

Town Of Hamilton
Special Call Meeting

February 21st 10:00am

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

Meeting called to order and welcomed by Mayor Goodrich.

Prayer by Commissioner Judith Stewart

Pledge to the Flag: By all.

Motion to approve minutes from 02.06.2020 made by Commissioner Spivey, Second by Commissioner Morring, 5-0.

Old Business:

In regards to the siren, see what the attorney thinks. Commissioner Spivey wants to know if we are trying to move it or turn it off. Was discussed that it should be used for emergencies and not to ring at 12:00 every day. Reps from the fire and rescue have discussed issues with the removal of the siren and there is sentimental attachment. Discussed health versus unhappiness, where the health of the people in the town is at a higher priority than the unhappiness of others. Considered the fact that the fire department has mentioned the possibility of walkouts Discussion of meeting with the fire department, department heads to discuss options.

In regards to the attorney, his retention letter for his last six months was given. Receding services after June 2020. He is still on a 6 month retention, which means he is being paid to answer any questions the town may have. Mayor asked for ideas for a new attorney. Commissioner Stewart suggested looking into Williamston, and put onto NC works. To look into the people right out of college as well.

Commissioner Spivey asked about what we could find in signage. Commissioner Stewart talked to Carl Reese wants emblem to try to digitize that. Commissioner Morring Thinks welcome to Hamilton signs should take precedence than directional signage, i.e. the sign the town of Parmalee has. Commissioner Spivey and Stewart suggested we do more research and Commissioner Morring suggested we apply for a grant for these items.

Find out about the ordinances from 1986, see where we were verses where we would like to be and what needs to be changed in the zoning ordinances. Commissioner Stewart asked for the numbers of the volunteers for the zoning committee.

New Business:

CDs are currently at .15% , 2 CDS coming to maturity in aprox., the amount of \$295,000, wanted to be able to move these CDs to Capital Management trust where they would be at 1.46% which would be a significant increase from what it was. Motion to move the CDs made by Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Commissioner Morring. 5-0.

Was then talked about the account that is currently at Capital Management Trust which is a debt offset account. Discussion on what this can be used for the benefit the town, which its purpose is to use to help offset the cost of people who leave their bills unpaid when they leave. Idea discussed about self-reading meters, and to look into pricing and what an upgrade on these meters would cost.

Personnel policy discussed, with what was formally in the handbook and what should be proposed for the next one. Was suggested to go to a time clock, discussion was had for and against the

idea. Was suggested that employees earn 1.5 hours of personal time a week to be able to use which would be equivalent to roughly 8 days a year not including holidays or vacation that has been earned.

Bookkeeper Kim's contract was up for renewal, she asked for an increase from 1200 to 1600 for the amount of hours she works and the amount of work she does for the town comes down to about 30 dollars an hour. Was discussed that other estimates were obtained ranging anywhere from 60-180 an hour. Motion to renew Kim's contract at 1600.00 made by Commissioner Morring, second by Commissioner Stewart. 5-0

Fire hydrant painting was discussed to allow the townspeople to be able to paint them. Was then suggested by Commissioner Spivey, that they may want to look into the rating on the hydrants to work with the fire department and it may be able to help reduce the insurance as well.

New dates were proposed for the billing cycle. Previously the meters were read on the 25th, sent out by the 3rd, due by the 15th and late by the 25. Proposed new billing cycle: still read on the 25th, sent out by the 5th, due by the 25th and late by the 5th of the next month. To allow a full 30 day interval for bills. The old bills had 12 days from the day it was sent out till it was due and 22 days till it was late, this allows there to be 20 days before its due and a full 30/31 days before it is late and you get a new bill. Motion to make the date change made by Commissioner Spivey, Second by Commissioner Goodrich. 5-0

Discussed whether the person who takes over Mr. Freeman's Town position in the name of Maintenance Supervisor should be Hourly or Salary. Need to check the legality of a salary position with the LGC for any new hire. Also would this new person be paid extra for mosquito spraying.

Copy pro contract was brought up, we have a service contract with Coeco where we pay 10.70 a month to get the ink. The other ink that was being bought was for a colored printer not the main bill printing/ everyday printer. Motion to cancel the copy pro contract made by Commissioner Freeman, Second by Commissioner Morring.

Discussed to allow the town clerk/finance officer to be able to have the latitude to be able to make minor adjustments to account where needed when seen fit, but needs to be governed by guidelines that need to be approved by the board. Any questionable or major adjustments would need to be brought to the board's attention.

Commissioner Freeman mentioned that there was an issue with the old trust pipe behind the trailer park, there is erosion and it needs to be fixed. The pipe needs to be replaced for the sewer line, this needs to come out of the sewer fund, but we need to take care of it before it is a true emergency.

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

Meeting adjourned.

Mayor

Town Clerk