

A meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Williamsport was held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, December 3, 2018 at the Town Hall with the following officers present – Dave Banta, Council President and Council Members Traci Latoz and Dick Briles. Also present were Bill Lucas, Clerk-Treasurer and Nancy Litzenberger, Town Attorney, Jim Lanham, Randy Wurtsbaugh, Ted Latoz, Amy Cushman, Jud Barce, Mallory Redlin, Mark Hutson, Kevin Strickler, Mike Hutchison, Phil Astel, Allie Lockwood, Greg Taylor, Danny Kincade, Kurt Hartman, and Adam Gilbert from the Review Republican.

Dave Banta called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Dick Briles made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for the following dates: November 1<sup>st</sup>, November 8<sup>th</sup>, and November 27<sup>th</sup>. Traci Latoz seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Kevin Strickler said the Electric Department has been trimming trees and inspecting and replacing poles. They will continue to do this throughout the winter.

Kevin Strickler has a signed contract from King Builders that he will get to the office. Construction will begin in March 2019.

Kevin Strickler stated the pump motor for well # 2 went out and has been replaced. The motor was last replaced three years ago. The cost is between \$4,000 and \$5,000.

Kevin Strickler stated there were repairs done on the dump truck that cost between \$2,400 and \$2,500.

Kevin Strickler said the Town did not get the Community Crossings grant for 2019 that would help with street work. This grant was 75% funded by the State and 25% funded by the Town. The Town has been awarded this grant the past two years. The Town can apply again in January as well as July 2019.

Mark Hutson had nothing new to discuss.

Dave Banta asked Ted Latoz about ordinance 2008-10, concerning grass clippings be considered litter when in the street. Ted said he did not think this ordinance would apply; however, it would need to be looked into to determine when grass clippings in the road would be considered litter.

Ted Latoz spoke about water theft. Ted stated it is not considered theft for a resident to turn water back on themselves at the meter, even if the Town has shut them off and has no knowledge that the resident is using water. Kevin Strickler said they are going to start pulling the water meters when service is shut off.

Kevin Strickler discussed the three electric meters that had been stolen from Williamsport homes around the end of the summer/beginning of fall.

Dave Banta spoke about the payment the Town makes to the County for leaf removal in the fall and suggested increasing the payment. The Town currently pays \$500 a year for the County's help with leaf removal. The Council will discuss this further at the year-end meeting.

The year-end meeting will be held Monday, December 17, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Dick Briles asked about the lunch at The Beef House the Town holds for the employees every year. This will be held Friday, December 21, 2018 at 12:00 p.m. Traci Latoz requested that the new council members be invited. The new council members, Jim Lanham and Mike Hutchison will be included in The Beef House lunch.

Dave Banta asked Bill Lucas about the 2019 Holiday Schedule and the 2019 Council Meeting Schedule. Bill Lucas stated there are no changes to the holiday schedule and the council meetings will continue to be held on the first day of the month unless the first falls on a Friday or a holiday. If the first falls on a Friday or a holiday, the meeting will be held the next business day. Traci requested a copy of both schedules be emailed to her to post on the Town's website.

Kevin Strickler asked Traci Latoz to put something on the website about leaf pick-up being done for the year.

Nancy Litzenberger spoke about the Area Planning Commission being ok with building an office building by the Farm Bureau Insurance office. Dick Briles made a motion to approve the area be rezoned from residential to commercial. Traci Latoz seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

Dave Banta stated he will need to be replaced on the solid waste board. His replacement needs to be one of the three council members. The new council will determine his replacement after January 1, 2019.

Dave Banta also spoke about several other positions, including park board, which the council will need to appoint and fill in 2019.

Dave Banta spoke about the Deer Meadows subdivision. Most of the lots available have been sold, however there have been several issues with the streets being finished and the town incorporating the streets. These issues will likely be brought up with the new council in 2019. Dave Banta will get the file of information on this issue to Mike Hutchison.

Dave Banta reminded the new council members in attendance that the rate increases on water and sewer that were adopted on November 27, 2018 were done to allow work to fix needed water issues in town, as well as the upcoming sewer project. The sewer project will be done first.

Dave Banta spoke about the hospital owning  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the industrial park for a new hospital. They have not taken any action to do anything with it, and Dave suggested the new council meet with the hospital board to discuss what they are going to do with it.

Kurt Hartman with AHW spoke to the council about a tax abatement for their new building. A waiver of non-compliance needs to be signed by the Town because the building is already up. Form SB1 needs signed. Kurt presented the council with documents showing a breakdown of costs for the new building, vendors used, and projected costs. Project completion has been appraised at \$4.8 million. AHW is requesting a ten year tax abatement. Kurt Hartman stated a resolution needs passed by the town regarding the tax abatement. No resolution was prepared to be passed at tonight's meeting. Due to the importance of following correct procedure for the tax abatement, further research is needed into what to do next. Discussion of the needed resolution will pick up again at the year-end meeting on December 17<sup>th</sup>.

Allie Lockwood proposed to decorate the Twin Bridges and planters downtown. Dreamland Tree Farm and 41 Flowers have offered to donate materials for her to use. The council gave their approval for her to proceed.

Phil Astel spoke to the council about emergency management. He has a \$20,000 grant to fund his project for a mitigation plan. This plan has to be updated every five years.

Jud Barce introduced himself and his associate, Mallory Redlin. They have applied for the position of Town Attorney for 2019.

Danny Kincade asked the council about their decision on giving the Senior Center building to the fair board. The fair board wants to remove the existing food building, senior center, and bathrooms and combine the three into one new big building where these buildings are currently located. Traci Latoz said the Senior Center board wants to discuss what this will mean for them as an organization with the fair board. Traci believes it may help the Fair Board with their grant application if they spoke with the Senior Center board. Danny Kincade asked for approval from the council to take the Senior Center down if the grant is approved. Kurt Hartman, who is the Fair Board President, spoke about what is planned. Dick Briles made a motion to allow the Fair Board to take down the Senior Center if they are awarded the grant. Traci Latoz asked if the grant the Fair Board is applying for is for full funding. Kurt Hartman said the amount of the grant can vary. They will not ask the town for money to help rebuild the new building. Kurt stated nothing will be taken down if they are not awarded the grant. Danny Kincade added that the fair board would not take possession of the Senior Center unless the grant is awarded. Dave Banta seconded the motion to allow the Fair Board to take down the Senior Center if they are awarded the grant. Dick Briles and Dave Banta voted yes. Traci Latoz abstained from the vote. Motion passed.

Dick Briles made a motion to adjourn. Traci Latoz seconded the motion. Voted and passed.

With no further business to come before the Council the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
President

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Member

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Member