TOWN OF OLIVER SPRINGS MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Oliver Springs Town Council was called to order by Mayor Chris Hepler on June 5, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. All were present except Gary Stinnett, who had an excused absence.

The meeting was opened in prayer by City Recorder Van Hook followed by the pledge to the flag.

Motion by Walker and second by Shillings to approved the Minutes of the previous meeting as presented. All voted aye.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

A. Mr. Tuggle was involved in an automobile accident with the Titan pickup truck several weeks ago. The accident was not his fault. He was not ticketed for the accident, but the driver who caused the accident received five violations. TML totaled the truck due to its age and mileage by paying $8,428.00, but the Town was able to buy the truck back for $632.00. The body work is nearly complete and all that remains to be done is repainting. The Town received a net amount of money from the insurance proceeds of $7,795.00. Ms. Treece requests the Town Council purchase a 2003 GMC Envoy 4 x 4 for $7,000.00 from Quality Motors in Oliver Springs. The owner has reduced the price to the Town from $11,400.00. This would leave approximately $780.00 for the purchase of white automotive paint to complete the repairs to the Titan pickup truck. The estimated paint cost is about $400.00 as the Town does have some surplus paint left over from painting the water department van several months ago. With this purchase, the city manager's Ford F-150 4 x 4 pickup truck would be given to the street department to replace the oldest pickup work truck. Although the oldest pickup work truck has electrical issues, it could be sold on Gov.deals with the funds from the sale going back into the general budget fund.

B. The sidearm mower has been out of service for approximately two days with a tube on the weighted tire giving problems. It has been repaired and is back in service.

C. Enclosed with the package is a draft of an ordinance to amend Title 16 Streets and Sidewalks, Section 16-103. This would allow the Town to enforce the cutting of trees or shrubs that may be blocking intersections. Individual property owners would be contacted to cut the trees and shrubs prior to writing code violation citations. When owners or citizens are not willing to do the work, this will allow the citation to be issued and the Town can remedy the safety violation.

D. Culvert repairs will be made on Valley Drive, Bennett Road, and Hwy. 61 at back location of 677 Hen Valley Road in the next several weeks.

E. The summer reading program at the Oliver Springs Library will begin Wednesday of this week. All are invited to participate.

F. The Tinker property has been cleaned up and looks much better, and after discussing the issue with the city attorney, there is probably no need for court action to recover the expenses. However, the matter of the pig remains unresolved. They do not wish to remove the pig as it is a pet. However, if they are required to get rid of the pig, they are willing to seriously consider this option.

G. TDOT has been consulted involving catch basins and ditch lines within the city limits. Although it is the responsibility of the Town from the edge of the state road pavement to the property line, Mr. Mackalby of TDOT has agreed to meet to determine what assistance TDOT may offer as to the culvert failure or cave-in at 804 Main Street where the area has been roped off until repairs can be made and the ditch line running between Hwy. 61 and the back side of residential property on Hen Valley Road.

H. The work should begin within the next few weeks on Carmichael Park. Roane County has agreed to donate the use of a county D-7 bulldozer and an operator.

However, the county and/or others are attempting to locate a person or company that will donate the use of a truck and trailer to hall the bulldozer from Roane County to the Carmichael Park site.

I. As weather and workloads permit, the repairs to the fence line at the city garage will be performed, and the painting of the city garage will be completed. The fence line vegetation and trees are also being cut and removed.

J. The inmate work crew and supervision staff are working on cleaning the Tri County Blvd. (Hwy. 61/62) grass medians and divider areas, and it is hoped that this will be completed within the next several days.

COMMENTS FROM MAYOR:

The Mayor advised that he had received an email as to an auto accident that happened at Kellytown. The Mayor encouraged the town council members and the several citizens to write and contact elected representatives to ask that the portion of Hwy. 61 leading to Harriman that is located in Kellytown be widened wherein it can be made much safer.

Ms. Treece advised that at this time, she withdraws her request to purchase the 2003 GMC Envoy from Quality Motors in Oliver Springs as she wishes to travel to Nashville on Monday to investigate the fleet of state surplus vehicles. The street department needs a truck and the sewer department needs a larger and more powerful truck in order to haul men and equipment. After extensive discussion by several council members, Ms. Treece, and Police Chief Morgan, motion by Cox and second by Walker to authorize Ms. Treece to spend up to $30,000.00 to purchase two suitable trucks for the street department and the sewer department from the state surplus. All voted aye.

Ms. Treece also advised that Mrs. Gifford and her attorney have offered to agree that the house is condemnable, and that she will tear the house down by August 15, 2014, and if she does not, the Town can tear the house down and place a lien on the property to recover the costs. This was in the form of an offer from her attorney to the Town's attorney. After discussion, motion by Craze and second by Cox to accept this offer. All voted aye.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

Mr. Jim Hackworth, a candidate for the position of Anderson County Mayor, spoke that he had a track record over the years serving as a County Commissioner, a State Representative, and in other capacities, of working together and building partnerships between people and organizations to accomplish good things. He wants to be a friend and an ally, to work to better our community. He encouraged all to seriously consider his candidacy and to vote for him.

Mr. Gerald Hall, a candidate for Roane County Sheriff, stated that he had been in law enforcement in Roane County for some 15 years, serving as a Rockwood police officer and as a deputy in the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Hall wants to: a) expand drug education for children and adults, as he was a DARE officer and has this experience and plans to work with school resource officers and students for drug education; b) extend the office hours of the Sheriff's Department beyond 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday; c) make the warrant records under one warrant officer whereby the records are easier to access; d) adopt the same computer program that the police departments of Oliver Springs, Kingston, Harriman, and Rockwood use, where all of the Roane County law enforcement agencies could be linked together; e) adopt a program to check on senior citizens and others at their homes, especially during times of unusually adverse weather or other adverse conditions; f) make efforts to improve the patrols by deputies and keep officers in the communities; and, g) to work toward better cooperation among all county law enforcement agencies. Mr. Hall encouraged all to seriously consider his candidacy and vote for him.

Julia Daniel spoke regarding the Mayme Carmichael School organization will be holding a fish fry fundraiser at the Oliver Springs Historical District downtown on Main Street on Saturday, June 7, 2014 as well as on Saturday, August 2, 2014, from 4-7 p.m. on each date, and at the Historic Harriman Cruising 2014 in downtown Harriman on Saturday June 19, 2014, and Saturday, August 9, 2014. In addition, the Oliver Springs Historical Society will be selling hotdogs and desserts. All are invited to attend.

Mrs. Daniel also announced that the Mayme Carmichael School organization will present a barbeque cook off on July 26, 2014 beginning at 11 a.m. All are invited to attend. For further information regarding these events, contact Julia H. Daniel at 865-789-0846.

Mimi Brock announced that the Summer Reading Program began last week and had 12 children in attendance. She indicated that there is room for many more. She spoke briefly as to the times, dates, and activities of the summer reading program, and encouraged all children to attend.

COMMENTS FROM TOWN COUNCIL:

Mr. Walker stated that after Memorial Day, he received numerous telephone calls and emails indicating that the Oliver Springs Cemetery had not been mowed. This was because the street crew had other responsibilities. After discussion, motion by Walker and second by Shillings to authorize the Town to accept funds from families and other organizations to be placed in the cemetery budget line item for use by the cemetery for maintenance. All voted aye.

Mr. Cox continued discussion regarding the cemetery, joined by Mr. Walker and others, as to the problems facing the operation of the cemetery and the sale of cemetery lots. City Recorder Van Hook gave a history of the cemetery and how the legal structure, record keeping (or lack thereof), and the operation of the cemetery over the past one hundred plus years led to the creation of these problems wherein it is now difficult if not impossible to determine, except by physical examination (which may or may not be accurate), which cemetery lots have been sold and are unoccupied and which lots have been sold and are occupied, and which cemetery lots are unoccupied and are available for sale. It could result in problems if a previously sold but currently unoccupied lot or unmarked but occupied lot is sold wherein there may be two owners for the same cemetery lot. After further and extensive discussion, the Mayor directed City Manager Treece to contact Town's TML Insurance to find out what the position of the insurer might be if the Town desires to sell cemetery lots with extensive and highlighted disclaimers.

Mr. Holland asked and Ms. Treece advised that the gas station will hire a contractor to repair the washed out culvert area.

Mr. Holland asked and Ms. Treece explained further as to the work on Carmichael Park that has been performed and the work that remains to be completed, especially involving the bulldozer work by the Roane County Road Department.

Mr. Shillings asked and Ms. Treece agreed to offer the same explanation for the general fund overtime as for the water budget overtime.

Mr. Shillings observed that the Handbook deals with overtime but does not set out any procedure for comp time. Mr. Shillings requested and the Mayor and others agreed that at some point in the future to schedule a workshop in order to discuss the placing of comp time in the Handbook.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Walker and second by Shillings to pass Ordinance No. 2014-06-05A, amending Section 16-103 of the Town's Ordinance as to the trimming of trees and shrubs that impair the vision of drivers at intersections and other locations. All voted aye.

After discussion, motion by Cox and second by Walker to purchase and install discharge valves for the fire truck and the rescue truck through Anderson Fire, LLC, in the amount of $804.03 and $244.00 respectively, pursuant to the repair estimates dated May 30, 2014, Estimate No. 147 and Estimate No. 148. All voted aye.

With no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was upon motion duly made and seconded and unanimously passed, adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph H. Van Hook
City Recorder

APPROVED:

Chris Hepler
Mayor

TOS Minutes 6.5.14