Minutes 1175 Town of Blacksburg

Regular Town Council Meeting September 13, 2016

Prior to the Council Meeting there was a swearing in ceremony for incumbent Councilman Darren Janesky and our newest Councilman Sherwin L. Ford. It was attended by many family, friends and constituents.

Present at the meeting were Mayor David Hogue, presiding, Councilman Mike Patterson, Councilman Darren Janesky and Councilman Sherwin Ford.

Media was represented by Mr. Scott Powell of the Gaffney Ledger.

Mayor Hogue asked Councilman Ford to give the invocation.

Councilman Patterson made the motion to approve Minutes 1173 as written and distributed. Councilman Ford seconded the motion. All were in favor. Councilman Patterson also made the motion to approve Minutes 1174 as written and distributed with Councilman Janesky making the second. All were in favor.

Councilman Patterson made the motion to approve the bills as written and distributed. Councilman Janesky made the second. All were in favor.

Ms. Hermenia T. Gardner with Know 2-Living Tobacco Free Coalition introduces several people with her and let one of them give a short presentation about living tobacco free. The presentation gave statistics about the cases of cancer deaths and the effects of tobacco use. Ms. Gardner asked Council to consider going smoke free in all public buildings in Blacksburg. Mayor Hogue suggested a committee be formed to study the possibility of the request. Councilman Janesky volunteered for the committee. Mayor suggested Town Administrator Carter as well as Attorney Flynn and asked Ms. Gardner and Ms. Cope.

Mayor Hogue made the recommendation and Councilman Patterson made the second. All were in favor.

Administrator Carter asked Council on behalf of Lucy Davidson to have an ALS Benefit run for Shon Dawkins on October 1st from 7 am until approximately 9 am. Councilman Patterson made the motion. Councilman Ford made the second. All were in favor.

Administrator Carter brought a concern about individual pump stations on private property. The Town now currently maintains the stations. One concern is the liability of being on private property. The second concern is cost of maintaining the stations when the situation is due to owner negligence. Administrator Carter would like to see a charge added to the bills of the customers or turning the stations over to the owner for maintenance. It was discussed about the need of the pump stations in the first place. The Town wide sewer project required everyone to hook onto the sewer system and some places were below the natural flow of gravity requiring assistance to be pumped into the system. Mayor Hogue asked Administrator Carter and Town Attorney Flynn to see what was in the original paperwork from the sewer project stated. This item was tabled until more information is obtained.

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Administrator Carter asked Council to consider a rate increase for water and sewer customers.

With all the water we are using to flush lines, our water bill will increase as well as all the testing required by DHEC. Councilman Janesky reminded Administrator Carter of the water loss already reported from our audit received this year. He recommended we do more to find the loss or offer incentives to get more customers. After much discussion, the item was tabled until more information is received about ways of saving water.

Administrator Carter brought before Council an ordinance to go into an agreement with Cherokee County to begin taking the property taxes for Blacksburg. Councilman Patterson made the motion to enter into the agreement. Councilman Ford made the second. All were in favor.

Councilman Ford made the motion to go into executive session. Councilman Patterson made the second. All were in favor. Councilman Ford made the motion to return to regular session and Councilman Patterson made the second. All were in favor. No action was taken.

Mayor Hogue recommended Councilman Patterson be elected Mayor Pro-Tem. Councilman Ford seconded and Councilman Janesky voted in favor. Councilman Patterson recused himself.

Clerk Foster asked Council to approve 13 sewer adjustments in the amount of $1276.34. Councilman Patterson made the motion with Councilman Ford seconding the motion. All were in favor.

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

The time of adjournment was 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura B. Foster

Town Clerk

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

Mayor, Town of Blacksburg, SC