

Town of Talking Rock

November Council Meeting Minutes

November 7, 2019

Those present were Charles Opdenhoff, Eve Sauer, David Chance Walters, Nancy Loy, Lynda Cagle, Jan O' Kelley, Stan O'Kelley, Brad Shallid, April Mullis, Steve Lewis, Audrey Kirsten, Atty. Sherri H. Stoney, Ralph Dennis, Mari Livsey.

Council members present were Mayor Randy Banks, Cheryl Sams, Andrea Watson, Melissia Weaver and Attorney Jeff Rusbridge, Town counsel. James Bryant was absent.

Mayor Randy Banks called the meeting to order at 6:58 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

Cheryl Sams made a motion to approve the October 3, 2019 Council Meeting minutes. Andrea Watson seconded the motion. All voted unanimously in favor.

Cheryl Sams made a motion to approve the October 2019 General Operating Account financial report. Melissia Weaver seconded the motion. All voted unanimously in favor.

Cheryl Sams made a motion to approve the October 2019 FEMA financial report. Andrea Watson seconded the motion. All voted unanimously in favor.

#### Old Business:

Cheryl Sams provided a Heritage Days update. She stated it had taken 25 years, but the Heritage Days Festival made a profit this year. Total monies collected were \$6030.00 and total expenses were \$5088.82 leaving a profit of \$941.18. Also, Cheryl has had calls from vendors for next year.

Cheryl Sams presented the information regarding the needed court system for the town. The most feasible way to have a court system is to have a contract with the Pickens County Magistrate Court. The cost for the court system would be \$50 per month. The Town of Talking Rock would keep the majority of the fine imposed by the court system with 10% of the fine going to the County for a jail fund. Council members and Attorney Jeff Rusbridge agreed this would be a good option. An ordinance would need to be done for the court system to be put in place. Cheryl Sams made a motion to adopt an ordinance to have a contract with the Pickens County Magistrate Court for a monthly fee of \$50.00 Melissia Weaver seconded the motion. All voted unanimously in favor.

Town of Talking Rock

November Council Meeting Minutes

November 7, 2019

Continued...

New Business:

The proposed 2020 budget was presented, and the floor was open to public comments. There were no public comments. Cheryl Sams made a motion to add a line to the proposed budget for the court system under the Administration section for \$1000. Andrea Watson seconded the motion. All voted unanimously in favor. It was stated no vote would be taken since the proposed budget had changed and a public hearing will be held in December and a public notice hearing will advertise in the local paper.

The variance request by Audrey Kirsten and Steve Lewis of Shadow Creek Antiques was discussed. Mayor Randy Banks read the list of conditions that would have to be met if the variance was approved. Cheryl Sams stated she has issues with building safety and the district was commercial and not residential. She felt if approved a precedent would be set and everything could possibly be turned into residential on Main Street. Cheryl stated the chickens are a road hazard and state law is state law. Andrea Watson stated she understood both sides. Melissia Weaver stated it was difficult because she didn't want to put anyone out of their home. Cheryl Sams made a motion to deny the variance. Andrea Watson seconded the motion. All voted unanimously in favor.

Cheryl made a motion to use the Heritage Days Festival profit of \$941.18 to fund the Christmas Program. Melissia Weaver seconded the motion. All voted unanimously in favor.

The council members discussed raising the rental rate of the Pavilion and Community Room from \$40 to \$50 and increasing the rental hours from 3 hours to 4 hours. Cheryl Sams made a motion to increase the rental hours to 4 hours per rental and raising the rental rate to \$50 per rental with a \$50 deposit for the Pavilion and the Community Room being \$50 per rental with a \$75 deposit. Melissia Weaver seconded the motion. All voted unanimously in favor.

Mayor Randy Banks read the letter from the bank regarding the School House Museum Fund being inactive and going dormant without regular activity. A decision was made to add \$5.00 to the account to bring it back to active status.

Town of Talking Rock

November Council Meeting Minutes

November 7, 2019

Continued...

With no further business to discuss, Cheryl Sams made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Andrea Watson seconded the motion. All voted unanimously in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 pm.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ (Town Clerk)

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ (Mayor)