

TOWN OF ALBERTA
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY NOVEMBER 20, 2018 AT 4:00 PM.

The Alberta Town Council held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 20, 2018. At the Town of Alberta Office with Mayor Diane Ashley presiding.

Council Members Present:

William Holmes
Freida Peterson-Weddington
Richard Ozmore, Jr.
Armenta Stamps
Mable Wynn

Council Members Absent

Residents & Visitors Present:

Rebecca Mullins	Dominick Tucker	Kay Barnes
Curt Williams	Elena Scalzi	Stacy Taylor

Call to Order:

Mayor Ashley asked for a motion to call to order the November 20, 2018 Council meeting. Councilman Ozmore made the motion, Vice Mayor Wynn seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Resident and Visitors Recognition/ Comments:

Mayor Ashley recognized the residents and visitors.

Elena Scalzi, “dogs, I have a dog next door that craps all over my lawn, runs all over... I thought there was a dog ordinance or leash, who do I contact for that?” Mayor Ashley responded, “that you’re doing the right thing right now” Mayor Ashley asked for the address of where the dog resides, to send out the letter for the lease law.

Kay Barnes also mentioned the dog on the intersection of Church Street and Second Avenue, no one is sure of the owner of the dog.

Curt Williams did not have any comments.

Rebecca Mullins stated, “the trash pick-up, what time is the trash pick-up?” Mayor Ashley stated, “I’m glad you asked because there have been times I’ve driven by and your trash is sitting out, the trash is picked up after 12:00 p.m.”

Ms. Mullins stated that she came home the other day at 11:47a.m. and the trash had been picked up. Mayor Ashley stated, “ your trash is out in plastic bags, not in a can, and therefore small animals and birds can be torn... one of our citizens called the EPA, therefore the trash is picked up twice a week... this is a free service, we don’t charge, before when we had water and sewer, you were being charged for trash pick-up... the garbage will be picked on Friday and Monday after 12:00p.m.”

Elena Scalzi asked can you leave your trash out on the morning of? Mayor Ashley, responded absolutely, especially for people who are not home during the day, the maintenance will pick-up as soon as they get here, and they still do the regular trash run at noon.

Toni Celaya stated, “I was off last Monday, when I came into the office on Tuesday, I saw your bag of trash out front {Rebecca Mullins, Trash}, I left it alone, I was off and Wednesday, when I came into work on Thursday morning at 9:00 a.m. it was still there, so I picked it up, so it wouldn’t sit out another day.”

Rebecca Stated, I always leave one bag and try to fill it before they come.

Councilwoman Peterson- Weddington stated, you can not leave your trash out from Monday-Thursday.

Mayor Ashley asked if there were any more questions or comments regarding the trash pick-up or animals?

Stacy Taylor, “asked what we are going to do about the stray cats wandering around? Mayor Ashley stated, “that there are stray cats because, my house burnt down, I would take the cats and feed them, but since the fire no one else has taken the responsibility of them... but there is only so much you can do when it comes to the guidelines of the commonwealth.”

Dominick Tucker stated, “I just recently moved back into Brunswick County... just purchased the Bishop and Settle building, and I would like to open a Barber Shop.... Mayor Ashley stated, “with you two {Curt Williams and Dominick Tucker} being so young maybe can get some boy scouts going on... bring something new and fresh into the town.

Mayor Ashley stated, all the residents and visitors have been recognized.

Elena Scalzi asked, "what's going on with your house?" Mayor Ashley responded, that is personal, and should you like to ask about my personal business, you can ask me after the meeting, but if you asking as far as the town is concerned, the property is not the only property that is burned in the town, but it seems to be the only property that is an issue..."

Elena Scalzi stated, "I just can't believe no one has done anything."

Mayor Ashley, responded, "there is a home right on second avenue, that has been abandoned and has a pack of animals living there... as far as 560 Second Avenue, that has not been determined yet, and when the insurance information is finished, then the owner will decide what will happen."

Approval of Agenda:

Mayor Ashley asked for a motion to approve the agenda for the November 20, 2018 council meeting, Councilwoman Peterson-Weddington made the motion, Councilman Holmes seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes and Bills List:

Mayor Ashley asked for a motion to approve the regular minutes for the October 9, 2018 Council meeting. Councilman Ozmore made the motion, Councilwoman Stamps seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Ashley asked for a motion to approve the list of Bills totaling \$18,078.09, which includes a payment to VRA (Virginia Resource Authority for 5,088.83. Mayor Ashley stated that she will contact CJ Dean to see exactly what this before we approve, please deduct the 5, 088.83 from the bill list. Mayor Ashley asked for a motion to approve the bill list for November 2018 with a total of 12,989.26. Councilman Holmes made the motion, Vice Mayor Wynn seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Visitors, Elena Scalzi and Stacy Taylor were having a conversation during this time. Mayor Ashely asked them to please be quiet during the meeting. Stacy Taylor then stated, "I would appreciate less, attitude." Mayor Ashley then stated, "you really do need to be quiet during the meeting, we will give you another opportunity to speak at the end of the meeting."

Reports:

1. **Public Safety:** Councilwoman Peterson stated, she has been receiving complaints about the roads being dirty by the sawmill. Mayor Ashley stated that hopefully the safety committee {Councilman Holmes, Councilman Ozmore, and Mayor Ashley} will be able to have a meeting with the owners.
2. **Fire Report:** No report available.
3. **Police Report:** Mayor Ashley presented the police report with 20 reckless driving and 5 speeding.
4. **Administrative & Finance/Economic Development:** Mayor Ashley presented the deposit list in the amount of \$24,091.60. which include Sales Tax and net collections, of fines, and 2018 Taxes.

Old Business:

- A. **Halloween Event:** The Halloween Trunk or Treat was very nice; the town truck was decorated.
- B. **Colonial Downs:** Mayor Ashley spoke to Dr. Woolridge and the Economic Development Director (EDD) and asked to go forward; the Colonial Downs are coming back in Richmond and Goochland County, and with us having a building in Alberta, we should be a part of that. I asked for a motion that we continue to work with Dr. Woolridge and the EDD to get the Colonial Downs back up and running.

New Business:

- A. **Exit Audit:** Mayor Ashley stated the auditor, Michael Aukamp has already visited the office, and is in the process of completing the exit audit. Mrs. Ashley also stated, I've requested the exit audit so that way any questions that anyone has will be clearly explained in the exit audit.
- B. **Toddler Park:** We recently spoke to Creative Playthings representative, Vito Parisi prior to this meeting, he gave us an installation date of December 18, 2018, he stated that the installation dates have been pushed back due to, weather, waiting on the arrival of the

equipment from the manufacture, and prior projects that have not been completed by creative playthings.

Mayor Ashley asked council for a motion to use the space by the caboose to use that space for the Christmas decorations, since the toddler park will be installed this year.

Councilwoman Peterson- Weddington made the motion, Councilman Holmes seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

- C. Christmas Dinner:** Mayor Ashley asked for a motion to have a Christmas Dinner for the council members and staff at Lucas Italian Restaurant on Friday, December 14, 2018 at 6:00p.m. Councilwoman Peterson- Weddington made the motion, Councilman Holmes seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Announcements /Handouts: The Town of Clarksville will be hosting the Mayors/ Managers Christmas Dinner on December 13, 2018.

CLOSED SESSION – PERSONNEL:

Mayor Diane Ashley asked, “Is there a motion that pursuant to VA Code Section 2.1-344, Section A-3, we go into a closed meeting for the purpose of BUSINESS/PERSONNEL

CLOSED SESSION RECONVENE CERTIFICATION- OPEN SESSION:

Town Clerk Toni Celaya asked, “Do each of you certify that to the best of your knowledge, that the only matters discussed during the closed session just concluded were those both lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements and identified in the motion by which the closed session was convened?

Mable Wynn-	Yes
Richard Ozmore, Jr. -	Yes
Armenta Stamps-	Yes
William Holmes-	Yes
Frieda Peterson-	Yes
Diane Ashley-	Yes

Mayor Ashley stated the town council has voted to hire Laurence Weddington, as the second gentleman on the maintenance crew.

Mayor Ashley also asked for a motion to give the clerical staff, Toni Celaya, Chief of Police Michael Brown, and the maintenance staff a Christmas bonus. Councilwoman Peterson-Weddington made the motion, Councilman Holmes seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Resident and Visitors Recognition/ Comments:

Kay Barnes, asked if the colonial downs building, will remain as an off-tracking betting establishment.

Mayor Ashley stated, that she believes it will continue to be off-track betting.

Elena Scalzi stated that the drinking water for the town is horrible, it comes out of the pipes “sludgy”.

Mayor Ashley stated that she will contact CJ Dean and asked Ms. Scalzi to please bring a sample of the water.

Curt Williams also commented that the water was very nasty in his home as well, and the water tank in Alberta is not under contract to be checked annually.

Mayor Ashley asked for Mr. William contact information and hopefully the can work in conjunction to get this problem solved.

Rebecca Mullins asked if anyone else was having issues of an extremely high-water bill? I thought with transferring the water to the Town of Lawrenceville, the water bill was supposed to be cheaper.

Mayor Ashley stated that the town needs to come together and go to the meetings and explain what is going on with the water.

Elena Scalzi stated, that there is a lot of debris on the road on the street by her home.

Mayor Ashley stated that she will have the maintenance crew look at, we just need someone to show where exactly.

Dominick Tucker stated, “When it comes to the meeting, Knowledge is power, I wouldn’t have known about the meeting if I hadn’t called and talk to the clerk. If other people in the town maybe dealing with the same issues and were not hearing them because they’re not here...when is the next council election.

Mayor Ashley stated that council is supposed to have 12% of the population to have a council, which is 7 members as of right now we have 5 members, if you are interested in being on council, we can bring you on in December.

Adjournment: Mayor Ashley asked for a motion to adjourn the November 20, 2018 Alberta Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Peterson-Weddington made the motion, seconded by Councilman Holmes, and the motion carried unanimously.