

Minutes for Town Meeting

April 3, 2017

Call to Order: Mayor Diehl called the regular meeting to order with 5 council members present.

Attendance: Councilman Walker, Councilman Jones, Councilman Towers, Councilwoman McGee, Councilman Downton, and Administrator Robin Jones.

Guests: Rob Corley – Garrett County Sheriff's Office, Regina Holliday, Jody Theriot, Lucy Stein, and Emily Newman-Edwards – Town Residents.

Minutes: The minutes for the March 20, 2017 meeting were approved as written.

Sheriff Corley: For the month of March there were 33 calls in the town. 23 were for regular patrols and bus grant. 1 was for an overdose. 4 calls were for service. The speed sign is back in service and will be brought to the town for use on Miller Street in the near future.

Administrator Report: Antiskid Removal: This began today and should be completed by Tuesday or Wednesday at the latest. Computers: They have been ordered and should be installed within the next few days. CHIPS Network will be completing the work. They currently do computer work for the Town of Oakland and the Town of Friendsville.

Mayor Report: 123 Main Street: The mayor had spoken with the resident of this address and requested a plan be submitted for the organization of this property. This plan was not received. A decision has to be made on how to proceed from this point. Lucy Stein suggested that the town enlist the help of the GC Health Department. When dealing with a possible mental illness they may be able to provide assistance. The administrator provided information that the health department has already visited the property and did not find it to be a health hazard to the occupants. Councilman Downton moved to request the Code Enforcement Officer to proceed to the next step. Councilman Walker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Voter Registration: Voter registration was held at town hall today from 8AM to 4PM. 1 person registered. 4 applications were distributed to residents for them to complete.

Phone and Internet: The County can provide 10mbps/10mbps to town hall at no monthly charge through the fiber optic that was installed approximately 2 years ago to the Ruth Enlow Library, Northern Garrett Outreach Center, The Senior Center, and the Grantsville Elementary School to name a few places. This will save the town \$64.99 per month. The town is also able to use a phone service through the county that will cost just \$9.00 a month per phone to rent phone. It offers local and long distance calling. The current charges for phone service are approximately \$450.00 per month. There is a possibility that a phone line may need to remain to be used in conjunction with the water plant telemetry system. This will be researched further before all lines are changed over. CHIPS Network will also be providing a quote for phone service. Currently it would be around \$500.00 for the phone equipment and approximately \$100.00 per month for the services,

Museum Phone and Internet: When the town discontinues the use of Verizon phone and internet, the Museum will need to find another source or change the billing over into their name. A letter will be drafted and mailed stating this.

Goodwill Sewer Line: Commissioner Edwards has proposed that the Town take over ownership of the sewer line. The loan to construct the line has been paid in full. This would allow the town to charge the standard fee of \$5.50 per 1,000 gallons of sewer treated. It would be more collected monies than the County now pays the town of \$3.60 per 1,000 gallons. The cons to taking over the line are: the town cannot perform the maintenance, when a pump truck is needed this would need to be contracted as the town does not own one, it is an older line and may need routine maintenance soon, Bill Hetrick is retiring in 2 years, and the town guys do not want the ownership of the line transferred to the town.

Next Meeting is April 17, 2017 beginning at 6PM. At that meeting, the new phone services will be on the agenda as well as garbage bid opening

Regina Holliday asked who would be responsible to remove branches that have fallen at the Grantsville Cemetery. This is presenting a safety hazard to visitors. The Cub Scouts will be placing flowers on graves in the near future and this needs to be addressed before that. She was provided with the names of Lynn Newman and Floyd Baker as they are on the Cemetery Board.

Jody Theriot would like the town to possibly keep a phone hardwired line in case of emergencies.

Code Enforcement will also be asked to check into the fallen branches on Alverda Beachy's property on Miller Street.

Meeting adjourned at 6:49PM.

Administrator, Robin L. Jones

Mayor/Pres., Mark C. Diehl