

TOWN OF WALKER
MINUTES

March 9, 2009

7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Walker Mayor and Board of Aldermen was held at the Walker Town Hall on March 9, 2009 at 7:00 PM. Present were Mayor Bobby Font, Aldermen Elton Burns, Scarlett Major, James Phillips, Jack Summerell and Richard Wales.

The meeting was opened with prayer led by Mr. Richard Wales.

Mayor Bobby Font led the pledge of allegiance.

A motion was made by Mr. James Phillips, seconded by Mr. Elton Burns, to accept the February 9, 2009 minutes as presented.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell, Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

Mr. Richard Wales introduced an ordinance pertaining to Right-of-way Revocation, which will be set for a public hearing on April 13, 2009.

Chief of Staff, Fred Raiford explained to the Board of Aldermen the reasons needed to apply for the Grant with Community Water Enrichment Program and the reasons for needing resolutions to proceed with getting grant approval from DEQ and DHH in regards to the Waste Water Project/ Eastside Force Main and the Water Project / 8" water lines for Greenwich Village, stating that these projects are part of the DEQ settlement agreement and must be completed within a specific time frame.

Mr. James Phillips offered a motion to approve a resolution for the purpose of applying for a grant from the Community Water Enrichment Program. These funds would be for the purpose of properly capping water well #1 on Stump Street. Mr. Richard Wales seconded the motion.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell, Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

Mr. James Phillips offered a motion to approve a resolution to apply for a grant to obtain funds for the Waste Water Project to install an Eastside Force Main. Mr. Jack Summerell seconded the motion.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell, Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

Mr. Elton Burns offered a motion to approve a resolution to apply for a grant to obtain funds for the Water Project of installing 8" water lines in Greenwich Village. Mrs. Scarlett Major seconded the motion.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell, Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

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Mr. James Phillips made a motion to approve the contract between Meyer, Meyer, LaCroix and Hixson Engineering Firm and the Town of Walker for the Greenwich Village 8" water line project. Mr. Jack Summerell seconded the motion.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell, Wales
Nays: None
Absent: None

Mrs. Scarlett Major made a motion to approve the contract between Meyer, Meyer, LaCroix and Hixson Engineering Firm and the Town of Walker for the installation of the Eastside Force Main Project. Mr. Elton Burns seconded the motion.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell, Wales
Nays: None
Absent: None

Mayor Font addressed the Board regarding the approaching 100th Birthday of the Town of Walker, stating that we would like to put on a festive occasion for the celebration. Mayor Font informed the Board that Walker High School has joined forces with the Town and will be helping to pay some of the expenses. The celebration will be July 9, 10 & 11th. The event will be kicked off by an evening parade on July 9th. Some of the other events that are planned are a fair, craft show and entertainers each night. There will be some up front cost to organizing the event; therefore Mayor Font requested the Board allocate \$15,000.00 toward the Centennial Celebration.

Mr. James Phillips made a motion to approve Mayor Font's request for \$15,000.00 to be allocated for the Town's centennial celebration. Mrs. Scarlett Major seconded the motion.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell, Wales
Nays: None
Absent: None

Mayor Font explained to the Board of Aldermen the request for a new truck for the Department of Public Works is due to the fact that we are in need of a vehicle that will aide us in preparing for and dealing with conditions during and after a severe storm or hurricane. At present the Town does not own a vehicle that can breach high water, nothing that is 4-wheel drive or anything that has a winch. Therefore since the department is in need of a vehicle Mayor Font is requesting to purchase a Dodge quad cab, 4-wheel drive truck.

Mr. Elton Burns made a motion to approve the Capital Outlay expense toward a new truck for the Department of Public Works. Mr. James Phillips seconded the motion.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell, Wales
Nays: None
Absent: None

The agenda item for Livingston Tomorrow was tabled until the April council meeting. Mr. Richard Wales requested to have Mr. John Ware with LEDC present to explain what the annual fees are to be used for.

Chief Hunter Grimes reported 1,190 citations issued for the month of February 2009.

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Chief Hunter Grimes introduced Mr. Verdo (Jack) Lancaster requesting approval to hire him as a reserve officer for the Walker Police Department.

Mr. James Phillips made a motion to approve the hiring of Mr. Lancaster as a reserve officer. Mr. Richard Wales seconded the motion.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell and Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

Public comments came from Mr. Jody Stanford a life long resident of the Town as well as an employee. Mr. Sanford stated that he would like for the Board to be aware of how the merging of all departments to one location and the commutation of all the departments projects and activities have made the working environment more productive and pleasant for all. Mr. Stanford stated that he was proud to be able to stand up and thank the Mayor for bringing them together and working as a team.

Mayor Font informed the audience that the Town has been a recipient of a 100%; \$213,000.00 beautification grant; that will start on the 23rd of March. The project will take approximately 45 days to complete. The project includes planting of some 4000 plants along the corridor of Hwy 447 north and south.

Mayor Font reported that starting on March 21st and continuing every third Saturday of each month we will be having Movie at Punk Smith Park Night. The Town will show G rated movies for the family to come and enjoy.

Mayor Font reported that the Town was currently looking to change our phone and internet system. After researching several options it was decided that Deltacom offered the most savings to the Town. At present the Town is spending \$73,573.00 per year for phone and internet service. A move to Deltacom including an upgrade in the system will cost \$52,404.00 per year which will result in a net saving of \$21,168.00 per year. Mayor Font stated that a representative with Deltacom will be present at the April council meeting for any questions that the Board may have.

Mayor Font ended with his thanks to the employees for attending as well as the citizens from the community for being involved in their government with their concerns and comments.

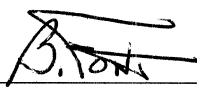
There being no further business to discuss a motion was made by Mr. James Phillips, seconded by Mr. Richard Wales, to adjourn.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell, Wales

Nays: None

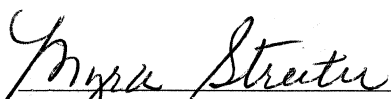
Absent: None

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED



MAYOR BOBBY FONT

ATTEST:



Myra Streeter, Clerk
CMC, CMA, CAA