

TOWN OF CUMBERLAND GAP
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMAN
NOVEMBER 2, 2015
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The Board of Mayor and Alderman met in regular session on November 2, 2015 with Mayor McGaffee calling the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall building, 330 Colwyn, Cumberland Gap, TN. After the Pledge to the Flag, Mayor McGaffee called for a roll call of the Board Members. Board Members answered as follows: Susan Bain-absent; Chuck Coffey- here; Teresa Fuson- here; Jerry Hopson -here; John Ravnum-here; Phillip Waller-here.

Mayor McGaffee called for approval of the minutes. Jerry Hopson made a motion to the approve minutes, with a second by Chuck Coffey. Mayor McGaffee called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: Susan Bain-absent; Chuck Coffey-yes; Teresa Fuson- yes; Jerry Hopson -yes; John Ravnum-yes; Phillip Waller-yes.

Mayor McGaffee next called for the Financial Report. Town Recorder, Linda Moyers, reported the balances of all the accounts. Mayor McGaffee called for a motion to approve the Financial Report. Chuck Coffey made a motion to approve the financial report, with a second by Phillip Waller. Mayor McGaffee called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: Susan Bain-absent; Chuck Coffey-yes; Teresa Fuson- yes; Jerry Hopson -yes; John Ravnum-yes; Phillip Waller-yes.

Mayor McGaffee directed the meeting to approval of the bills. Phillip Waller made a motion to pay the bills, with a second by Jerry Hopson. Mayor McGaffee called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: Susan Bain-absent; Chuck Coffey-yes; Teresa Fuson- yes; Jerry Hopson -yes; John Ravnum-yes; Phillip Waller-yes.

Mark Treadway gave an update on the 2016 Genealogy Jamboree. Mr. Treadway explained since several issues have been worked out the event will remain in the Gap. The event will be bigger and stronger than years past. New items will be on display, such as the John Sevier's bible which is around 440 years old. New vendors plan to set up and new instructors will be teaching classes, such as photo restoration.

Mayor McGaffee directed the meeting to the committee reports:

Planning & Zoning

Meetings will no longer be conducted monthly unless there are items to be discussed.

Finance

There was nothing to report.

Law and Order

Mayor McGaffee is pursuing the possibility of hiring a police officer.

Historical

The next meeting of the Historic Zoning Commission will be on Tuesday November 9, 2015.

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Mayor McGaffee had to leave so the meeting was turned over to Vice Mayor Jerry Hopson.

Streets

All the potholes were patched last month. Ray Paul is looking into the possibility of purchasing a rubber piece to install on the bottom of the snow plow so the new asphalt will not be scraped up.

Parks and Recreation

Zuri Hudson, a resident of Cumberland Gap and president of her LMU DCOM class, explained that they are starting a Green Initiative program on campus in an effort to become more aware of the environment. She came tonight to ask if the town would donate the 3 extra recycling bins, stored at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, to LMU to be used for their program.

Chuck Coffey made a motion to donate the recycling bins, with a second by John Ravnum. Vice Mayor Hopson called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: Susan Bain-absent; Chuck Coffey-yes; Teresa Fuson- yes; Jerry Hopson – couldn't vote; John Ravnum-yes; Phillip Waller-yes.

Tourism/Events

Upcoming events include:

Cumberland MTN Music Show- November 14, 2015

Music will begin at 7:30 pm at the Convention Center.

Firefighter's Night at Angelo's in the Gap- November 3, 2015

Come out and support the Cumberland Gap VFD from 5-10 pm. There will be a boot at the door for donations. The VFD will keep all the money in the boot while the tips are split with the staff at Angelo's.

Artist Co-op Open House- December 4, 2015 & December 5, 2015

Dates are subject to change.

Victorian Christmas- December 5, 2015

Father and Mother Christmas will visit with the children from 10-3 pm.

John Ravnum thanked all those who helped with Pumpkin Lights and on Halloween night.

Several months ago, the board approved moving the White Lightning Trail Festival to the first weekend in June. Since that coincided with the Artist Co-op festival both events were combined. Since then the Artist Co-op has decided they not want to be combined and will advertise their event separately, and have their own event insurance. The Artist Co-op wanted to make sure they got first choice of Festival Park. If the White Lightning

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Trail Festival was cancelled then the Artist Co-op Festival would still take place. Vice Mayor Hopson said that shouldn't be a problem but recommended that they attend the Tourism meeting at 5:30 pm at the Claiborne County Chamber office on November 19, 2015, to discuss the issue further and get more details on the plans for the White Lightning Trail Festival.

Water

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application was not approved. There will be on conference call at 2:30 pm on November 5, 2015 to discuss the scoring and why it was not approved. The board decided to reapply for the next cycle.

The water loss went up from 44% in September to 47% in October. The water meter at the hotel needs to be changed out. The water to the hotel will have to be shut off so the town is working with the owner for the best time to change out the meter. Jesse Thompson recommended contacting a professional to change the meter out instead of the town doing it. They may have better equipment and more people, which could cut down on the time that the hotel would be without water.

Sewer

The coy fish at the WWTP have overpopulated and need to be relocated. Six fish were purchased and placed in the clarifier at the WWTP at the beginning of the year eliminating the use of chemicals. There is now around 150 fish in the tank. Jesse Thompson explained that the National Park will not allow them to be released in the creek. Several people spoke up saying they would take some of the fish and place them in their ponds.

Fire Department

The Tazewell parade will be on Saturday November 21, 2015. Ray Paul and 2 volunteer firemen plan to take one of the trucks and participate in the event.

Brandon Wilkinson explained that the Fire Chief training he planned to attend later this month has been cancelled and will be rescheduled in the spring.

The FEMA Grants are still being announced. At this time CGVFD is not one of the departments awarded.

A potluck dinner is being planned to show appreciation for the volunteer fire department. The dinner will take place at 6:30 pm on December 9, 2015 at the Convention Center. Joyce Waller and Linda McGaffee plan to go door to door and invite the citizens to attend and to bring a dish.

Jesse Thompson stated he would donate \$100 toward purchasing hams for the dinner. Teresa Fuson said she would take care of the paper plates and utensils.

Volunteers are needed to help organize and decorate for the event.

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OSHA Safety Director

There was nothing to report.

Litigation

There was nothing to report.

Mayor McGaffee called for OLD BUSINESS.

HVAC Unit Bids

The board decided not to make any decisions on the bids at this time. There are still looking into other options, such as the possibility of installing natural gas for heat.

Citizens Comments

Kathy Matthews told the board that she got an email from a Gap Gazer reader about the lack of lines at the top of South Cumberland Drive. People are driving into the University Inn parking lot thinking that is the entrance to the town.

Matthews also told the board that the Artist Co-op is talking with the National Park about the possibility of putting up some kind of sign, at the lower entrance to town, directing people into the town. Several signs have already been placed further up on Hwy 58.

Mayor McGaffee called for NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinance 15-2015- An Ordinance Amending the Cumberland Gap Municipal Code, Title 16 (Streets and Sidewalks)

Chuck Coffey made a motion to approve Ordinance 15-2015 on first reading, with a second by Phillip Waller. Vice Mayor Hopson called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: Susan Bain-absent; Chuck Coffey-yes; Teresa Fuson- yes; Jerry Hopson –couldn't vote; John Ravnum-yes; Phillip Waller-yes.

Ordinance 16-2015- An Ordinance Amending the Cumberland Gap Municipal Code, Title 17 (Refuse and Trash Disposal)

Phillip Waller made a motion to approve Ordinance 16-2015 on first reading, with a second by Chuck Coffey. Vice Mayor Hopson called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: Susan Bain-absent; Chuck Coffey-yes; Teresa Fuson- yes; Jerry Hopson –couldn't vote; John Ravnum-yes; Phillip Waller-yes.

QuickBooks Payments

The board was given information and cost for accepting credits cards at town hall. There was discussion about charging a \$3.00 fee to those who use that method to cover the cost. There was also discussion about equipment needed in order to accept credit cards. The issue will be researched more and brought back to the board at that time.

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John Ravnum explained that last month someone turned on his outside water faucet and left it running; as a result, over 30,000 gallons of water was used. He requested an adjustment on his bill. The town has a leak adjustment policy in place; however, there was a question as to whether this situation would be considered a leak. After some consideration the board decided to consider it leak and approved the adjustment.

With no other business to come before the board, Chuck Coffey made a motion to adjourn, with a second by Phillip Waller. Vice Mayor Hopson called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: Susan Bain-absent; Chuck Coffey-yes; Teresa Fuson-yes; Jerry Hopson –couldn't vote; John Ravnum-yes; Phillip Waller-yes.

Announcements

Planning Meeting- Monday November 30, 2015@6:00 pm

Town Hall will be closed on Thursday November 26, 2015 (Thanksgiving Day)