

Commissioners Meeting Minutes 6/7/2023

Called to order at 1830-Keith Griffith

Led the pledge-Reese Coleman

Commissioner Griffith let everyone know what was going on with Virginia. Commissioner Haag also informed everyone. Let everyone know that she is currently in the hospital trying to figure out what is going on.

Approval of minutes- see above.

Finance Report: attached.

Swearing in of Commissioners moved up to get it out of the way.

Nomination of new president Commissioner Griffith nominates Commissioner Haag; Commissioner Leonard seconded the rest followed Commissioner Johnson abstained.

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Haag	x		
Griffith	x		
Leonard	x		
Habel	x		
Johnson			x

Commissioner Haag nominates Commissioner Johnson who declines politely.

Commissioner Griffith nominates Commissioner Habel for VP he accepts all in favor.

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Haag	x		
Griffith	x		
Leonard	x		
Habel	x		
Johnson	x		

REPORTS

Fire Co: no one here, E.T. Gives a few updates. Gun bash coming up in August. Lions Club also has a fish fry that same day. Car show as well.

Sheriffs: no one here, Commissioner Griffith working on cameras for East and West Main.

Library: attached

Planning Commission: Reese takes the floor to ask if Commissioner can still be our liaison and he says if no one has a problem he still will. Talked about EDUs as it pertains to the lawyer and the discussion about subdivisions. Annual report due in June. Comp plan updates if we had any involvement in that Jeanette will be giving us that info. Reese's position is up this month, but he says he isn't going anywhere. The commission must appoint. Will also be voting for new chair and vice chair at that time. Sewer and water allocation discussion w the paper Commissioner Griffith sent. Met with the town manager of Queenstown to get more information. Meeting with the county same thing. Town planner and a town engineer is needed. They will evaluate and make sure things meet their criteria. Queenstown says they don't send anything to county other than storm water management. Reese has names of these people so he will have that info for the county next time we meet. Joint workshop hopefully after another meeting with the county. Believes the key would be getting professional help. Commissioner Habel asks when we will have to hire, Reese thinks maybe the sooner the better. They would be on retainer, on an as needed basis. The fees would be included in the cost of a development, an escrow would be set up. The paperwork for the new development needs to get done that's a pressing issue.

Commissioner Griffith and Commissioner Haag want a workshop next week. Got an email about a rural grant that could help the town grow, need a small team together for that to assist.

Need to circulate an email about the workshop (any night but Thursday or Friday) Wednesday should be good.

Barclay: signed everything (Griffith) Brambles has it moving forward. Hoping to start work in 30-45 days. Everyone has signed everything that is needed. Won't be raising rates for our residents.

Peach Fest: Commissioner Griffith wanted to have a parade, there wasn't much interest as it doesn't even come through town.

Andy Haag: Are they looking for something from us? (Commissioner Griffith answered with "They want us to plan the entire thing".)

E.T.: With the Peach Festival it takes all the bodies you have to operate what they do at the Peach Festival. He doesn't see why it's beneficial.

Faye Williams: It has been beneficial in the past but isn't now. Don't have the participation from the fire department to handle all these things.

Commissioner Griffith is looking into using the safety money to donate to the Lions Club.

E.T. Informs everyone about the Lions Club getting glasses for needy kids, has a trailer type thing to give kids exams, getting blind kids and all a leader dog to help them with their disability. Doesn't cost these people anything. Supports Wilmer eye institute at John Hopkins.

Commissioner Haag discussing block party, getting the Lions Club involved.

E.T. says a lot of spouses come and help usually goes from 630am to 5pm.

So, are we doing the parade? Absolutely not. Commissioner Griffith will communicate that.

Old Business

Updating Cannabis Ordinance: Commissioner Haag states we have talked a little about this. Reese Coleman says yes, we just need to locate it and get it in the books.

Statuses on 101 S Church/108 Main: Andy Haag took this over just by telling commissioners a summary of the email that Paige Crew sent out.

101- Commissioner Haag they are still being fined from his knowledge he will check into it. It's for sale now(?) Ron Ford said the owner is having trouble with the insurance company for the person that hit it.

108- Follow up with Virginia about this when she returns as she was in direct contact with the bank.

Commissioner Johnson that house is literally just the bones, the structure. It's a lot of legal stuff right now with the bank.

Commissioner Griffith: Force the banks hand, fining them every single day.

Status on Miller Street: No updates from E.T. Commissioner Haag asked what happened when they put a camera in it, but he was mistaken about where that had happened. E.T. stated the camera had gotten stuck but did not know what it got stuck on, possibly big rocks that got cleared out. Won't do any good talking to state as its not state roads.

Commissioner Griffith suggested Mr. Rooter washing out that area.

E.T. Needs to be washed out and cleaned. But the ditch is higher than the drain so the next big rain will ruin it. Is going to call Jay Jacobs and get his opinion on how to handle it. To see if they can help in any way.

New Business

2024 Budget Intro: Commissioner Haag reads through it all for the public.

Commissioner Griffith discusses how past town employees stopped paying the loans it made us extremely in debt, but we are now starting to get that paid off again. USDA is being very nice and decent in helping us get our debts paid off with them.

No need for a round table.

Public Comment

Paige Crew: Playground grant

Mike L: Just wondering if they brought up those houses of concern (108/101), money in budget for updating the comp plan? (Commissioner Griffith yes put a team together and getting a grant)

Ron Ford: Gotten ahold of state about sidewalk extensions (Commissioner Griffith no response from them) (getting Commissioner Habel to look at that)

E.T.: Requests Commissioner Griffith doesn't get upset. He comes in town the other day and a truck getting water from the hydrant, can become a problem, and there is a policy set. You have to meter it and that's what you pay for. (Commissioner Griffith, it's not legislative its administrative they are pulling from hydrants on the end that way we don't have to pay the county to have them flush it).

Commissioner Griffith has an issue with the commissioners getting beat up if residents have issues etc. County flushes the four end, Maple St., and Miller. Never saw the policy in the books.

Faye Williams: Giving compliment for adding the things that are unfinished to old business. Believes it is good to show that there is a process and likes to see it. Has a projector that hooks to the computer so that you can project stuff up on the wall. Will the public be able to look at the proposed budget (Commissioner Griffith absolutely it will be put up on the website.)

Carrie: The camera money what did we get this year? (Commissioner Griffith looking into it.) is that money being used for safety etc. (yes) other cameras approved going up soon? (No but they seem confident) water tower work going yet? (Things are going on)

Water tower will be the color of Commissioner Joe Habel's shirt (for reference he is wearing a somewhat muted ocean blue)

Minutes: Why are the minutes done at the last minute rather than being done a day or two after the meeting.

Faye Williams: Gave compliment to me for getting Planning Commission minutes done the next day.

Carrie: Library handicap ramp needs to be repaired. Clarification on audit, are they better than the last. Will the audit be posted on the website (yes once it gets done) the library usually has a liaison on for one of the commissioners but don't have one yet it's a meeting every other month.

When the water leaked out here, phone calls were made but daughter didn't get the call (informed her that there would be no phone call if they weren't on reverse system)

Reese: sidewalk work looks great. Are we making sure we are ADA compliant? (Mike L. if they are 5 ft, they are good) just want to make sure we are being cautious. (Commissioner Johnson will investigate this issue.)

Brenda Schmidt: Wants to invite commissioners to library to meet librarians, come to meeting (next month in July) our parking spaces closest to building are broken and beaten up when sidewalks were put in. It's unsafe, would like that to be addressed. Wants elaboration on what Ronnie would be doing with library repair/main (Commissioner Griffith said he would like to see a porch put out in the front) handrail needs to be resealed, painting, wood rot, etc. had a contractor out to look and all the windowsills had rot, but it looks like it's been sealed. Lots of exterior things need to be done, the new front door got put on and it works great now.

Lynda: n/a

Andy: n/a

ZOOM

1234: n/a

Commissioner Griffith: Does anyone want to be liaison for the library meeting? (Brenda 3rd Tuesday at 7pm, September 26th). Commissioner Habel will be taking that opportunity.

Commissioner Leonard: Why are we paying the electric bill for fox town? (Commissioner Griffith it's for the water tower not Fox Town, that's the address it uses for the water towers address) need to figure that out maybe a better solution.

He is a restaurant owner in this town. Talked to guys in Church Hill they have said food trucks have taken over their business. We should put something into effect that food trucks must pay to come into town. Excluding the lions club etc. (possibly a day permit)

Commissioner Griffith: Need to put pressure on that bank property as well.

Commissioner Haag adjourned 2027 Commissioner Griffith seconded everyone else followed.