

July 6, 2017

Town of Eleanor
P.O. Box 185
Eleanor, WV 25070

A regular meeting of the town council of the Town of Eleanor was held at 7:30 PM.

Present: Mayor W. F. Halstead
Recorder L. S. Casto
Councilman C. Clendenin
Councilwoman T. Harmon
Councilman J. McLane
Councilman J. Tolley, Jr.

Absent: Councilman K. Childers

Visitors: James Moore, Trina Moore, Janet Williams, Jerry Null, Myrna Bowling, R. Allen and Channel 3 News

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The minutes of the previous meetings, 6/15 & 6/21 were approved as presented on a motion by C. Clendenin, 2nd by T. Harmon & carried.

The liability forecast was approved for payment on a motion by C. Clendenin, 2nd by J. Tolley, & carried.

Report From Standing Committees/ -0-

Sewer/Construction on the sewer project is complete and they are dressing up the project area Still have driveways to repair. J. Tolley informed council that he had taken care of the drain off at the Army Reserve building. Should help with the drainage problem.

Parks/The grounds are ready for the fair to begin Saturday night. The park looks good. Had a problem with damage with a jeep during the down pour of rain tearing huge ruts throughout the park. Police immediately traced the tracks to the house where the boy lived and gave him orders to repair the damage that he had created. The straw put in the ruts to cover up was not the idea of repairing the damage that he had done to the grounds. It has been turned over to the judge to deal with this matter now.

Streets/ -0-

Police/ The police commission met and accepted Nikki Rowe's resignation and would like to hire a policeman retired from Hurricane to replace her. His name is Larry Wings. He would be hired at the rate of pay that Nikki received, \$15.00 per hour. He would not pay into retirement but would like health insurance. A motion to accept the police commission's recommendation was made by J. Tolley, 2nd by T. Harmon and carried. Would like to have him in place to help cover fair week. This was discussed here

under police but Mr. Wings was hired below under Filling Vacancies in positions of Officers & Employees.

Report From Officers of the Town/Lynda asked council to address the 2% rate increase for the following employees beginning July 1st. J. Tolley made the motion to give this 2% to the full time employees, with the exception of our new clerk, Kim Deweese, who just started, 2nd by J. McLane & carried. Those receiving the increase will be Carl Neal, Mike May, Tracy Landis, and an incentive raise of 2% to Aaron Truitt, our part time policeman since he has been with us for a while. Lynda also reported that she had keyed the line items into the new budget 2017/2018 and all have been given a copy. Total operating budget for this coming year is \$738,928.

Enactment of Ordinance/ Sewer will be presenting an ordinance soon to permit an 20% increase to the sewer rates. This will be at the next meeting. Average bill would raise one dollar.

Filling Vacancies in positions of Officers and Employees/ Council had discussed last meeting bringing names to this meeting for a part time mower to replace Mark Hingess. Mayor Halstead informed council that once Jim Mayle got hurt, not knowing how long he would be off, hired John Watson, Jr. to work no more than 30 hours per week at minimum wage \$8.75. He had stated that he did not want to hire our current employee John Watson's son, but decided to do so.

Miscellaneous and Unfinished Business/

Council was in agreement to go with ABC for our web page on a motion by C. Clendenin, 2nd by J. Tolley and carried. Contract had previously been given to council.

C. Clendenin had contacted Stan Mills of the Putnam/Kanawha Health Department to talk with the people having problems with mosquitoes on Maple and Nutmeg Streets. If contacted he will set traps for the mosquitoes to see what kind and what possible diseases, if any, they have and will advise the citizens on what they can do to help alleviate the problems. The town is merely the connection to this gentleman and will not be providing any materials to the home owners. They may wish to purchase what he recommends.

Lynda read a request from the Putnam County Homecoming asking for advertisement in the program for the 2017 Homecoming. Council decided on the ¼ ad at \$185.00 on a motion by J. McLane, 2nd by T. Harmon and carried.

Mr. Allen was present to complain about the dumpster at K. Childers apartments. The health committee will meet sometime in the next two weeks and look at all dumpsters.

A complaint was discussed on the tires stacked at 110 Nutmeg Street and the mayor stated that it would be looked into.

Janet Williams asked about the items purchased with grant money and was told that the swings have been put up but no mulch or walks have been completed. The Park Board met the deadline of June 30th, 2017 to receive money from the County Commission on this project.

Mayor Halstead informed council that there is a new grant of \$40,000 that can be applied for but must be at the commission by July 31, 2017. The park board is making every effort to meet this deadline.

Mayor Halstead informed council that since Feb. 1st, 26,000 cars have entered the park.

At this time Mayor Halstead brought up a payroll matter from pay period ending 6/16/17 in which Abby Hudson did not receive a pay check. Mayor Halstead called Lynda on her cell phone that Friday and she was out of town at the time but told the mayor she would check into it Monday. Ron McDade made up a time card for her hours for the records. She had only worked 6 hours for the two week pay period.

Upon looking to see what happened, Lynda found that Abby Hudson had punched her time on Natalie Herdman's time card. Since it was only 6 hours, she pulled both cards so that next time she could add 6

hours to Abby and subtract 6 hours from Natalie. NOTHING was said the entire 3 weeks, including the Friday, June 30th that these hours were paid stating that something other than this should be done. Mayor Halstead was very angry about the matter and talked loudly to the recorder who really wasn't given a chance to explain that she did not want to do another 941 federal deposit and state withholding for just 6 hours. These reports and checks had been paid with the June 30th payroll. Two councilmembers informed the mayor that this was not the place to discuss a personnel matter and talk down to someone, but was told that he was conducting the meeting and if he needed them to speak he would inform them to do so. The meeting ended quickly and nothing further was said about the matter.

Nothing further to come before council at this time, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Mayor

Recorder