Council Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2009

The Tazewell Town Council met in regular session at 7:30 p. m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers.

Present:	Absent:
Mayor Jack Harry	None
Vice-Mayor Charles Grindstaff	
Councilmember Chris Blankenship	
Councilmember A. D. Buchanan, Jr.	
Councilmember David Fox	
Councilmember Kim Long	
Councilmember Danny Willis	

Staff present were Town Manger, Jerry G. Wood; Clerk, Linda S. Griffith; Attorney, Brad Pyott; Police Chief, Brian Hieatt and Recreation Director, Betty Conn.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Harry called the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance and invocation by Linda Griffith.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dennis Robinson, of 101 Tazewell Avenue, questioned if the Town was going put waste baskets on the telephone poles. He also suggested that Council walk the streets in Town to look at the sidewalks. He stated there was a realtor sign on Tazewell Avenue on the sidewalk. He also voiced his concern about the red light at the intersection of Fincastle Turnpike and Tazewell Avenue stating he watched vehicles and there were a lot of close calls at this intersection.

Pete Davis, a resident of Tazewell Avenue, stated in December 2008 that Manager Wood apologized to him and he would like to do the same with Manager Wood.

Manager Wood stated that all of us need to be more understanding and say things they shouldn't when they are angry.

Jerry Cochran, owner of the old Clinch Valley Supply building, came before Council stated his name had been brought before Council several times concerning the property on Riverside Drive. Mr. Cochran asked Council if there was a problem with his property. Mr. Cochran stated that one of his workers was working on the building and Mayor Harry questioned the worker. Mayor Harry informed the worker the Town had condemned the building. Mr. Cochran asked why someone couldn't call him.

Mayor Harry stated he and another individual were looking at the building and there was a misunderstanding on the situation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Councilmember Buchanan, seconded by Councilmember Blankenship to approve the Council Meeting Minutes and Work Session Minutes of September 8, 2009. On vote, Councilmember Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Buchanan, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Vice-Mayor Grindstaff, aye; Councilmember Long, aye; Councilmember Willis, aye.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Motion was made by Councilmember Buchanan, seconded by Vice-Mayor Grindstaff to approve the financial statements for September 2009. On vote, Councilmember Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Buchanan, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Vice-Mayor Grindstaff, aye; Councilmember Long, aye; Councilmember Willis, aye.

OPERATING REPORTS

Motion was made by Vice-Mayor Grindstaff, seconded Councilmember Blankenship to approve the operating reports for October 2009. On vote, Councilmember Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Buchanan, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Vice-Mayor Grindstaff, aye; Councilmember Long, aye; Councilmember Willis, aye.

BROADBAND REPORT

Manager Wood stated he had filed the necessary papers to receive money for the broadband project.

SEWER PER FOR DRY TOWN AND RAMEY'S

Manager Wood advised Council that he received notification of grant approval for the Sewer PER for Dry Town and Ramey Chevrolet on Route 19/460 and Thompson and Litton had begun the work.

REPORT ON HOUSE – HOPKINS STREET

Manager Wood reported the house on Hopkins Street completely torn down.

Councilmember Fox stated he had received several good comments on the removal of the house on Hopkins Street.

NORTH TAZEWELL DEPOT

Manager Wood reported he was starting to apply for grants for the North Tazewell Depot and he would be attending a meeting on November 4, 2009 at Wytheville.

CLINCH VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION PROPERTY

Council directed Manager Wood to send Clinch Valley Community Action a letter requiring them 60 days to report back to the Town on the action to be taken to repair the building located on the corner of Pine Street and Central Avenue.

POLICE TRAINING

Manager Wood advised that Chief Hieatt and Flora Sinkford have worked very hard on selling ads for Law Enforcement Publications calenders. Chief Hieatt has requested that this money be used to off-set the additional training for his officers for their continuing education classes.

Councilmember Fox stated he appreciated the Town allowing the officers the availabity for training, but requested that the officers should sign a contract to continue to stay with the Town for 3 to 5 years after receiving their degree education.

RETIRING OF RICK MCCANN AND DONNA MCCANN

Councilmember Buchanan requested the Town recognize Rick and Donna McCann for their dedicated services that they have provided the Recreation Department.

STREET MARKINGS

Councilmember Blankenship requested the streets be marked before winter, due to it being hard for the employees to see the edge of the street when removing snow.

HALLOWEEN HOURS

Council set Halloween Hours for Saturday, October 31, 2009 from 5:00 p.m. till 8:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before Council, meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.