Minutes 1178 Town of Blacksburg

Regular Town Council Meeting November 7, 2016

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

The invocation was giving by Mr. Cecil Bell.

Councilman Stroupe made the motion to approve Minutes 1177 as written and distributed. Councilman Patterson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

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

Clerk Foster along with Administrator Carter, Ms. Nina Cobb and Mr. Wendell Earls from the Zoning Board made a recommendation to approve the application from Verizon Wireless to construct a cell tower in the Town limits at the corner of Highway 29 and North Mountain Street. Ms. Laura Goode, Attorney for Verizon, was also in attendance to answer any questions from Council. Clerk Foster stated that the Zoning Board had met and that all questions about the application had been answered to the satisfaction of the Board. Council did ask questions to Ms. Goode which she answered to their satisfaction. Information exchanged between the Town and Verizon including the facts of finding are included with the minutes.

Administrator Carter advised Council of a situation that has arisen with the Victim Assistance funds. Due to new legislation, we must keep money to a minimum balance in the account. It can be no more than a year’s worth of deposits. We have assets well over the minimum. After Administrator Carter and Clerk Foster completed research on the legal ways to disburse the monies, together they requested the excess money be donated to Safe Home - Rape Crisis Coalition located in Spartanburg. They cover Spartanburg and Cherokee Counties. They have sent information concerning the victims they have served in Cherokee County. Councilman Stroupe discussed concerns of giving the money without looking at other alternatives first. Police Chief Ham explained the legislation changed mid-budget and we had no other alternative within the time frame. Administrator Carter added we only had a few more days to respond to the changes. The State Victim’s Association gave us an extension and we needed to give Council time to approve the donation. After much deliberation, Mayor Hogue made the motion to release the money as requested. Councilman Patterson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Administrator Carter gave Council an update on the water system. DHEC regulations have been met and we are in compliance at this time. We are currently waiting on the last testing results. Individual pump stations continue to be a problem with after hour’s calls. We have again sent letters concerning this situation to customer’s with pump stations. We have begun charging repetitive offenders. The work orders have the information of what was the cause of the problem and all fees applied. Efforts are ongoing to locate and repair any leaks found. Mayor Hogue mentioned the $5 increase applied to water bills should have been stated as temporary. At some point, the intention is to remove the increase. Everything was received as information. No action we taken.

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Councilman Patterson made a motion to go into executive session to discuss property and personnel. Councilman Ford made the second. All were in favor. Upon returning, Councilman Patterson made the motion to return to regular session and Councilman Stroupe seconded the motion. All were in favor.

They received information, no action was taken.

Clerk Foster asked Council to approve sewer adjustments in the amount of $657.23. Councilman Patterson made the motion and Councilman Ford made the second. All were in favor.

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

The time of adjournment was 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura B. Foster

Town Clerk

Aproved:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mayor, Town of Blacksburg, SC