Minutes 1172 Town of Blacksburg

Regular Town Council Meeting July 7, 2016

Present at the meeting were Councilman Darren Janesky, Councilman Dennis Stroupe, Councilman Mike Patterson, Councilwoman Janie Wilson and Mayor David Hogue presiding.

Media was represented by Scott Powell with the Gaffney Ledger.

Mayor Hogue gave the invocation.

Councilman Stroupe made the motion to approve Minutes 1171 as printed and distributed. Councilwoman Wilson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Councilman Mike Patterson made the motion to pay the bills as printed and distributed. Councilman Stroupe made the second. All were in favor.

Mr. Terry Fant, the Town Accountant, gave the Council an overview of the financial condition of the Town. He said everything looked good but due to changes with the state retirement program, the detriment is only on paper. There were some unexpected repairs that came up, as well as unexpected revenues to the cemetery. As has been, in the past several years, the water department has a large amount of unaccounted water loss. He suggested maybe trying to get someone to do a leak detection study as we have in the past. Overall the Town is in good shape. Councilman Patterson made the motion to accept the audit as represented. Councilwoman Wilson made the second. All were in favor.

Administrator Carter requested that Council add a couple new regulations to the new cemetery ordinance. In addition to the existing regulations, Carter asked for there to be no trees, shrubs or flowers planted on the grounds unless given permission by the Town. Also, that there needed to be a set time for an annual clean off. The suggested months are March and October. All items looking dull or weathered will be removed leaving everything looking new. Councilman Patterson made the motion to approve this request. Councilwoman Wilson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Administrator Carter and Chief Ham needed to get more clarification about the noise ordinance that was just amended. In addition to the Council issuing a noise permit is to also allow the Administrator and the Police Chief to have the authority to issue the permits and limiting them to only four per year for the location and/or resident making the request. Violations of the permit will be determined by the Supervisory Police on duty as to unlawfulness of noise. Councilman Patterson made the motion and Councilwoman Wilson made the second. All were in favor.

Mayor Hogue asked for agenda item number 8 to be moved ahead of number 9. With no objection from the press, Mr. S.L. Ford was asked to go ahead and address Council. Mr. Ford told Council that the people in his neighborhood were worried about the risk of unhealthy signals being transmitted from the new proposed cell tower. The proposed tower is near several residents and they have heard the radio waves were a possible link to cancer. The Verizon Wireless attorney was on hand to speak on behalf of Verizon and the new ordinance that will be talked about in the next agenda item. He said the signals are not detrimental to health. Administrator Carter had also given Mr. Ford information sent from Verizon about the risk to health. He was very appreciative of the information and thanked Council for listening.

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Administrator Carter brought the 2nd reading of the Cell Town Ordinance before Council. The Zoning Board had a meeting and made the changes they thought best for the Town. They made the biggest changes to the landscaping and fencing. After discussion with the Verizon representatives, an agreement was reached and the Council voted to accept the recommendation of the Zoning Board with the changes as suggested. Councilman Patterson made the motion and Councilman Stroupe seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Clerk Foster asked Council to approve six sewer adjustments for leaks and pools in the amount of $301.84. Councilman Patterson made the motion with Councilman Stroupe making the second.

All were in favor.

Administrator Carter mentioned the next scheduled Council meeting was in conflict with our Municipal Election and would need to be changed. The Council agreed to move the meeting to Thursday, August 4th.

There being on further business, Councilman Patterson made the motion for adjournment. Councilman Stroupe made the second. All were in favor.

The time of adjournment was 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura B. Foster

Town Clerk

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

 Mayor, Town of Blacksburg, SC