

TOWN OF NEWLAND
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 3, 2017
6:00 PM

PRESENT:

MAYOR: Valerie Jaynes
ALDERMAN: Donetta McKinney, Roxanna Roberson, Thomas Jackson, Kenny Caraway
ATTORNEY: Joe Seegers
GUESTS: Clara Dickson, Brian Dale Johnson, Tim Gardner, Matt Debnam
STAFF: Lise Meinhardt, Keith Hoilman, Ben Townsend, Karen Garland, Tammy Gardner, Gary Page

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Donetta made a motion to approve the agenda. Kenny seconded the motion. All agreed by a show of hands. The Mayor then led the audience in the pledge to the American flag.

The Mayor then asked for approval of the minutes. Donetta made a motion to approve November and December minutes. Kenny seconded the motion. All agreed by a show of hands.

The Mayor then asked Gary Page to explain the consideration of an Ordinance to Control Burning. He explains to the board a suggested ordinance for now, and they can amend other issues after a Town Meeting to discuss further issues. After much discussion the Board scheduled a Public Hearing for February 7th, 2017 to bring it before the town. Donetta made a motion for the meeting to be placed on the agenda for next month. Kenny seconded the motion. All agreed by a show of hands.

Gary Page then made a reference to the closing of Town streets and alleyways, He explained to the board that they do not have to open any roads unless its in the Towns best interest. He explains if owners of the land approach the Board, then they can approve such openings. Mr Seegers discussed a conversation with Mr Nelson about the road staying closed. Mr Seegers will let the board know of any further developments.

Lise Meinhardt was recognized. Lise gave the monthly report. She told the board she was working on w2s for the employees. Also that all the employees were now on Blue Cross insurance. Donetta asked about QS1, Lise explained its ok, still dealing with a few things. There were no other questions for Lise.

Karen Garland was recognized. She gave her report. Karen explained to the board they had gotten a penalty for a returned check that wasn't picked up by the end of the year. The State now charges a penalty fee of \$30.00. State notifies the customer and the Newland office never knows if they have a bad check. There were no questions for Karen. Donetta told Karen she did a great job decorating the Grinch tree for the town, along with Crystal and Tammy's help. The board all agreed that the Town looked very nice.

Ben Townsend was recognized. They received 3500 on the selling of the old police cars. There also was a spike in shoplifting. Other than that he reported business as usual. There were no questions for Ben.

Keith Hoilman was recognized. He explained how they got the ton truck running and it costed about \$500.00, with no luck on finding a good used truck yet. He told the Board about James having surgery and will be out about 15 days or so. Other than that, it was business as usual. There were no questions for Keith. Kenny told Keith what a good job everyone did on the decorations and decorating the Town. The board agreed.

Clara Dickson asks to speak since she came in after public comments. She asked the Board if they could do the closed sessions last so people won't have to stand around and wait. She then asked the Board how information pertaining to closed session leaked to the press. The Board explains that things are under investigation and more people knew about it than just the Board members.

There was no old business or new business.

Donetta made a motion to go into closed session to discuss personnel and litigation. Thomas seconded the motion. All agreed by a show of hands.

After returning to open session Kenny made a motion to hire Keith Hoilman as new full-time Town Administrator, at the pleasure of the board. He will continue to be over the Public Utilities full time. Donetta seconded the motion. All approved by a show of hands.

Donetta made a motion to adjourn. Kenny seconded the motion. All agreed by a show of hands. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK