Minutes 1204 Town of Blacksburg

Regular Town Council Meeting September 11, 2018

Prior to the meeting newly elected Mayor Mike Patterson, newly elected Councilwoman Christy Gibson and returning Councilman Dennis Stroupe were sworn into their positions.

Present at the meeting were Councilman Darren Janesky, Councilman Dennis Stroupe, Councilwoman Christy Gibson and Councilman S. L. Ford with Mayor Mike Patterson presiding.

The media was represented by Mr. Scott Powell with the Gaffney Ledger.

The invocation was given by Broad River Baptist Church Pastor Dennis Willoughby.

Councilman Stroupe made the motion to approve minutes 1203 as written and distributed. Councilman Ford made the second. All were in favor.

Councilman Stroupe made the motion to pay the bills with the exception of Patterson’s Wrecker. Councilman Ford seconded the motion. All were in favor. Councilman Janesky made the motion to pay Patterson’s Wrecker and Councilwoman Gibson seconded the motion. All were in favor with Mayor Patterson recusing himself.

Mayor Patterson made the motion to have Councilman S. L. Ford serve as Mayor Pro Tem. Councilwoman Gibson made the second. Councilman Stroupe then made a motion to have Councilman Janesky serve as Mayor Pro Tem due to his tenure on Council. After a few remarks both ways, Councilman Ford seconded the motion for Councilman Janesky to be Mayor Pro Tem. All were in favor.

Mayor Patterson made the motion to appoint Ms. Janie Wilson to the at-large Planning and Zoning Commission seat. The seat has been vacant since Mr. Frank Thayer resigned. This is the position the Mayor fills when needed. Councilman Stroupe seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Clerk Foster brought before Council an ordinance request by the Municipal Association (MASC) for the Set off Debt program. The ordinance has updated verbiage that needed to be added. This will be the first reading. Councilman Stroupe made the motion to approve the request and Councilman Janesky made the second. All were in favor. Clerk Foster also asked Council to approve a Resolution for the Set off Debt program. This is needed yearly as a participant. Councilman Stroupe made the motion to approve the Resolution and Councilman Ford seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Administrator Carter informed Council that we have received the ARC Grant for $500,000.00 for the Lime Street Park and Trail Head. Along with other monies already secured, this brings the total thus far to $773,000.00.

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Administrator Carter brought before Council a request for a Resolution and permission to apply for a MASC Hometown Economic Development grant for $25,000.00 for the Lime Street Park and Trail Head Councilman Stroupe made the motion. Councilman Janesky made the second. All were in favor.

In addition, Administrator Carter asked Council to approve a Resolution and permission to apply for a Hughes Investments Vibrancy Initiative through a Ten at the Top Elevate Upstate Grant. Ten at the Top is an organization that has been put together to train officials, both elected and other government employees, to help build better communities in the upstate which includes the ten upstate counties. Councilman Stroupe made the motion and Councilwoman Gibson made the second. All were in favor.

Administrator Carter asked Council about the Christmas parade date and time. The date is usually the second Tuesday of December. They agree to keep that date as usual, however Ms. Carter asked if the time could be changed to accommodate the activities that have started to take place immediately following the parade. There will be hot chocolate, cider and crafts for the kids at the Museum. Santa will also be at the community house. The Fire department will be having BBQ and a craft show from 10am-5pm. They discussed what everyone thought would be a good time to have the parade and decided to have the parade at 3:00 pm. Mayor Patterson made the recommendation to have former Mayor David Hogue and his family as the Grand Marshall. Councilman Stroupe made the second. All were in favor.

Administrator Carter brought a request before Council to remove trees in the downtown area due to their size and that they block visibility of some store fronts. She mentioned that it would be done in phases taking the trees that are the most troublesome first. The Town employees will be the ones to do the work, if at all possible. Councilman Janesky made the motion to begin the removal. Councilman Stroupe made the second. All were in favor.

Administrator Carter told Council of concerns with the Community House. It needs to have some maintenance to the structure due to moisture in the basement and ductwork issues that are causing problems with the A/C unit causing the need for replacement. She mentioned having a conversation with Councilman Janesky about the basement and foundation of the building. He said he would help with some of the work. She also gave Council an estimate for replacing the A/C unit with Mitsubishi 24,000 BTU units that hang from the ceiling. The total estimate for two units plus installation was $9,875.00. Councilman Stroupe thought that too be high and asked her to get more estimates. This was received as information until more estimates can be gathered.

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The next item was departmental updates. Chief Ham stated that the new K-9 units were here and were on the job now. He also stated that everything was going well at this time. Public Works Assistant Director Clayton Keller told Council how much they appreciated the new backhoe. It was working great and that everything else was on schedule at the shop. Fire Chief Donovan Ford addressed Council about the current state of Hurricane Florence which was about to come ashore and the preparations that were being made. He also stated that they were currently working on updating the fire codes to accommodate a new ordinance that is needed to bring up the current codes to standard.

Administrator Carter told Council that the Welcome Center upgrade grant is out for bids through October 9th and our health insurance agent Mr. Rick Woodard was on site on August 28th to see any employee with questions about the insurance they may have.

The next item is executive session. Councilman Janesky made the motion go into executive session to discuss land contracts and personnel operations. Councilman Ford seconded the motion. Councilman Ford made the motion to return into regular session and Councilman Stroupe made the second. All were in favor. Mayor Patterson stated that everything was received as information. No action was taken.

Upon return Clerk Foster informed Council that there was an open motion on the table about the Mayor Pro Tem. The motion from Mayor Patterson needs to be rescinded as the second motion was accepted and voted upon. Mayor Patterson then stated that he rescinded the motion to fulfill the requirement.

Clerk Foster asked Council to approve sewer adjustments in the amount of $375.16. Councilman Stroupe made the motion and Councilman Ford seconded the motion. All were in favor.

There being no further business, Councilman Ford made the motion for adjournment and Councilman Stroupe made the second. All were in favor.

The time of adjournment was 9:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura B. Foster

Town Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mayor, Town of Blacksburg, SC