

TOWN OF NEWLAND
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
JULY 3, 2018
6:00 PM

PRESENT:

MAYOR: Valerie Jaynes
ATTORNEY: Joe Seegers
ALDERMAN: Kenny Caraway, James C. Johnson, Lauren Turbyfill, Greg Seiz
GUESTS: Nicole South, Bev Baird, Christy Hughes, Frances Banner, David Masonoff, Casey Turbyfill,
STAFF: Lise Meinhardt, Keith Hoilman, Byron Clawson, Crystal Hicks, James Hicks, Tammy Gardner

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. The Mayor then led the audience in the pledge to the American flag.

Greg made a motion to approve the proposed agenda. James seconded the motion. All agreed by a show of hands and stating I. Motion carried.

James made a motion to approve the June minutes. Greg seconded the motion. All agreed by a show of hands and stating I. Motion carried.

The Mayor asked for public comments. The Mayor announced the rules for public comments.

David Masonoff approached the board about organizing a group to help clean up the Town, which had been previously discussed with the help of Greater Newland. David stated it was 6 months later and where are we now at getting these things done. Lauren explained she organized a clean-up effort by putting it on Facebook and talking with Steve York. She stated she had stayed until 4:30 and painted signs. Mr. Masonoff stated that he tried to keep up with the minutes and it looked like the board talked about it in May and maybe doing it in June. Mr. Masonoff stated he would like to have known about it, he stated he checked everywhere but he found no signs of it anywhere. Lauren stated she remembered that it was May 26th and it rained but did not carry through with it since someone had a car show to raise money for her child that has cystic-fibrosis at her church. Lauren stated she did not take on the notion to plan that one and it did not happen. Lauren stated they had a cleanup day on Saturday June 30th in which she advertised on Facebook where she has 5000 friends plus she put it on the Town of Newland Facebook also. She stated she was sorry he did not know and asked if he had a Facebook. Lauren stated she would look him up. David asked about street signs and Keith stated it was the towns place to fix and to just let us know if one was messed up. David then asked the town if they could move the old telephone booth from the side of the road near CVS since it's so ugly. Keith stated that it was probably something maintenance could take down.

Christy Hughes approached the board about the vacant alderman spot on the board. Christy presented the board a petition of 110 signatures from registered voters in the Town of Newland where she spent the last two weeks going door to door. The voters felt she would be good for the position of council

member. Christy stated she talked with them and found out suggestions to make Newland a beautiful vibrant Town. Christy stated she would like to see more activities for the children and take opinions to heart and listen to what people have to say. Christy stated she had lived here all her life and was willing to work with the board. She stated she felt she could help the Town and was willing to help make the Town better.

Frances Banner spoke in Christy's behalf, stating she had known Christy for years and supported her.

Nicole South approached the board with an issue she was having at her house on 471 Eskona Street. Nicole presented the board with a map image which showed her house and surrounding areas in which is affected from this. The drain run off is too much when there is heavy rains and it goes into her yard. She stated the culvert fills up with dirt and debris which causes water to back up into her yard. Nicole stated the ditch needs to be cleaned out regularly but has not been touched by the town. Nicole stated her husband has tried to dig it out, but it keeps filling up. Nicole stated she was asking for help. After discussion, Keith stated they would look into it.

Crystal Hicks gave the tag office and passport report. There were no questions for Crystal.

Lise Meinhardt gave the financial report. Lise stated she would have the preliminary financial pre-audit statement by next week.

Chief Byron Clawson gave the police report. Chief Clawson stated he started the process to get the new recruits ready. Chief Clawson stated the new flooring is down in the police department and has made a big difference in helping to keep the office clean. Chief Clawson stated that the evidence room will be cleaned on the 5th and he will have an officer there to safeguard the evidence. Chief Clawson also stated there was a missing person from Newland who was located in Johnson City. Chief Clawson stated there was a counterfeit \$100.00-dollar bill attempted to be passed at Family Dollar. Local businesses were alerted. Lauren asked if the new recruits would be able to work on Saturday the 7th. Chief Clawson stated they were on the schedule. Greg asked if the Police department was at full strength. Chief Clawson stated he felt by August it would be.

Keith Hoilman gave the Administrator and water works reports. Keith stated he had contacted David Hill with Piedmont Triad Regional Council and has scheduled interviews at Town Hall on July 18th and 20th. Keith stated that the DWQ inspection went well. Keith stated on clean-up day they replaced most of the lights and timers on the sidewalks. Keith stated he had talked with Mr. Ellis and he stated if the town was interested they could make an offer and they would look at it. Keith stated that Colby Benfield started July 2nd for the public works department and was doing a great job and would be a great asset for the town. Keith told the board that Thursday July 12th would be Lise Meinhardt's last day and how much she would be missed. Keith presented James Clark a plaque for his dedication and hard work to the Town of Newland for 15 years of service. Eddie Johnson has been here 7 years this month. Keith stated there will be a workshop on Saturday, July 14th at 8:00 am. Greg asked about the paving. Keith stated they had repaired most of the areas. The board recognized Autumn McNay and her children for helping on the clean-up day. James stated the little boy was a big help in changing light bulbs with him. Keith expressed the need for the board to be thinking about someone to replace Lise as soon as possible. Greg asked Lise if she would reconsider for a shorter time. Greg stated it would be a great loss considering what a phenomenal job she has done and how she is appreciated. Lise stated she had been here 2 years and felt it was time to go but she would be here to help train someone a few days a week through July. Lise advertised the job on indeed and would be checking to see if someone qualified for the job.

In old business: Greg stated he was going to move forward with the planning committee. Kenny stated that some ordinances would need changing. Joe Seegers stated that was best done in a workshop environment. Lauren asked if the board would approve for putting a mural of a pretty scenic place painted on the side of the building.

In new business: Lauren asked Joe Seegers if there would ever be the opportunity to have just four board members and give the mayor a decent purpose. Joe Seegers replied if you don't fill the vacancy, it remains vacant until the next election. James asked about the 90 days. Joe stated the board has a duty to do their job but if they don't fill the vacancy it's as simple as that. James stated this is good enough for me, don't know about you all but I think with Cristy's 100 signatures and she's back there willing to serve, and like he said we have a duty. James made a motion to have Christy Hughes fill the vacancy for board member. There were no seconds. Motion did not carry.

Kenny Made a motion to adjourn. Greg seconded the motion. All agreed by a show of hands and stating I. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Mayor, Valerie Jaynes

Clerk, Tammy Gardner