

Council Work Session Minutes

February 14, 2017

The Tazewell Town Council met in a budget work session at 6:45 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers.

Present:

Absent:

Mayor A. D. Buchanan Jr

Vice-Mayor Terry Mullins

Councilmember Chris Brown

Councilmember Glenn Catron

Councilmember Jack Murray

Councilmember David Fox

Councilmember Jennifer Boyd

Staff present were: Town Manager, Todd Day; Clerk-Treasurer, LeeAnne Billings; Executive Assistant, Robin Brewster.

MANAGER'S DISCUSSION

Manager Day stated that we needed to set a date and time to hold a budget work session.

Manager Day discussed a letter that he has written to the council and Tazewell Today. In the letter it discussed:

- Any event needing an ABC license would have to go before the governing body to be approved.
- If an event is scheduled and it gets rained out, it is too complicated to try and reschedule it.
- Costs for these events are extremely high.
- If there is going to be an event held on Main Street there needs to be notification sent to the businesses on Main Street to let them know because the road may need to be closed.
- It had been asked if we could just shut down part of the road, we cannot do that. It could create more problems for larger vehicles to travel that way.

There is a public hearing tonight, and have all probably gotten a lot of calls about the readdressing. This has been going on for several years. We want to hear from the public and get feedback. Our ordinance we have is the same as the county ordinance for naming streets/addressing.

Council Meeting Minutes

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PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Buchanan called the public hearing to order at 7:00 p.m. The Town of Tazewell held a public hearing for possible cable franchise. He read the public hearing resolution. Town Attorney Pyott stated that there were no proposals received for the franchise opportunity. He has spoken with Lumos and they did not get anything to us however they are still interested. They would like to request to hold a public hearing at the March meeting. Mayor Buchanan asked if anyone wished to speak for or against this issue. At this time, no one spoke for or against this reading.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Buchanan called the public hearing to order at 7:15 p.m. The Town of Tazewell held a public hearing for proposed street name changes. He read the public hearing resolution and asked if anyone wished to speak for or against this issue.

Jesse Howington of 828 Ben Bolt Avenue stated that he did not care for the newly proposed name of Four Way Crossing. He stated that Ben Bolt really should be Martingale. He suggested making Ben Bolt East and West. He can understand changing the numbers but not the street names.

Doug Kitts of 901 Ben Bolt Avenue stated that he is retired military and it will be difficult for him to get his address changed.

Nelson Blankenship of 718 Fairview stated the town wants to change his street to Orchard Street and he doesn't see the need for it to change. He is also retired military and said it will be a hassle to change he address.

Tom Keene of 671 E Fincastle stated that their newly proposed street name is Wynn Vista. There are only three houses on the access road off of Fincastle. They would like to have a different proposed street name.

David Anderson, Commissioner of Revenue He would like more information. Is it due to 911? It was answered yes it is. He stated that all the courthouse addresses will have to change and wanted to know what the time line for this to take effect will be. He would like to work together

with the Town administration on further addressing issues. He also stated that all the court system addresses will have to change, here and all the way up to the state level.

Tim Rasnick of 601E Fincastle stated that they would like to have the street name of Eleventh Street.

Brian Phillips of 520 Dogwood Road (Dogwood Crossing) stated that their new address would be 520 Deer Run Lane. He stated that GPS does not recognize that address and it is very important for that to get fixed and wanted to know how it gets fixed. He also stated that he would have like to participate in renaming the street.

Mike Hymes of 203 W Fincastle & Tazewell County Board of Supervisors- stated that all the stationary will have to be changed for the county and that will be big expense to them. As for his personal address, the proposed name is Jefferson Street. He would like to keep West Fincastle for the historical reasons.

Larry Blankenship of 423 Lyons Avenue stated that when trying to use GPS to find his office at 887 E Fincastle it also does not work correctly. Also, one side of the street where his office is located is North Tazewell and the other side of the street is Tazewell.

Vice Mayor Mullins stated that Fincastle Turnpike was part of the historical area but East and West have to connect so that's why it was going to be changed.

Property Maintenance/ Zoning Administrator, Chris Hurley stated that he has spoken to the post office about Larry Blankenship's issue. He also stated that East and West were going to be done away with on Main Street, Fincastle, and Riverside. The name of the street has to be in place before the numbers can be changed.

Jesse Howington doesn't understand why so much expense should be spent since it is an EMS problem they should fix it.

Councilmember Fox asked Mike Hymes if we could work with 911 to keep the street names. He stated that he would see about 911 workers coming to a Planning Commission meeting.

Nelson Blankenship stated that he serves papers for TCSO and he feels that it is the 911 number system that causes the problems, not the street names.

Councilmember Murray stated that we can't have the same street names that are in the county.

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

Present:

Absent:

Mayor A. D. Buchanan Jr

Vice-Mayor Terry Mullins

Councilmember Chris Brown

Councilmember Glenn Catron

Councilmember Jack Murray

Councilmember David Fox

Councilmember Jennifer Boyd

Staff present were: Town Attorney, Brad Pyott; Town Manager, Todd Day; Executive Assistant, Robin Brewster; Police Chief, Dewitt Cooper; Fire Chief, Josh Roberts; Rescue Squad Administrator, Syndee Saleem; Clerk-Treasurer, LeeAnne Billings; Public Work Director, Donny Pruitt; Property Maintenance/ Zoning Administrator, Chris Hurley.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Buchanan called the meeting to order. He then opened with the pledge of allegiance. Invocation was given by Larry Blankenship.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Buchanan presented Susan Reeves with a plaque from the Town for their appreciation for her hard work and dedication on the 150th Anniversary Celebration. Susan thanked the committee for helping her and stated that they were fantastic to work with. She then thanked the Town and Council.

Viola Asbury & Irma Mitchell came before council regarding the Tazewell County Fair and Main Street Moments. Viola Asbury stated that she did not intend on having the same dates as Main Street Moments and she apologized. The fair will have Kevin Mack Band in concert Friday night and there will be no gate admission. There will also be a figure eight derby and carnival. They will be asking for money from the community to cover the gate charge. The only carnival they could get was at the same time Main Street Moments was.

Irma Mitchell stated that Main Street Moments always had a free concert on Friday evening so the fair to have a free concert will be great for our community. Viola stated that the carnival company will make a banner for both events if we want. Irma thanked the council for their help with Main Street Moments and Viola thanked them for their help with the fair. Irma did say there would be music throughout the day on Saturday.

Claudine Blankenship came before council to discuss Oktobrewfest 2017. She stated they would like to thank everyone for helping with last year's event and stated that they had a huge turnout and were very pleased. She also stated that with some of the money made from the event the Chamber donated to the VFW, A Child Shall Lead Them, and THS Puppy Pound. She would like to ask for approval to have the event again this year and also asked if they can use the town logo if it is approved. Councilmember Fox made a motion to approve Oktobrewfest pending proof of their ABC license. Councilmember Catron seconded the motion. On vote, Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, nay; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Boyd, aye.

Charlotte Whitted with Crab Orchard Museum came before council to give an update. They have a new brochure thanks to Tazewell County Tourism. It shows events that they host and also events that people can use their facility for. They have about 25,000 visitors a year. They are under construction working on a WWI memorial. They are expanding buildings, lighting, etc. They are having Crab Orchard Cuisine at Fincastle on the Mountain on March 4th. She thanked the council and thanked the town for their annual support to the museum.

Mike Hymes, Board of Supervisor, came before council to give an update. He stated that the tourism director as well as Larry Davidson handed out 22,000 brochures promoting Tazewell. Also, he stated that the landfill has not been sold out but it is under new management. They think the leache will be less over time and they are better at putting on their nightly cover. This group will bring additional trash from other places. PSA is working on their facility that will extend sewer toward Springville. There has been an EMS study done to show the runs made by private services. There is now a full time EMS Director. There have been problems at Rescue 945 and Bluefield Virginia Rescue. They have run a lot of calls but they do not have a lot of payers. It was voted on to combine the two squads. Mayor Buchanan stated that Town of Tazewell EMS runs several calls out of the corporate limit. Councilmember Fox asked if we could get help from the county for our rescue squad. Councilmember Brown asked if other localities run rescue squads into the county and Mr. Hymes stated yes they do. Councilmember Brown then asked if there was any way to help level off expenses for county calls. Mr. Hymes suggested that the town submit a letter to the Board of Supervisors requesting funding to help offset the expense. He also thanked the council for the resolution supporting him to be on the Virginia Coalfield Economic Development Authority.

Chief Cooper stated that on January 24th there was a police chase with speeds up to 90 mph. The car ended up wrecking and Officer Woodard got into a struggle with the suspect. There were several officers trying to get the suspect to cooperate and they would not do so. Citizens Jodi Adkins and Dennis Adkins helped the officers. That night there were two officers that got hurt. The Adkins' were presented with an award of appreciation for their assistance. Mr. Adkins stated that he was glad they could help and said the police are there to help us and they are there to help them whenever they can.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Alfred Wicks with the Fallen Warriors Project came before council and stated that they had the memorial wall on a float and had been taking it around to different areas and setting it up. They would like to raise money to have a permanent wall. 150 names on the wall are from this area. Nelson Blankenship stated that they have taken it to schools so they can let the students see it. They stated they are a nonprofit organization and would appreciate any help they can get. Manager Day stated if they can get him some plans and quotes and we will discuss it further.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Councilmember Fox, and seconded by Councilmember Murray to approve the work session and council minutes of January 10th and January 30th. On vote, Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Boyd, aye.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Motion was made by Councilmember Boyd and seconded by Councilmember Murray, to approve the financial statements for January 2017. On vote, Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Boyd, aye.

TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE ON ONGOING PROJECTS

Manager Day stated he did not have any updates at this time.

PLANNING COMMISSION COMMITTEE

Councilmember Murray stated at the meeting they discussed zoning and addressing.

TRAIN DEPOT COMMITTEE

Vice-Mayor Mullins stated that they have not had a meeting and they are still waiting for it to go to ad.

BACK OF THE DRAGON

Councilmember Catron stated that the committee had a meeting last Friday and there had been a lot of brochures about the Back of the Dragon given out.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Councilmember Boyd stated they are in the middle of the session. They have two weeks left. No new laws to report yet. Mayor Buchanan and Manager Day went to Legislative Days and had several meetings while they were there.

EMS UPDATE

There will be an EMS update at the next meeting.

POSTED SPEED LIMIT STUDY

AMT conducted a speed study. Some of the speed recommendations are as follows:

Steeles Lane 25mph

Dogwood Road 35mph

East Riverside Drive stay 35mph

Tazewell Avenue stay 25

Fairground Road 40mph and 30mph

Crab Orchard 45mph

Councilmember Brown asked Chief Cooper what his thought were on raising the speed limits. It was stated that the 15mph on Steeles Lane was never voted on and needed to be changed.

Councilmember Brown and Catron would like Chief Cooper to give them input on this. Manager Day stated that the engineering firm has to support the speed changes. Councilmember Murray asked how much we paid for the speed study. It was answered \$9,000.00. There was lots of concern from the council about Dogwood Road.

MISCELLANEOUS

Attorney Pyott stated that he would like to request the council hold another public hearing for the telecommunication franchise at the March meeting. Councilmember Catron made a motion to hold a public hearing regarding telecommunication franchise on March 14th at 7:15pm. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Murray. On vote, Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Boyd, aye.

FILL VACANCY ON PLANNING COMMISSION & BZA

Mayor Buchanan stated they needed to have any submissions in before the budget work session.

BOZA ORDINANCE UPDATE-2ND READING

Attorney Pyott read the BZA ordinance for the second time. Motion to adopt the ordinance was made by Councilmember Murray. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Fox. On a roll call vote to adopt the ordinance, Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Boyd, aye.

JULY 4TH FIREWORKS

To hold the firework show on July 4th Zambelli Fireworks quoted \$20,000.00. We also received a quote from American Fireworks, it was \$7,500.00 to hold it on July 4th. Motion was made by Councilmember Catron to accept the quote from American Fireworks. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Brown. On vote, Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Boyd, aye.

SCHEDULE BUDGET WORK SESSION

There will be a budget work session on March 2nd at 8:00am.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Catron made a motion to recess the meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Murray. On vote, Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Boyd, aye.

Mayor Buchanan recessed the meeting at 8:58 pm.