

Council Meeting Minutes
April 8, 2014

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

Present:

Mayor A. D. Buchanan, Jr.
Vice-Mayor Chris Blankenship
Councilmember Chris Brown
Councilmember Glenn Catron
Councilmember David Fox
Councilmember Terry Mullins
Councilmember Jack Murray

Absent:

None

Staff present were Town Manager, Todd Day; Clerk, Linda S. Griffith; Attorney, Buck Brittain; Executive Assistant, Robin Brewster; Police Chief, DeWitt Cooper; Zoning Administrator, Donald Pruitt, Jr.; Fire Chief, Josh Roberts and Public Works Director, Lawrence Sheppard, Jr.

CALL TO ORDER

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

PRESENTATION – TERESA WHITE FAMILY

Chief of Police, DeWitt Cooper presented condolences to the Teresa White Family from Delegate James “Will” Morefield in the loss of Teresa White.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Councilmember Catron, seconded by Councilmember Mullins to approve the minutes of March 11, 2014 with correction. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Motion was made by Vice-Mayor Blankenship, seconded by Councilmember Brown to approve the financial statements for March 2014. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye.

PROJECT AND ACTIVITY REPORTS

Motion was made by Councilmember Brown, seconded by Councilmember Murray to approve the project and activity reports for March 2014. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Councilmember Brown stated the Economic Development Committee is working on walkway and River walk to speak with Jim Baldwin with CPPC for funding.

TRAIN DEPOT COMMITTEE

Councilmember Mullins stated the Train Station Committee met and reviewed the history of station. Councilmember Mullins stated the committee is looking into repurposing the train depot. The committee has a lot of good ideas and good interest. The committee is looking for ways to obtain funds for the restoration of the train depot.

PLANNING COMMISSION COMMITTEE

Councilmember Murray stated the Planning Commission is looking at the mobile home parks and the rezoning of the areas that have been annexed.

EMS COMMITTEE

Vice-Mayor Blankenship stated the EMS Committee did not meet, but their main concern is having temporary shelters for power outages.

SEWER PLANT – LOCAL LIMITS EVALUATION STUDY

Manager Day stated a Local Limits Evaluation Study needed to be done due to the County leachate line running into the Town's Sewer Plant. Manager Day stated he does not know how much the study would cost.

Blaine White, Supervisor of Sewer Plant, stated the plant is running at 95% efficiency and the study could open up growth for the area.

Council stated that Tazewell County should be responsible for paying the costs of doing the Local Limits Evaluation Study.

RESOLUTION FOR SUPPORT OF SVCC CLASSES

Motion was made by Councilmember Brown, seconded by Councilmember Murray to approve a Resolution of Support for SVCC Classes in Tazewell. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye;

Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye.

ENTRANCE SIGNS

Manager Day presented a proposal for entrance signs for \$37,285. If the signs are done in house the cost would be \$34,172.

Councilmember Mullins asked that the entrance have the date when the Town was founded in 1800.

Council asked that a decision be made in the Budget meeting.

CONDEMNATION OF HOMES

Zoning Administrator, Donald Pruitt, presented a list of condemnation of homes for Council approval on Lyon Avenue, Water Street, Quarry Street, Cottage Hill, Adria and Maplewood Lane.

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded Councilmember Catron to proceed with the condemnation of homes as presented. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye.

RURAL WATER AUTHORITY BOARD

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded by Councilmember Fox to allow Manager Day to run for election on the Rural Water Authority Board. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Mayor Buchanan stated the Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 19, 2014 at Lincolnshire Park at 11:00 a.m.

BUDGET WORK SESSION

Councilmember Murray stated that the entrance signs should be tabled until next year.

Councilmember Mullins stated he did not want to take the signs out of the budget.

Councilmember Brown questioned the purchase of another garbage truck.

Councilmembers agreed on raising the following taxes:

Meals Tax – increase to 7%

Personal Property Tax – \$0.60 per \$100 assessed value

Cigarette Tax increase to \$0.10

Motel Tax new tax 5%

Councilmembers agreed not to raise real estate taxes.

Councilmembers agreed to raise the Water Rates to the following:

Water Flat Rate increase \$0.50 in town and out of town

2,000 gallons increase \$0.50

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before Council, meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.