

11/02/23 Council Meeting Notes

Attending Zenda Vance, recorder (acting as Mayor), Gabe Pena, Brian Good, Lori Tabit, Okey Skidmore, Stanley Boyd, Matt Diederich, City Manager and Kathy Williams, Treasurer, Police Chief Glenn Chapman, Fire Chief John Vernon and Carl Harris, City Attorney

Prayer was offered by Stanley Boyd

At 6 pm Zenda Vance called the meeting to order, then Zenda leads the pledge of allegiance.

Zenda reads the 100-year Proclamation for the Rotary Club - Brian made the motion, second by Lori motion carries 5 – 0.

Zenda reads the Christian Heritage Week Proclamation - Lori made motion, second by Stanley motion carries 5 - 0.

Approved minutes from prior meetings:

10/5/23 Lori made motion, second by Stanley motion carries 5 - 0.

10/12/23 Gabe made the motion, second by Lori motion carries 5 - 0.

10/19/23 Lori made the motion, second by Gabe motion carries 5 – 0.

10/23/23 Brian made the motion, second by Stanley motion carries 5 - 0.

Approved financial statement Lori made motion, second by Okey motion carries 5 - 0.

General Comments and Reminders

Zenda reminded everyone about Community Clean up the second Saturday of each month.

Second Ave. Bridge update.....Matt emailed Steve Runyon with the DOH regarding updates on the pedestrian bridge and still waiting to hear back from them. Brian asks Katie Washington (resident attending council) what she is hearing when talking with residents in the area of the Second Ave. Bridge.....she said it breaks down in three groups.....(1) those who do not want the bridge back (2) those who do want the bridge back and (3) those who want a pedestrian bridge.she plans to talk with more residents and have a complete report at the December meeting.

Council Comments: Okey says Huse Cemetery looks great and he appreciates the hard work of the two part time employees to keep it looking good.

Lori congratulates Lewis Rhinehart for winning the United Way Dancing with the Stars competition. She also says Bridge Day was such a success and now we are rolling into the Christmas Season.

Zenda reminds everyone of the Veterans Parade on Saturday, November 11 asking that everyone bring a veteran to ride in the parade. She also commented about Halloween trunk or treat, and a record number of children came out and it was a huge success.

Stanley spoke about the Halloween Trunk or Treat night and how fun it was for everyone, kids, and adults. Then he asks Matt for an update on the Keller Ave. wall, which Matt said was coming along, the contractors only work on weekends but work from daylight to dark.

Brian comments about how great Halloween night was and Bridge Day was wonderful and the Airbnb's stayed busy as well as all the restaurants in town. He also thanked John Vernon and the Fire Department for responding to a small fire he had at the 4H dining hall, he said they did a great job.

Gabe agreed with all the Halloween comments and said it was great and thanked the Police Department and everyone that participated. He also said the Rural Community program is moving forward and coming along just fine. He is planning on attending a Region IV Storm water funding meeting on November 15th.

Department Reports:

Chief John Vernon regarding the Fire Dept. See attached report for details.

Chief Glenn Chapman regarding the Police Department. See attached report for details.

Matt for the city manager updates. See attached report for details, he also mentioned the doublewide sale on Govdeals bids on Monday, November 6th at 6 pm and says the highest bid now is \$20,000 but he looks for bids to come in more on Monday. Post has 5,000 views. Regarding the parking lot and lane going into the Wal Mart shopping center area, he has found there are multiple property owners not just MRP which says the lanes do not belong to them. Glenn said the DOH told him it was never intended to have two lanes into the shopping center even though it has two lanes coming off the four-lane, the DOH said the reason it is not marked is the fact it is one lane, and the additional space is for tractor trailers needing to swing out for the turn.

Visitor Comments:

Katie Washington to speak about the Second Avenue Bridge and what the people want to see happen. She plans to talk with more residents and have a complete report at the December meeting.

Unfinished Business:

Kathy presented General Fund Budget Revision #6 asking if there were any questions, there were none. Okey made motion, second by Brian. motion carries 5 - 0.

New Business:

Discuss and Act on request by New River Transit Authority. They presented materials to all to better explain their finances and request additional funding from the town. Tabled until budget meeting for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Discuss and Act on hosting the State Softball Tournament.....the scheduling conflict is the tournament needs to take place during the 4th of July festivities. Tabled until scheduling can be worked out to have both events.

Discuss and Act on Special ABC request from Arts Coalition at the Love Hope Arts Center for Friday, December 1, 2023, 6 – 9 pm. Lori made motion, second by Gabe. motion carries 5 - 0.

Discuss and Act on MOU for WV Ready Fellows Program. The grant would make available to the town one person, which would be paid by the program and the Town's match for this grant is \$13,000. This person would be working with writing grants and working on the Master plan by CEC and the recreational plan. The contract would begin January 1, 2024. Tabled until funding is confirmed.

Discuss and Act on hiring Jonathan Hannigan for the Police Department. He is uncertified and would be going to the Academy in January 2024. Brian made motion, second by Stanley. motion carries 5 – 0.

Discuss and Act on TIF District Application, the next step is listing of the priorities and this list was presented and approved. Brian made motion, second by Lori. motion carries 5 – 0.

No reason to go into executive session.

Stanley made a motion to adjourn and second by Gabe.

