

Town of Hot Springs
Regular Board of Alderman Meeting
November 4, 2019

Present:

Mayor Sidney Harrison
Alderman Jeanne Gentry
Alderman Vaughn Barnett
Alderman Jimmy Moore
Town Attorney Ron Moore
Tax Collector Clara Ramsey
Clerk Nancy Thomas

Mayor Harrison called the meeting to order at 7:00 and welcomed guests.

Alderman Barnett made the motion to approve the minutes and financial statements.
Alderman Moore seconded the motion.
All were in favor.

Nobody was on the agenda for this meeting

Public Comment

Tim Arnett told Mayor Harrison he appreciated all he has done as Mayor of Hot Springs, and he had a lot of respect for him for taking on the job.

Mayor Harrison thanked him for his comment, and added six years was enough.

Ike Lassiter said he too wished to thank Mayor Harrison for all he has done for the Town.

Mr. Lassiter also asked what could be done to slow down traffic crossing the railroad tracks coming into town.

Mayor Harrison said the signage should be sufficient, but perhaps they could look into having some flashing lights installed.

Julie Hochwender also wanted to thank Mayor Harrison.

Town Business

Mayor Harrison said Mr. Hurley was finishing up the work at the Forest Service property. He received an OK from McGill and Associates, and the USDA has approved the release of the funds to complete the project.

Alderman Barnett said fluid was leaking from the garbage truck, and the brakes needed to be adjusted.

Mayor Harrison asked if he knew how much repairs would cost.

Alderman Barnett said the metal needed for the leakage could be cut at Peerless Blowers, which would save money.

Alderman Gentry made the motion to approve whatever repairs were needed on the trash truck. Alderman Moore seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Alderman Moore made the motion to add Veterans Day to the employee Holiday List. Alderman Gentry seconded the motion.

Alderman Moore also commented that the Police Department has their new car, and it looked very good. They were pleased with it.

Alderman Gentry said Marty Evens needed to be scheduled to begin maintenance on the roads as per his contract, and asked that he be called on Wednesday.

Alderman Gentry made the motion to approve Christmas Bonus's for Town Employees. Alderman Moore seconded the motion.

Alderman Gentry said the amounts would be the same as last year; 300.00 full time, 100.00 part time.

Alderman Gentry said the signage for the Public Parking Area is underway. Town Attorney Moore looked at the list of rules for the parking area, and suggested "Extended Parking Permit must be displayed on dash"

Tim Arnett asked how a permit could be obtained on weekends or after hours.

Alderman Gentry said they are looking into having a covered box containing permit forms that can be filled out and turned into the Police Department.

Alderman Gentry said she has talked to Fire Chief Josh Norton about moving the FD equipment up to the Forest service property by the end of the year.

Mr. Norton said there was still an issue with standing water in one of the buildings after a hard rain.

Alderman Gentry said a drainage pipe was on the change order list.

Mayor Harrison said it was on the agenda to fix the issue at the water source.

Mr. Norton said water is running down the driveway into the building.

Mayor Harrison said he would discuss it with the engineer.

Mayor Harrison said he would also look at acceptable Powell Bill expenditures and see if parking lots were an acceptable expenditure.

Post meeting research results: They are not.

Alderman Gentry said the Board of Alderman would meet after the election to make a decision regarding a new employee. She suggested Tuesday, Nov. 12 at 8:00 am.

The Board discussed internet service being installed by French Broad Electric.

Mayor Harrison said Hot Springs will be getting free internet service on Bridge Street.

Alderman Moore said the engineer working for French Broad Electric is supposed to call and let us know if the service will be available to anyone.

Alderman Barnett said after a hard rain, there is a lot of water sitting in front of his house. He suspects the drainage pipes are stopped up. Mayor Harrison said he was in charge of the Maintenance Department, and just have them look at it, and do what they need to do to the drains.

Julie Hochwender reminded everyone the Christmas Parade will be at 3:00 on Saturday December 7. She said vendors will be set up at the future Trailside Cafe. Mayor Harrison asked if she had plans to open the cafe and Jailhouse Java in the Spring. Ms. Hochwender said yes, they would both be open in Spring.

Fire Chief Josh Norton wanted to inform everyone that there will be a training burn on the corner of Lawson and Jackson on November 23. Portions of these streets will be closed that day. An AB Tech instructor will be there, and the burn is scheduled to take place between 9:00 am until 5 or 6:00.

Police Chief David Shelton thanked everyone instrumental in purchasing the new Police Car. Mayor Harrison said at some point the town will transfer ownership of the old Dodge Durango to the Fire Department.

Mayor Harrison said his last official meeting will be next month, and he appreciated all the help he has had. He said Judge Leake may be here to swear in the new Mayor.

As there was no other business at this time,

Alderman Barnett made the motion to adjourn.

Alderman Moore seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

Approved ✓

Date 12-18-19

Abigail Norton
Mayor Abigail Norton

Other

Town of Hot Springs
Board of Alderman
Regular Meeting
December 2, 2019

Present:

Mayor Sidney Harrison
Mayor Elect Abigail Norton
Alderman Jeanne Gentry
Alderman Vaughn Barnett
Tax Collector Clara Ramsey
Clerk Nancy Thomas
Town Attorney Ron Moore

Mayor Harrison called the meeting to order at 7:00 and welcomed guests.

Mayor Harrison said he will swear in Mayor Elect Abigail Norton and Board Members, and turn the meeting over.

Mayor Elect and Aldermen Gentry, Barnett, and Moore took their oaths of office.

Mayor Norton thanked Mr. Harrison, and announced her goal was to continue working with Karen Kiehna on obtaining grants, consulting with administrations from other Town's of similar size, and determine strategies of growth for the Town.

Alderman Gentry asked Mr. Harrison if he would come back to the table, and presented him with a plaque, thanking him for all the work he has done as Mayor.

Mr. Harrison thanked everyone for the plaque, and told Mayor Norton to let him know if he could be of any help. Mayor Norton assured him she would.

Alderman Gentry made the motion to approve the minutes and financial statements.

Alderman Moore seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

There were no requests to be on the agenda.

Public Comment

Sonia Shelton and Lisa Hicks both congratulated Mayor Norton and said they thought she would do a good job.

Julie Hochwender reminded everyone the Christmas Parade will be on Saturday, Dec. 7. followed by the tree lighting and vendor event at the Trailside Cafe.

Ms. Hochwender also reminded everyone that the first Event Committee meeting will be on Dec. 16 at 6:30, and invited everyone to attend.

Town Business

Alderman Gentry said they needed to do some budget amendments. She said she would have it figured out before the January meeting.

Police Chief David Shelton asked about placing better "No Parking" signs at the EMS location. Alderman Moore asked Chief Shelton to tell Ms. Hochwender what signage was needed there, because she could order signs at a good price.

Ms. Hochwender said the Parking Area Restrictions signs were en route, and would be placed at the Public Parking area soon. She added a "No Parking" sign should also be placed in front of the restaurant on Bridge Street. Chief Shelton said there was a sign there, but should be more prominent.

Alderman Gentry made the motion to go into closed session.

Alderman Barnett seconded the motion.

All were in favor. 7:15

Alderman Gentry made the motion to return to regular session.

Alderman Moore seconded the motion.

All were in favor 7:25

Mayor Norton said the Board met in closed session to choose an applicant for the Maintenance position. She said when the applicant was notified and accepted the position, they would announce the name at the next meeting.

Mr. Harrison told Mayor Norton Mr. Richard Thornburg, with Madison County, would like to meet with her in January. He said the building at the new Forest Service property would be a good meeting place. Mayor Norton acknowledged his comment.

Alderman Barnett made the motion to retain all current employees.

Alderman Moore seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

As there was no other business at this time,

Alderman Gentry made the motion to adjourn, and invited everyone to stay and have some cake.

Alderman Moore seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

Approved ✓

Date 1-6-20

Abigail Norton
Mayor Abigail Norton

Other