

TOWN OF ALBERTA
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, September 12, 2016 AT 7:00 PM

The Alberta Town Council held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, September 12, 2016 at 7:00 PM in the Town Office with Mayor Diane Ashley presiding.

Council Members Present:

Diane B. Ashley, Mayor
William Holmes
Thomas Mabry
Jeanette Moore
Freida Peterson

Council Members Absent:

Harriett Johnson

Town Residents/Visitors Present:

Attorney Joe Whitby, Sylvia Allen, Mary Markle, Richard Ozmore, Buddy Hyde, Susan Sawyer, Ray Sawyer, Bill Hudson, Shelly Hudson-Baker, Gene Wiley, Michael Brown and Toni Celaya.

Call to Order and Approval of Agenda: Mayor Ashley called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Councilwoman Jeanette Moore motioned the agenda; Councilwoman Freida Peterson second the motion. The agenda was approved and carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes and Bills List: Mayor Ashley asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the August 8, 2016 meeting. Mr. William Holmes made a motion to approve the minutes and Ms. Moore second the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mayor Ashley asked for a motion to approve the bill list for September; Ms. Jeanette Moore made the motion to approve the bills list and Mr. Mabry second it and the motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Public Safety:** Mayor Ashley stated, it was reported the swing set was in ill repair and potentially dangerous. Mayor Ashley and Mr. Holmes will investigate the complaint to see what actions need to be taken. Ms. Ashley asked council to give her permission that if a safety hazard, can the set be removed? Mr. Holmes made the motion and Ms. Moore second it and the motion carried unanimously.
- B. Fire Report:** Mr. Buddy Hyde presented the August fire report. (see attachment for full report.)

- C. **Police Report:** Officer Michael Brown presented the police report for the month of August, (see attachment)
- D. **Administrative & Finance/ Economic Development:** Ms. Ashley presented the August deposit list with a total of \$4,272.81. The Town of Alberta received a letter from the Department of Emergency Management, where the town would possibly have to send a check to the department of emergency, the check was sent through the town, but was given to the Alberta Volunteer Fire Department. If there was an overpayment the fire department is expected to refund the Department of Emergency.

_OLD BUSINESS:

- A. **Freedom Of Information Act (FOIA):**
 - 1. **Procedures:** Ms. Ashley stated there are step by step procedures in place for FOIA request on the Alberta town website and audit 2015, letters of resignation, financial reports, agendas and minutes are posted and up to date at: www.albertava.com.
 - 2. **New FOIA Officer:** Mrs. Toni Celaya is the new FOIA officer.
 - 3. **Open FOIA Letter from Trudy Reel:** The letter was read in the August 8, 2016 council meeting, she has paid for her FOIA request.
- B. **Tobacco Heritage Trail:** Alberta's town council is continuously working on the trail, and hopes to have a meeting with Robin Tuck when she returns from maternity leave.
- C. **Verizon Meeting/ Planning Commission:** Buddy Hyde and Ms. Ashley met with a representative from Verizon and their Attorney. "It looks hopeful, if the Town of Alberta is technologically fit it would be a great way to market the town", stated Mayor Ashley. Once the fire department and Verizon have made a decision, they will need to ask the Alberta Planning Commission for permission.
- D. **Department of Emergency Management Letter:** (See committee reports: Section D. Administrative and finance development.)

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **Lois Marks's Death:** Council member Lois Marks passed on August 9, 2016. Ms. Ashley stated Ms. Marks had a lot of energy; Ms. Marks cared a great deal about the Town of Alberta, and helped with the town's current dog ordinance.
- B. **Appointment of council for Lois Marks Open Seat:** Ms. Ashley asked for a motion to appoint Mr. Richard Ozmore Jr. to Lois Marks' open unexpired seat on the Alberta Town council. Ms. Moore motioned to appoint Richard Ozmore Jr. to the Alberta Town council and Mr. Mabry second the motion and it carried unanimously.

C. Special Events:

- 1. Halloween:** Ms. Ashley asked for a motion to have a Halloween event for the children of the town. Mr. Holmes made the motion to have a Halloween event and Ms. Peterson second it and the motion carried unanimously.
- 2. Christmas:** Ms. Ashley asked for a motion to have a Christmas event in the Alberta town square. Mr. Holmes made the motion and Ms. Moore second the motion and it carried unanimously.

D. Litter Grant: Ms. Ashley received paperwork for the litter grant and it has been completed and sent.

E. Personal Property Relief Act: Alberta received a deposit of \$16,994.93.

F. Audit: The Alberta Town audit for 2015 can be found on the Alberta Town website; Mayor Ashley also read a letter from the auditors Dunham, Aukamp, and Rhodes, PLC, which explains the significant deficiencies found in the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015. Ms Ashley read the disclaimer letter (also on website). Ms. Ashley is implementing provisions to prevent any future discrepancies. At the auditor's recommendation, both clerks will cross train.

G. 2nd Notice for Late Decals: Ms. Ashley asked council to send out second notice for late decals.

H. VML Credit for Workers' Compensation: The Town of Alberta has received credit for an overpayment to the Virginia Municipal League for Workers' Compensation, the town of Alberta pays VML quarterly, Ms. Ashley has had VML credit the account on the next payment.

I. Letter of Intent -Harriet "Bootsie" Johnson: Councilwoman Harriet Johnson was sent a letter of intent in regards to her council member seat.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ HANDOUTS: There are no handouts and there is no need to go into CLOSED SESSION

Residents and Visitors Recognition/ Comments:

Ms. Ashley recognized residents and visitors then called for comments. "Just to compliment you on the website...received the agenda for tonight from the website", stated Ray Sawyer. Susan Sawyer stated, "with regards to decals have you all done a cost analyst...save money but it may be so little it may not make a difference." Bill Hudson stated, "Very good to see council working together...I compliment you." Officer Brown stated there were break-ins into unlocked cars in the local area and to please be careful and report any suspicious activity to 911.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Town Council, Ms. Jeanette Moore made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Holmes second it and it carried unanimously.