

MAGNOLIA COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes

Monday, August 13, 2018
6:00 PM
Magnolia Town Hall

6:00 PM - Call to Order
Called to order at 6:02 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Jim Frazier, Vice Mayor Scott Fowler, Ashton McLaughlin, Ralph Satterfield, Dustan Russum and Diane Cahall were present. Mike Cohill was available via telephone. Guest: Drew Sharp.

Additions/deletions to published agenda

The agenda was approved as published.

Council Minutes of previous meeting.

Vice Mayor Scott Fowler made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 2018 meeting; James Frazier seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was presented with the payment of bills submitted by Diane Cahall. 2018 Property Taxes and 2nd quarter water bills are coming in (only 3 tax invoices were returned for insufficient address; Diane is researching. Two properties have been sold: Gene Riccio (22 North Main) to Chris Radewicz. Edward Semans (37 West Walnut) to Avenue Homes. Scott Fowler made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, 2nd by James Frazier, Motion passed.

Mayor Frazier introduced Drew Sharp to council. Drew does not live in the town limits but his parents live at 4840 Irish Hill Road where he grew up. Mr. Sharp stated that the traffic in Magnolia is a mess. People are using the town roads to avoid the construction at Little Heaven. Mayor Frazier notified Mr. Sharp that the town council is very aware of the situation. We have installed speed signs and understand the construction on West Walnut is adding to the situation. The traffic problem is heavily addressed in our Comprehensive Plan noting the major

traffic increase during the past ten years due to the town being located in the bullseye of many new housing developments. Mayor Frazier asked Drew to please provide him with a bullet list and he will forward the information to DelDot. Drew was also advised to contact Greg Layton with public relations at DelDot; phone 760-2082.

Councilwoman Ashton McLaughlin added:

Recent roadwork came through on West Walnut as part of a larger resurfacing project. It did nothing to help the flooding condition, in some cases making it worse for residents just outside town limits. While outside limits, we agreed to add this concern of Mr. Sharp to the complaint, I will write to DelDot. Further, the resurfacing project kicked up pavement debris in residents' yards. DelDot really can't do anything about it now, but they should be notified at the least so they can try and prevent it in the future.

Public Works Report

Dustan Russum presented the water report:

Water usage: 1,558,000 gallons of water during July 2018. Pump 2: 755,000 gallons. Pump 3: 803,000 gallons. Pump 2 ran 51 hours, Pump 3 ran 36.9 hours. Chlorine average is .54. Fluoride is .8. Problem with the water softener; filling up with water and cannot drain. Scott Fowler stated that in the past; the other softener was not backwashing correctly due to salt hardening up and had to be replaced. Perhaps this second one needs replacement.

Dustan Russum and Scott Fowler attended a meeting with Duffield Associates to apply for a low interest loan 2% or 3% funding for water line replacement. The loan is available due to the high lead content in water pipes such as the Flint, Michigan situation. The median household income for the town must be approved (questioned if this is owners or occupants of property). Also, questioned if meters are required for the program. Scott Fowler made a motion to submit a letter of intent and at least get on the list as an interested municipality. James Frazier 2nd the motion. Motion approved.

Ralph Satterfield presented the public works report: Worked with George & Lynch for most of the month; street is great. Looked for covered shut off (4 Hours) only found one hydrant valve. Shortened flush due to road work, made patch area of 30 West Walnut before road paved. Keith Vautard and James Sharp have concerns that water will drain on them.

7-2/7-23, Sprint subs worked on tower. 7/27: 20 South Main shut water of so they could make repairs. 7/17: Painted curb box markers at Magnolia Mobile Home Park. 7/12 Tank overflowed; trouble shoot with Dave Thompson, Relay stuck in pump house. 7/23: Reminded DelDot of sunken storm drain cover at 13 North Main. 8/8-8/11: Southern Corrosion on tower for repairs. 8/12 Flushed school. Have quotes for patchwork from Aztech and Jerrys paving. Regarding tower; Corrosion Control put patches on top of patches -- good thing we changed. Scott Fowler advised council that Southern Control donated \$250 to the Children's Network in our behalf as a thank you for the contract.

New Business:

Facebook:

Councilwoman Ashton McLaughlin has been inspired by the history of the Town of Magnolia and would like to create and manage a Facebook account for the town. James Frazier made a motion to accept Ashton's proposal to do a Facebook page for the town, 2nd by Scott Fowler, Motion passed. Ashton added: Mayor Frazier gave me two binders and a CD for my use in my effort to learn about and share Magnolia's history. While we do have a website that people do utilize as indicated by you, Facebook is easier to update, is more familiar to people, and is a quicker way to disseminate information. It'll be a great way to share the history and provide an outlet for people to share their own historical items. Login info for both the Facebook page and the email used to create the Facebook page will be shared amongst council and you and on paper at the next meeting. The historical letter was also reviewed and will be given to you prior to sending out bills.

Street Flooding:

As discussed with Mr. Sharp earlier in the meeting; Mayor Frazier will summarize our situation on West Walnut and contact DelDot this coming week. Ashton McLaughlin added: Recent roadwork came through on West Walnut as part of a larger resurfacing project. It did nothing to help the flooding condition, in some cases making it worse for residents just outside town limits. While outside limits, we agreed to add this concern (I differ the gentleman's name) to the complaint I will write to DelDot. Further, the resurfacing project kicked up pavement debris in residents' yards. DelDot really can't do anything about it now, but they should be notified at the least so they can try and prevent it in the future.

Municipal Street Aid:

Mayor Frazier advised council that Magnolia will receive \$2,468.40 for Fiscal Year 2019. Last year we received \$2,068.59.

Old Business:

Comprehensive Plan:

Mayor Frazier advised council that the Comprehensive Plan Review is moving along well; all charts and graphs have been received. One map needs to be adjusted. The committee will discuss goals and recommendations at the next meeting which is open to the public. One statistic in Table 23 shows that traffic from the southern Magnolia limit sign to the corner has dropped 2.5% during 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 when actually it has risen 28%. Traffic from the light to North Main sign has increased 32%. Stats do not match and will be addressed.

Street Repairs:

Mayor Frazier council that we have received a fully executed agreement #19=P=PROG=15 pertaining to transfer of \$25,032.00 for paving project: Walnut and Main from E. Walnut to N. Main. Funded by Rep. Charles Postles. 1/5 of the project has been completed by Aztech and paid during our August meeting. Jerrys Paving will complete the remainder of the project.

New Council Members:

Council member Ashton McLaughlin is new member, Charles Dougherty will be appointed in September; we are still in need of one council member.

Code Enforcement:

Council discussed 16 North Main; appears to be quieter during the last month. Mayor Frazier spoke with an interested buyer to Schmidt property 28 W. Walnut; gentleman seems interested and is scheduling a structural inspection. Mayor Frazier sent a letter in response to oil and well at 15 South Main explaining proof of identification and no well on property. Mayor Frazier advised council that one of the two abandoned cars located on Thorne Street and South Main Street has been removed.

Adjournment:

James Frazier made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 pm. 2ND by Ashton McLaughlin, Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Diane P. Cahall