Minutes 1190 Town of Blacksburg

Regular Town Council Meeting October 10, 2017

Present at the meeting were Councilman Darren Janesky, Councilman S.L. Ford, Councilman Mike Patterson, Councilman Dennis Stroupe with Mayor David Hogue presiding.

The media was represented by Mr. Scott Powell who entered the meeting late.

Mr. Cecil Bell gave the invocation.

Councilman Stroupe made the motion to approve the minutes from the prior meeting as written and distributed. Councilman Patterson made the second. All were in favor to approve minutes 1189.

Councilman Patterson made the motion to approve the bills as presented and distributed. Councilman S. L. Ford made the second. All were in favor.

Clerk Foster asked Council to approve sewer adjustments in the amount of $2752.53. Councilman Patterson made the motion and Councilman Stroupe made the second. All were in favor.

Administrator Carter introduced the representative’s from Destination by Design who in turn gave their beginning designs of current projects.

Mr. Alex Gotherman presented designs for the downtown renovations and possibilities of new town branding. He showed the designs proposed for the changes to the downtown area which includes moving some curbing over using the current parking as additional sidewalk space. He also showed the rounding of corners to be more appealing. Additional parking could be possibilities around unused parcels behind current buildings. He also mentioned the addition of an amphitheater and new benches placed in shaded areas for enjoyment. He then showed several different designs of branding including some iron work and a train with a B in the middle of the engine and has the established date.

Ms. Claudia Rainey presented designs for the new proposed park on Lime Street and making existing Porter Field regulation size. Ms. Rainey told Council that the new park could include a walking trail, Frisbee golf and the addition of a baseball/softball field and on the Pine Street side a proposed little league football field/soccer field. With the inclusion of the possibility of purchasing the adjoining two lots to make the park connect with Cherokee Street, the addition of adding a third ballfield and the entire project will include ample parking. With the upgrade of Porter Field to regulation size they have included a splash pad and family picnic area. Administrator Carter thanked them for the presentation and then asked Heather Swayngim to come speak about the Know 2 event coming up shortly to help promote Blacksburg. Administrator Carter presented first phase plans for downtown revitalization and Lime Street Park. Councilman Stroupe discussed that he felt blindsided by the plans presented. Council made no motion and all was received as information. Public comments was listed on the agenda and not allowed. No further action was taken.

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Mayor Hogue asked when the Christmas Parade would be held and it was stated that it would be December 9th and 2:00 pm. He then mentioned he thought it a good idea to ask Congressman Ralph Norman to be the Grand Marshall of the parade. He asked Council if they were in agreement to the request and they were.

Councilman Stroupe then had questions about departmental updates and discussion. He started with Administration asking about the upcoming budget and Christmas plans and decorations. Administrator Carter has set a list of upcoming budget meeting with department heads and Council. She mentioned that the trees were of concern and that to have the lights put on the trees there would need to be a substantial rewiring of the downtown area. She does have money in the budget for a few new decorations. He asked several questions that were answered in turn. He then asked Clerk Foster about the progress of updating the zoning map. Clerk Foster responded that she had plans to get with a zoning board member to start the progress as soon as time became available. He then asked if there was a schedule of meetings for the committee. Her response was that there was a meeting scheduled for Thursday, October 26th and there would be a schedule set at that meeting. He then asked Chief Ham about his budget and if they were was money to purchase a police car. Chief Ham then told Councilman Stroupe that his budget was at almost 50% which was on target for the year. Mayor Hogue then made the motion to buy the police car out of savings. He made the motion and Councilman Patterson made the second. All were in favor. Mayor Hogue also told Chief Ham to post the two positions that need to be filled which are a police officer and a crossing guard. No questions were asked of Michael Smiley, Public Works Director

There being no further business, Councilman Patterson made the motion to adjourn and Councilman Stroupe made the second. All were in favor.

The time of adjournment was 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura B. Foster

Town Clerk

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

Mayor, Town of Blacksburg, SC