

## BETHUNE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Bethune Town Hall

August 13, 2020

The Bethune Town Council met Thursday, August 13, 2020, at Bethune Town Hall with the Honorable Mayor Charles McCoy presiding.

Mayor McCoy called the meeting to order.

Don Witham opened the meeting with prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the July 9, 2020 minutes was read. Councilman Heflin made the motion that these minutes be accepted as read. Councilwoman Hunter seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial statements were provided to each of the Town council members and to the mayor for review.

Old business:

Discussion held as to a date for presentation of audit by Bill Hancock of the Brittingham Group. Mayor McCoy suggested three dates: August 17<sup>th</sup>, August 31<sup>st</sup>, September 1<sup>st</sup>. The Council was to notify him as to which date was suitable for them.

Councilman Witham gave an update on the water project. Target date for completion is November. Cutting on will go in sections and they will use their valves to control which sections because of DHEC testing. He also stated that uptown will be the first section that will be cut on because of the road and sidewalks. Councilman Witham stated that so far, we had not received any feedback from the increase in pricing. The Town has \$57,000 left in a Contingency Fund with four projects to complete.

A request from the Bethune Fire Department for a donation was received last month but decision held off until this month as to the amount. Mayor McCoy stated that around \$7,000 to \$8,000 had been received which was being used to buy cones, flashing lights and safety equipment. Councilwoman Hunter made a motion to donate \$250.00. Councilman Heflin seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Witham stated the work on the clinic's building was in progress.

Councilman Heflin mentioned the fact that Bethune's Census 2020 goal was at 64%. The last day is in September. Councilman Heflin stated that he would be receiving some slides shortly from Camden.

Councilman Heflin stated that a letter needed to be drafted to Jay Lucas and Laurie Funderburk with regards to getting the caution light back and adding maybe strips at devils' elbow since we continue to have wrecks there. It was inquired as to when the roof on the town hall would be completed. Councilman Heflin stated that Powers Roofing will need to subcontract the removal of the solar panels for the work to be completed.

Councilman Heflin stated that since the Mask Ordinance was for only 60 days, he would like to see this ordinance extended for another 60 days; therefore, he made a motion that upon the expiration date of September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the Town's Mask Ordinance be extended for that same length of time. Councilman Witham seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

A brief discussion was held regarding the grass cutting and the two estimates. Mayor McCoy stated that he would speak with Butter about this situation.

New Business:

Councilman Heflin stated that he was concerned about the condition of the town's neglected and abandoned properties. He was also looking into getting the Planning and Zoning Committee reactivated.

County Council Chairman Julian Burns and Amy Kinard of the Chamber were present via teleconference and spoke about several issues: Chairman Burns mentioned that he would be able to pass on to us a chart of slides regarding how we stand on Census 2020. Amy stated that the Chamber office had decided not to hold any after-hour business events this Fall. They also are featuring on-line free programs for business owners to help them develop plans for a business and another program for individuals to refocus on themselves.

Mayor McCoy informed the Council that our Police Department had been awarded three individual cameras.

Before adjourning, Councilwoman Hunter requested that Chief Ward furnish to Council a complete detailed list of all procurement items with notation as to where they are located. She made this into a motion, with Councilman Heflin seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Heflin made the motion to adjourn, and Councilwoman Hunter seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Stephens

Clerk

Attachments

Present:

Mayor Charles McCoy

Don Witham

John Heflin

Cindy Hunter

Jimmy Lucas

Unapproved Minutes 8-31-2020