

MAGNOLIA COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes

Monday, March 9, 2020
6:00 PM
Magnolia Town Hall

Call to Order at 6:01 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Mayor James Frazier. Councilpersons: Brian Howard, Buck Dougherty and Ashton McLaughlin were present. Diane Cahall, Dustan Russum and Ralph Satterfield were present. Scott Fowler was absent. Guest: Francis Young.

Additions/deletions to published agenda: 2020 Census and FOIA added to agenda.

Council Minutes of previous meeting

Buck Dougherty made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 10th Council meeting. Brian Howard seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Diane Cahall met with Heather Warren and Doug Lodge (DHSS) at the town hall to discuss infrastructure grant. An invoice from Duffield in the amount of \$10,759.03 dated April 8, 2019 was paid and reimbursed to the town on May 2, 2019 for Water Service Replacement. This invoice would have been paid from the infrastructure grant but there was not a project number assigned to Infrastructure Grant until fall 2019. The Water Service Replacement grant needs to be closed out but the town needs to purchase and set up a GIS system to use with the notebook that Scott Fowler has. Ashton McLaughlin noted how useful and important the GIS system will be to the town. Diane noted that water bills will be mailed and emailed on March 31, 2020. Mayor Frazier made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and pay the bills. Buck Dougherty seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Works Report

Council reviewed the water reports prepared and presented by Dustan Russum. Dustan Russum presented the water report to Council. The town used 1,108,000 gallons of water during February 2020. Pump 2: 479,000 gallons. Pump 3: 629,000 gallons. Well levels: 26' and 31'. Pump 2 ran 34.8 hours, Pump 3 ran 37.8 hours. Chlorine average is .60 and Fluoride average is 1.0. Water Usage Report was submitted to Office of Drinking Water. Report from Southern Corrosion regarding the December water tower inspection will be forthcoming. Brian Howard questioned who would be the engineer on the Infrastructure project. Dustan advised Carrie Kruger with Duffield will be the engineer.

Ralph Satterfield reported: Hydrants and tower flushed, unable to get clear; should be clear by end of March. Parts for park bench have been ordered, will be in by the end of April. Put up key

rack in the town hall, new keys made and all are labeled. Problem with school's geo units, may need a little water on April 19 to flush and test. Thanked council again for chance to attend Delaware Rural Water Expo.

New Business:

FOIA

Mayor Frazier attended classes last year in Public Ethics and FOIA; he is the FOIA officer for the Town of Magnolia. Mayor Frazier contacted our town solicitor Barrett Edwards regarding our obligation to provide information to out-of-state requestor noting we have always endeavored to answer all such requests, regardless of point of origin. Mr. Edwards responded: the town may deny a request to someone who isn't a citizen, but we are not required to do so. Chances are if they want the information badly enough, they will get a Delaware resident to request it for them. It is our option; just be consistent to whom we respond.

2020 Census

Mayor Frazier advised information regarding the 2020 Census:

If you haven't already, you will soon receive in the mail information about the 2020 United States Census. 95 % of households will receive the invitation in the mail. 5% of households will receive the invitation when dropped off by census taker. Less than 1% of households will be counted in person by a census taker.

Old Business:

Water on Roadway

Ashton McLaughlin reported that since we have had no real winter weather, additional pictures were unavailable. She will continue communicating with DelDot regarding problem. Buck Dougherty did note that he observed a guy inspecting and measuring water drains.

Damaged Speed Sign

Ralph Satterfield is still working with Representative Postles regarding repair.

MPO Traffic Study:

No update

Properties and Code Enforcement

The Farrow property (20 South Main) has been moved to the top of the list. State Police were contacted by two separate people. Concrete block was thrown through window at 18 South Main as retaliation. The Commander at Troop 3 will be contacted and we are working on a possible condemnation with Kent County.

Facebook:

No update

Park Bench Incident:

Mayor Frazier will cover the cost since the 3-yr. old bench was originally purchased by him in memory of his family.

Mail/Package Deliveries:

Mayor Frazier met with town solicitor Barrett Edwards on February 20th regarding Brian Howard's difficulty receiving packages and shipments at his place of business due to his business address (7 South Main Street) not being recognized by the universal database used by USPS and numerous commercial delivery services. While the Town is not responsible, Mayor Frazier will draft a letter to Senator Carper regarding delivery problems and Brian Howard will join the effort.

Properties and Code Enforcement

Jarrell property sold to Big Jim's Homes; aka James Hartnett; 16 East Walnut Street.

Mayor Frazier spoke with Patterson Schwartz Real Estate regarding 3 Thom Street sale and the small storage shed on property. No historical significance.

Good of the Order

Adjournment:

Buck Dougherty made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:47 pm. Second by Ashton McLaughlin. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Diane Cahall, Secretary