM and Commonwealth to determine what it means to be under a sewer warning since that particular property had already been in the works to have several homes connected to the sewer. Jeff also asked about property on the corner of West St & Race and Bryan said that connection to the sewer would not be an issue since there had been a previous connection there.

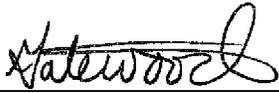
Amanda Organist asked the town to consider widening Paul St to fit two-way traffic and also invited everyone to the Fraternal Order of Police Fundraiser on August 24th at the Decatur Co. fairgrounds.

Mike Gasper announced that a Republican Town Convention will be held on August 20th at 7pm to determine the republican candidates for town council 2020. Mike stated that republicans will need to vote for three out of five candidates for the November election.

Delores Honeycutt asked about the Curfew Ordinance since there was a young boy out in her neighborhood at night. The council confirmed that there is a curfew ordinance.

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

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Bryan Gatewood, President



Gloria Alum baugh, Clerk Treasurer
