

Town Of Hamilton
Special Call Meeting
February 6th 6:30pm

Present: Mayor Goodrich, Commissioners: Kerry Spivey, Linda Goodrich, Patricia Morring, Judith Stewart and William Freeman.

Meeting called to order and welcomed by Mayor Goodrich.

Special Call meeting Mayor Goodrich welcomes crowd, says special meeting is to appoint town clerk.
Starting the meeting with priorities.

Prayer by Commissioner Judith Stewart

Pledge to the Flag: By all.

New Business:

Mayor appoints new town clerk, asks for motion to retroactively appoint Megan Hemenway as town clerk and Finance Officer by Mayor Goodrich. Motion made by Kerry Spivey, seconded by Linda Goodrich. Unanimous vote.

Citizen asked about legality of the employment of the town clerk before the meeting. Commissioners explained legality ramifications of the hiring of the town clerk and asking about retroactively amending the motion. During this time the retirement of Annie Jones and the honoring of Annie Jones were discussed as well. Board explained the measures that they went to honor previous town clerk and finance officer Annie Jones, in the way of cards, gift cards, flowers, plants and cupcakes.

Commissioner Morring explained further more after questions about why the new board had not been in the paper as of yet, as well as why the new board was not at the church honoring for Mrs. Annie Jones, that they are doing the best they can with the information given, that they have been in office for a little over a month and to allow them time to get their feet wet and to gain more information from this point forward to be able to better serve the wants of the town.

Motion to adjourn special call meeting made by Commissioner Stewart, Second by commissioner Morring. Unanimous 5-0 vote.

Special call meeting adjourned.

Mayor

Town Clerk

Town Of Hamilton
Regular Monthly Board Meeting
February 6th 7:00pm

Present: Mayor Goodrich, Commissioners: Kerry Spivey, Linda Goodrich, Patricia Morring, Judith Stewart and William Freeman.

Mayor Goodrich calls meeting to order at 7pm

Motion to approve the agenda made by Commissioner Morring Seconded by Commissioner Goodrich
Unanimous Vote 5-0 Agenda approved

Minutes read from last meeting on Jan. 9th 2020 by Mayor Goodrich, finished reading at 710 pm
Motion to approve old minutes without any amendments, motion made by Mayor Goodrich, Seconded by Commissioner Morring. Unanimous Vote 5-0. Signed by Mayor Goodrich and Town clerk Hemenway

Old Business:

Commissioner Spivey brings to attention the siren, from old business waiting to hear back from the fire chief. Fire Chief did not have a problem with the removal of the siren. Some of the citizens of Hamilton have an issue with how loud the siren is at this time. The fire chief's main concern was listed that if any of the volunteers are in the woods or away from pagers that the siren can be heard when the pagers may not be readily available. Commissioner Spivey mentions to ask council what the town is able to do and what the position would be on behalf of the town. 911 Center supervisor had no opinion on the matter one way or the other. The siren is currently the Town of Hamilton's possession. It is mentioned that the fire department may be more interested in hunting season than they are in the wellbeing of their citizens. The point of where do we draw the line against the memory of remembering the siren, and the what may be against OSHA regulations depending on the decibel grade of the siren. Commissioner Goodrich makes the suggestion that possibly it should only be used for Tornado Warnings and it is informed that if we disconnected except for that it would only be able to be turned on by a volunteer manually at those times.

At this time some back and forth ideas were spoken on behalf of the citizens as well as one of the volunteer firemen that were at the meeting. It was mentioned by the Mayor that with the technology that we have that if the siren only went off when there was a fire that it may not be as bad. Commissioner Spivey mentioned that even if it only went off for fires, tornado warnings, etc that depending on the decibel it could still be against OSHA violations. The main reason the siren is an issue. A Citizen brings up that if the siren is disconnected that it should be kept as part of the town for historical memory. Commissioner Goodrich mentions that there may be newer versions of the siren that may be obtainable. This citizen was the volunteer fireman, when asked about the texting feature that the current dispatch can also use isn't on a great turn around, that he's been there a year and he still isn't signed up for it, but that the fire department loves the town.

New Business:

Commissioner Spivey brings up the ice maker at the waste water treatment facility. Commissioner Spivey requests the ability, to be able to purchase. This was an ice maker as part of a capital project; this ice maker hasn't worked for years. It had previously been fixed with parts purchased by Commissioner Spivey previously because he didn't have a card or access to purchase parts for the machine when needed. After a year, it quit working again. It is questioned why it wasn't under warranty

when repaired, was stated that the warranty had just expired and that to repair it is close to the cost of getting a new one depending on the repairs. Mayor Goodrich asks if a new one should be purchased or if it should be repaired. Commissioner Morring states that a new one should be purchased after review of the Sewer budget to ensure line item availability. Commissioner Freeman mentioned about getting ice from ice maker in town, Commissioner Spivey explained that he does and can, but when out on assignment and having to return all the way for ice, and sometimes samples need to immediately be put on ice. Commissioner Morring asked how much we can be fined for not having these samples properly iced, answer given at up to twenty-five thousand dollars a day. Citizen expresses that they need to ensure getting the extended warranty on the next one.

Mayor asks for questions -Open Session:

Citizen asks about getting water tested for their house specifically, or getting the water tested after a boil advisory. Commissioner Freeman explains that before the boil advisory is lifted the water is sent to the testing facility in Greenville NC and they do not lift the boil advisory until the samples come back clean that are sent off so in the case of the boil advisories they are tested. Also mentioned from a different citizen that they only knew about the boil advisory because someone tagged them on Facebook about it, Mayor Goodrich informed the citizens that there is an automated system in the works now.

Finances reviewed: Commissioner Goodrich goes on to explain that some of the issue is the past due payments that have been in the system and were a normalcy that the previous town clerk expressed before going into retirement. Commissioner Goodrich goes into explaining that the solution they are trying to implement to help the town citizens is the budget billing and then goes on to explain what that is and how it can eliminate late fees and issues with big bills that come up in the middle of the winter and in the summer too. Was asked how there were some bills that were allowed to get as big as they were Brings up the fact that there was a budget system in place per the old town clerk, was informed at some of the budget billing meetings that they didn't know there was an alternate budget billing in place. Commissioner Freeman and Goodrich both agreed that it should help there to be a big improvement for next month. Commissioner Morring states that there is also the energy audit that anyone can sign up for that can help to reduce the larger bills as well. After this Motion for the budget to be approved was made by Commissioner Morring, Seconded by Commissioner Freeman, unanimous vote 5-0.

Mayors report:

New clerk lives in town and knowledgeable. Informs citizens that the old clerk had asked to retire to spend more time with family. Also informed that he and 3 other commissioners went to a workshop to be able to learn more information that was held by the league of Municipalities.

Commissioners Reports:

Spivey- mentioned that Penco previously employed about 600 people and now it is about 200. That they had some issues with Zinc, they will be in the process of obtaining and purchasing a pretreatment plant.

Goodrich- already addressed the Budget billing element. Explained she had contacted the cell providers and the Senator, they are in the process of trying to get better signal in the Town of Hamilton for instances where emergency calls need to be made and cannot be. Found a service for 375 a year that would be able to have their own emergency system that could be used up to 12 times a year and that after those time we could buy x number of calls that would be able to be used for any mass messages that would need to be done. I.e. for boil advisory's and resending those advisories, power outages, etc. Commissioner Spivey made a motion to review the budget to see if the funds are available to get the emergency system. Second by Commissioner Morring.

Morring- One Feb 1st attended the Conversation about crisis. When she went there were not representatives for Hamilton. Will start posting in Town Hall so that more people are able to see when the meetings are and may have a way to go to these in the future. Also, stated that the meals on wheels program we have now only serves 1-2 people in the town of Hamilton. Asked for the board's approval to be able to use the Lynch center for a few hours a day to be able to receive the Meals on Wheels items and have the seniors to meet at the Lynch center for those that are able. Commissioner Stewart makes a motion that we do delivered meals on wheels for the community and that the partial use of the Lynch center for the meals on wheels be approved. Second by Commissioner Spivey Unanimous decision 5-0 .

Stewart- Mentions the zoning says there are a number of ordinances and housing and building codes that are not in the ordinance book. Got the new housing code from 2018. Looking for ordinances for handicapped parking and the water shortage as well as others. Citizen asks if there will be a centralized location to be able to view the ordinances and if they will be available online. Talks about verification of legality of putting the ordinances online. Scheduling a meeting on the ordinances of zoning. Questions about who will enforce the zoning by a citizen, we do not have a county zoning office. Will need to look at the scale of what would be needed so that would still have the amount of people to enforce the zoning.

Freeman- got an email from electricities to talk about the financial improvement plan for Hamilton, where they do a rate study that would benefit the town. It costs \$5000, we do get a grant from them every year for exactly \$5000 this price is only good till March 1st. This would cover electrical rate adjustments. Board members agreed it needed to be looked into before approving or denying this.

A citizen moves on to talk about old buildings, some discussion between citizen and commissioner Morring on starting over the condemning and destruction project on these homes.

Motion to go into Closed session by Commissioner Goodrich, Second by Commissioner Morring. Unanimous vote. Motion carried 5-0

Motion to come out of closed session made by Commissioner Stewart Second by Commissioner Spivey. Unanimous vote. Motion carried 5-0

Back in open session no action taken in closed session. No further business discussed. Motion to adjourn meeting by Commissioner Morring and Second by Commissioner Spivey. Unanimous vote. Motion carried 5-0 meeting adjourned.

New Business:

Mayor

Town Clerk