Town of Hot Springs Board of Alderman Meeting October 2, 2023

Present:

Mayor Abigail Norton Alderman Vaughn Barnett Alderman Jeanne Gentry Alderman Jimmy Moore

EMS – Dan Myers
Entertainment Committee – Wendy Stancil
HSCC – Kristen Robinson
Maintenance – Jeremy Trantham
Police Chief – David Shelton
Tax Department – Laura Holloway

Mayor Norton called the Town meeting to order at 6:02pm

Mayor Norton read the public charge.

Mayor Norton asked for a motion to approve the September 5, 2023, Board meeting minutes. Alderman Barnett made a motion to approve; Alderman Gentry seconded the motion; all were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment

Entertainment Committee – Sara Jo Litwak

There will be a Halloween Foot Parade on Saturday, October 28th, for the children. Flyers were sent out with September water bills. The Foot Parade is not in place of trick-or-treating; this allows the kids to dress up, in costume, and walk through the town. The town residents are not expected to hand out treats during the parade.

The Christmas tree lighting will be on Saturday, December 9th, from 6:00pm until 9:00pm. The Committee is also planning a night parade on Monday, December 11th, 6:30pm. The preferred day for the parade would be Saturday evening. Last year during the tree lighting they realized traffic had lightened up by the time the pre tree lighting events began. Mayor Norton will have Police Chief Shelton call Ms. Litwak to discuss the parade.

There are plans for Light the Night event. From now until November 20, people will be able to sign up, on the Hot Springs Entertainment Committee facebook page; there will be sign-up sheets available for the local business to participate in the event. Maps will be available on December 4th. Votes will be collected at Town Hall, from December 4th through December 18th. The Entertainment Committee will tally votes and determine the winners.

Agenda

Sons of Confederate Veterans

Trying to preserve the history of the Robert E. Lee Highway. The Organization would like to see the stolen plaque replaced; they are offering to provide 50% of the cost to replace the plaque.

Attorney Ron Moore advised the Town to find out who owns the property where the monument is before we go further on the plaque replacement.

Ms. Stancil asked if the Board had voted on the wording for the replacement plaque. Alderman Gentry advised that nothing had, yet, been voted on.

DEPARTMENETS

Maintenance – Jeremy Trantham

The State will begin getting ready for the trailer they are placing on Jackson Avenue and 25/70.

There will be a water inspection the week of October 9th.

The pavement guys will be by the week of October 9th. They will do measuring and give us a price. This will be for patching needs throughout the town.

EMS/Fire Department – Dan Myers

Rescue 3 needs a new bed. The current bed is deteriorating. They would like to ask the Maintenance Team to bring the lift and remove the water tank. Rescue 3 is currently used for car accidents and downed trees. 80% of their calls are for medical needs.

The SUV, truck 3, had been used as a first responder but it's currently not working. They would like to have the truck fixed or buy a new vehicle. Alderman Gentry advised there is no money in the budget for a new/used vehicle. She suggested Fire Chief Norton apply for a grant or a loan. Either way she also suggests getting the current vehicle to a mechanic for some diagnostics. Mr. Myers said he'd get with Chief Norton.

Tax Department – Laura Holloway

County scroll was received on September 29th. Ms. Holloway is in hopes the Town Tax Billing will be out within the next couple of weeks.

BUSINESS

Mayor Norton

There will be a Candidate Forum, at the Community Center on October 24, at 6:00pm. Norris Gentry will be the moderator. A couple of ladies with a League of Women Voters will assist with the evening. Although the Madison County League of Women Voters disbanded in 2022, the Candidate Forum will follow the League's guidelines. Johnny

Casey, with the News-Record & Sentinel, will put information regarding the forum in the newspaper.

The County received \$18-milliion dollar in State appropriations for infrastructure. The Fairview Community will receive \$2.9 million of the County's \$18 million for a water system. After the initial hook-up to the water system, the community's property owners will be responsible for any needed repair from the meter to their homes/houses. Mayor Norton will draw up a resolution.

Since there is no other business to discuss, Alderman Moore made a motion to adjourn, Alderman Gentry seconded the motion; all were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:36pm.

Approved — Date

Approved — Date

Mayor Abigail Norton

Other