

MAGNOLIA COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes

Monday, September 13, 2021

6:00 PM

Magnolia Fire Hall

CALL TO ORDER

Made at 6:00 pm.

Monthly Council Meeting

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Mayor James Frazier, Vice Mayor Scott Fowler, Councilpersons Ryan Clarke and Buck Dougherty were present. Clerk Diane Cahall and Water Assistant Ralph Satterfield were present. Dustan Russum; Water System Operator was attending a water conference. Suzanne Whitney was sworn in by Mayor Frazier as new Council member.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO PUBLISHED AGENDA

No changes to published agenda.

COUNCIL MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Diane Cahall noted that she incorrectly spelled Suzanne Whitney's name in the minutes. Scott Fowler made a motion to accept the minutes of the last council meeting with correction, as provided by Secretary. Ryan Clarke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's report was prepared and presented to members by Diane Cahall. Diane advised Council that two invoices were received in the mail today and we need to add two bills to be paid for September. Felton Hardware: \$25.16 and USA Blue Book for \$44.84. Council reviewed bills to be paid and disbursements during

August. Jim Frazier made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and pay the bills. Scott Fowler seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS

Dustan Russum presented the following water report: The town used 1,625,000 gallons of water during July 2021. Pump 2: 696,000 gallons. Pump 3: 929,000 gallons. Pump 2 ran 51.5 hours; Pump 3 ran 58.4 hours. Chlorine average is .5 and Fluoride .8 The town received a good PH reading on water and no lead in water samples. Greg Freimuth of Duffield notified council that the infrastructure grant meeting has been cancelled for tomorrow. Only 3 actual work days have occurred since July 13th. The next meeting will now be held on August 10th. Brian Howard of 9 S. Main complained of concrete shavings (dust) is washing asphalt down the storm drain. Ralph Satterfield explained the problem to Reybold. Dustan Russum has told Reybold several times about parking in front of well building. DelDot located a storm drain that is not hooked to anything. Ralph Satterfield has been working with Reybold daily; they have completed 200 feet so far.

**Scott Fowler advised the contractors are still encountering concrete and timing will be extended due to wait time for inspections. Mayor Frazier advised the Notice of Arbitration by Reybold has been resolved by extending the time of the project. Mayor Frazier called in out street lights at 21 South Main and 8 South Main. A group of Magnolia residents have initiated Free MagnoliaDE. They requested FOIA documents and copies of 2019 monthly council minutes which were all provided. A town resident inquired why the project was not done at night. The noise of the machinery alone would have prohibited anyone from sleeping. We must all realize this is a temporary inconvenience for a permanent solution.

Ralph Satterfield reported: Hydrant flushing went very well. Delmarva Power and Light repaired the light at the pump house. Motto of the work project; Expect the best and Prepare for the unknown. Monitored the water construction site 2 to 6 hours per day. Addressed the flags as needed. Will begin Jado project when the weather cools. Lead Copper mandate to take effect 2024; further details to follow.

CROSS CONNECTION SERVICE

No new information at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA); ARPA: \$49,050 was deposited into the general checking account on June 16, 2021. The other half will be deposited next spring. Mayor Frazier spoke with Charles Postles on August 28th regarding the Spotted Lantern Flys on the Trees of Heaven. He suggested we contact Dominic of Sussex Tree Services. He was contacted for a quote; it would cost approximately \$12,000 to take the tree downs but then we must treat the roots. Todd Davis of the Dept. of Ag gave Jim 2 other tree vendor companies where we can get quotes.

Facebook: Mayor Frazier is updating Facebook and the Town website with new water project reports.

Mail /Package Deliveries: nothing to report.

Curb Painting: on hold until infrastructure water project is complete. .

Traffic Assessment (Follow up): Mayor Frazier reviewed with council the town Traffic Study completed by DelDot last year; but nothing was practical; they did not support Rest on Red. There is a Pretimed Overnight Signal Operation that Mayor Frazier will research after the water project is completed. Suzanne Whitney has several excellent contacts to provide us with information regarding Speed Signs. The town would own the signs and not have to depend on bureaucracy to repair or replace them. She is checking on grant funding by the Dept. of Highway Safety. She is gathering more details for the council to consider. Mayor Frazier also advised that he has responded to questions regarding making Thorn Street one way. A traffic assessment must be completed on the 2/10 of mile street.

ADJOURNMENT:

Buck Dougherty made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 pm. 2nd by Jim Frazier, Motion approved. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane P. Cahall