Minutes 1199 Town of Blacksburg

Regular Town Council Meeting April 10, 2018

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

Scott Powell of the Gaffney Ledger entered the meeting late.

Councilman Ford gave the invocation.

Councilman Ford made the motion to approve Minutes 1197 as written and distributed. Councilman Patterson made the second. All were in favor. Councilman Stroupe made the motion to approve Minutes 1198 as written and distributed. Councilman Janesky seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Councilman Stroupe made the motion to approve the bills as presented and distributed with the exception of Patterson’s Wrecker. Councilman Patterson made the second. All were in favor. Councilman Janesky made the motion to approve Patterson’s Wrecker bill with Councilman Ford making the second. All were in favor with Councilman Patterson recusing.

Mayor Hogue introduced a proclamation for the upcoming election. The Mayor, District 1 and District 2 will be seats running this year. The filing will open June 1st at noon and run until June 15th at noon. Councilman Patterson made the motion to approve the proclamation and Councilman Stroupe seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Administrator Carter asked Council to approve the second reading of the Ordinance 3.27.2018 for the purchase of the property directly across the road from Town Hall. The property is currently owned by First Baptist Church. Councilman Stroupe made the motion to approve the second reading and Councilman Patterson seconded the motion. All were in favor with Mayor Hogue recusing due to being on the board of First Baptist.

Administrator Carter brought before Council a request for new light poles beside the museum. There isn’t enough light at the side of the building. After talking with Duke Energy, she learned that the poles that she initial wanted, that had electrical outlets, would be 5’ taller than the present lights and would be twice the monthly bill at $70.00 as opposed to $35.00. After some discussion, Mayor Hogue made the recommendation to have two poles similar to the poles we already have be installed. Councilman Patterson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Administrator Carter asked Council about the columns at Mountain View Cemetery. One of them has recently been hit by someone and is coming apart. Mayor Hogue said he had seen the damage and thought the columns are actually too narrow in the first place. He suggested the inside column and walls be removed and the plaque be placed somewhere new maybe in the ground at the entrance. He made that in the form of a motion to which Councilman Ford seconded. All were in favor.

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Mayor Hogue brought concerns about the cemetery clean off recently done at Mountain View Cemetery. He said he had received complaints about flowers being removed that were newly placed. He himself had had some flowers removed that were not seasonal that was the intent of the clean off. Administrator Carter stated that she along with a few other employee’s had done the clean off and didn’t think any new arrangements had been removed. She apologized for any wrong that possibly happened and sincerely apologized for any feelings that may have hurt. “It was not my intent to do harm to anyone in any way, we were just trying to clean up for the upcoming Easter holiday.”

Mayor Hogue stated that the clean off should be more conditional and not seasonal. Colors are a persons’ prerogative, they don’t always put flowers according to season. This was received as information. No vote was taken.

Administrator Carter then asked Council to decide on a new contract for the mowing at the cemeteries. There were two bids: Mulch & Mow, who currently has the contract, and Mulberry Mowing and Landscaping. They discussed slightly and asked if there were any complaints about the job being done by Mulch & Mow. There have not been any complaints in quite some time. Councilman Patterson made a motion to continue with Mulch & Mow. Councilman Stroupe made second. All were in favor

Chief Jamie Ham asked Council for permission to enter into a mutual aid agreement ,”The Law Enforcement Assistance & Support Agreement” with multi-departments with the upcoming multi-jurisdictional interstate interdiction on I-85. Mayor Hogue made the motion to allow him to enter into the agreement and Councilman Patterson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Chief Jamie Ham then asked if the Council would still allow an employee to retire and be rehired according to the requirements set by the Retirement System of a 30 day break in service. We have a police officer that is retirement eligible but didn’t want to start the process unless he could return to work. He isn’t old enough for social security so he must keep working for insurance. Mayor Hogue made the recommendation to continue with the rehiring of retiree’s. Councilman Patterson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Chief Ham asked Council for permission to proceed with advertising for a Crossing Guard and Police Officer. The newest Crossing Guard took a fulltime position with the School District. The Police Officer was added with the new budget. Council agreed to the requested with no vote taken.

Chief Ham asked about his work truck, which has a blown motor and what needed to be done. It has sat at Brian White’s Auto Repair for months and it either needs to be repaired or sold. He stated that Brian said he could put a new motor in for $4050.00 with a three year warranty. After some discussion, Councilman Janesky made the motion and Councilman Stroupe made the second. Councilman Patterson halted the vote and said we needed to have everything else on the truck checked before putting the new motor in because it didn’t make sense to do that then something else happen. Brian needed to make a thorough check to see if there were any other potential problems. If just engine issue, proceed with replacement of warranty engine. It was agreed upon and then the Mayor asked if all were in favor. It was agreed.

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Clerk Foster asked Council to approved $562.11 in sewer adjustments. Councilman Janesky made the motion and Council Ford made the second. All were in favor.

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

The time of adjournment was 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura B. Foster

Town Clerk

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

 Mayor, Town of Blacksburg, SC