Minutes 1136 Town of Blacksburg

Regular Town Council Meeting May 13, 2014

Present at the meeting were Mayor David Hogue, Councilman Mike Patterson, Councilwoman Janie Wilson, Councilman Joe Ross and Councilman Darren Janesky.

Media was represented by Joe Hughes of the Gaffney Ledger.

Mayor Hogue gave the invocation.

Councilman Ross made the motion to approve Minutes 1135 as written and distributed. Councilman Patterson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Councilman Wilson made the motion to pay the bills as distributed with Councilman Patterson making the second. All were if favor.

Mr. Dennis Stroup asked Council to wave the Freedom of Information Act fees that have been adopted by Council, for information he has requested. Mayor Hogue said the fees were there for a purpose and that the fees were based on South Carolina law. Mayor Hogue said if he did not want to pay the fees he could come to Town Hall and look at any information he wanted but if it took employee assistance for any length of time he would have to pay the fees. Mr. Stroup said he was satisfied with that answer. No vote was taken.

Mayor Hogue made a recommendation for the gazebo to be moved to the Church Street Park as soon as possible in preparation for the museum project. He further recommended that our employees move the gazebo and make any repairs needed that they may encounter during the move. Councilman Ross made the motion and Councilman Patterson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Administrator Martin gave the Council an update on a grant application for sidewalk replacement or new sidewalk installation. She gave them a list of sidewalks for review and told them we would need to make the final decision before the deadline in July. No action was taken at this time.

Mr. Barry Agnew with Adeptus Architecture gave Council an update on the progression of the museum. Mr. Agnew said the construction documents were done and they were going to send out bid packets on May 15, 2014 and would be having a pre-bid construction conference on May 22, 2014 at 10:30 a.m. Bids will be received by June 12, 2014 at 1:00 pm. Mr. Agnew asked for Council to approve them going into the bid phase of the project. Councilman Patterson made the motion to allow the bid phase to proceed and Councilwoman Wilson made the second. All were in favor.

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Mr. Lawrence Flynn with Pope Zeigler, LLC gave the Council information about General Obligation Bonds which would be needed for the funding of the museum for the amount not already covered in the budget. He told them the need for the bonds, the way of repaying the bonds and the low cost of using this form of borrowing. Mr. Flynn asked Council to adopt the first reading of an ordinance authorizing the General Obligation Bonds with the second reading at the next scheduled council meeting. Councilman Ross made the motion for the first reading and Councilman Patterson made the second. All were in favor.

Mr. Lawrence Flynn also brought information before Council about approving a resolution for Tax Policies and Procedures which were needed to fulfil requirements needed for the General Obligation Bonds to be accepted by potential banks or other institutions for borrowing. This will give them the information they need to assure them of the ability for the Town to repay the bonds. Councilman Patterson made the motion to approve the resolution with Councilwoman making the second. All were in favor.

Mr. Lawrence Flynn then brought the Council a request for a resolution declaring the intention of the Town of Blacksburg to reimburse itself for certain expenditures with the proceeds of debt to be incurred related to the museum. Councilman Patterson made the motion to approve the resolution. Councilman Janesky seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Councilman Janesky asked Council to see if anything could be done about the Town’s property nuisance ordinance. He said he has received numerous complaints about grown up lots and by the time the procedures pertaining to the current ordinance have been enforced it has been another month the citizen has to put up with the grown up lot. He stated there should be some way to shorten the process and hold the owners or renters accountable. Mayor Hogue stated the ordinance was based on state law and that he agreed there was a flaw with the amount of time it takes to hold owners accountable but we could violate the rights of citizens with not following the proper procedures. Councilman Janesky said we should look at some other options to make this process shorter but understands we have to abide by the law. No formal action was taken.

Mayor asked for a motion to into executive session to discuss police personnel requested by Chief Ham. Councilman Ross made the motion with Councilman Patterson making the second. All were in favor.

Upon return from executive session, Councilman Ross made the motion to return to regular session. Councilman Patterson made the second. All were in favor

Mayor Hogue stated that no action will be taken at this time with the personnel matter and that they would be seeking legal advice pertaining to the matter.

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Clerk Foster requested that two sewer adjustments be approved that are within the Town’s policy.

1. 108637 Richard Jones $54.67
2. 103407 Nancy Tucker $158.94

Councilman Patterson made the motion with Councilwoman Wilson making the second. All were in favor.

There being no further business, Councilman Patterson made the motion for adjournment. Councilman

Ross made the second. All were in favor.

Time of adjournment was 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura B. Foster

Town Clerk

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

 Mayor, Town of Blacksburg, SC