

Town of Hot Springs
Board of Alderman
Regular Morning Meeting
January 18, 2013

Present:

Mayor: Brian Reese
Alderman: Carolyn Ammons
Alderman: Johnny Lawson
Alderman: Vaughn Barnett
Clerk: Nancy Thomas

Mayor Reese called the meeting to order at 9:00.
Alderman Ammons made the motion to approve the minutes.
Alderman Lawson seconded the motion.

Public Comment

HSVFD Chief Josh Norton thanked the Board for the Town's help in purchasing equipment in the last year or so, and helping the department update their supplies. He also asked if the Board had had time to look over the budget to determine if they could help with the Department's quarter of the grant they are receiving.

Mr. Norton also reminded everyone of the benefit dinner on Feb. 24, which proceeds will also go toward the quarter of the grant.

Mr. Norton also asked about using the Town's Lowes card to purchase lights for the Department. The Board replied that Maintenance Employee Larry Ricker would have to be present, as only he was authorized to use the card.

Cameron Green asked the Board if they had accumulated any shale yet. He stated if the Town could bring the shale to the property in question, (where a drainage problem discussed at prior meeting was) he would spread, rake and sow grass there. The Board agreed 3 loads of shale should be sufficient, with a load of dirt on top to enable grass to grow.

Forest Service Rep. Tina Tilley spoke to the Board regarding protocol in acquiring Forest Service property. The first step in the process is an appraisal. A prior appraisal had been done, but Ms. Tilley said they had to do their own. Afterwards the Board could examine the appraisal and determine if they deemed it fair, then they would proceed with the process. Ms. Tilley added it was the Forest Service's wish to sell all the adjoining property which included a house adjacent to the property the HSVFD was interested in. She said the Town could ultimately make money from the house property, but that could be discussed at a later time. First things first.

Alderman Ammons made the motion to move forward with the project of acquiring the property.
Alderman Lawson seconded the motion.

Board members agreed to go with Ms. Tilley after the meeting and look at all the property in question. Ms. Tilley reminded the Board that in some cases, the process of purchasing Forest Service property could take up to 3 years to finalize.

Town Business

Alderman Barnett asked that the Skateboard Ordinance be maintained. There have been complaints regarding one particular skateboarder who disregarded safety measures, and some people fear there will be an accident if he continues to skate this way.

Mr. Norton suggested the Board adopt an ordinance requiring tubers to wear life jackets, and even helmets. The Board said such an ordinance would be almost impossible to enforce. The Board agreed rafting and tubing regulations was mandated on the most part by insurance companies that held the policies with the rafting companies, and they do require a lifejacket be worn.

Alderman Lawson reminded Mr. Norton to replace signage at French Broad Circle when weather permits.

Mayor Reese asked the Board if they had had a chance to look over the Hazard Litigation Plan, and if they agreed to adopt it.

Alderman Ammons made the motion to accept and adopt the Hazard Litigation Plan.

Alderman Lawson seconded the motion.

Mayor Reese stated he had written a letter to Ms. Mrozkowski regarding the Towns Web Site. He is awaiting a response.

As there was no other business,

Alderman Ammons made the motion to adjourn.

Alderman Lawson seconded the motion.