

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Oliver Springs Town Council was called to order on November 21, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Chris Hepler. All were present except James Brummett and Maurice Walker, who had excused absences.

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

Motion by Craze and second by Cox to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as presented. All voted aye.

COMMENTS FROM CITY MANAGER TREECE:

A. Beginning the end of last week, and working into this week, the Morgan County Regional Correctional Department inmate work crews have been cleaning the creek bank throughout the Town of trees, bushes, trash, and other debris. Some work has been accomplished near Arrowhead Park and most likely the work near Arrowhead Park will resume next week. At this time the work crews are focusing on the creek bank area behind and adjacent to the Dollar General Store area. Two Street Department workers are supervising the inmate work crew and assisting in operating the chipper and hauling the mulch to the City Garage. The Mayor added that although the inmate work crews are doing a great job, there is no guarantee that the work crew will be here on the next day. Due to various prison regulations and scheduling, the inmate work crews are essentially on a day-by-day basis. The Town obviously has a lot more work for them to do, and the Town will keep them as long as possible.

B. The brush pickup schedule has now been completed and the leaf pickup schedule has begun. Delays have been encountered due to back orders as well as the immense quantity of brush to be picked up. On top of that, the fact that many residents did not sign up for the fall cleanup added to scheduling delays in that once a section had been picked up, the work crews would receive calls in that same area for more brush that needed to be picked up. Due to that reason, Mrs. Treece suggests that the signup be made mandatory for the next Spring cleanup. The Mayor added that the work crews have picked up a great deal of leaf mulch and limb mulch, which is currently being stored at the garage. The Town needs a place to discard this mulch, and homeowners, farmers, and others are invited to call for the delivery of this mulch, as the mulch is good for gardens and plant beds. The Mayor advised that the leaf pickup will begin Tuesday or Wednesday of next week.

C. The Christmas lights have been rewired and are ready to be hung after the Thanksgiving Holiday. The Town Hall and several of the main buildings throughout the Town will also be decorated for Christmas.

D. The Christmas parade is scheduled for December 7, 2013, beginning at 5:30 p.m. A tree lighting ceremony will be held December 6, 2013, at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall. A tree will be placed to the left of City Hall and will be decorated for the holidays. The tree will not be turned on until the evening of the tree lighting ceremony.

E. The Town is still collecting toys for the Marine Corp Toys for Tots programs. The first set of toys will be released the night of the Christmas parade and any other toys collected will be delivered to the Knoxville location of Toys for Tots on December 20, 2013.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

None.

COMMENTS FROM TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mr. Stinnett observed that the inmate work crew on the creek bank near the Dollar General store is doing a good job. The Mayor advised that tree trunks and cut limbs cannot be left in the creek bank area, but have to be hauled away. The root structures cannot be disturbed, and heavy equipment cannot operate in and around the creek, pursuant to the Tennessee Department of Environmental Conservation rules and regulations. These TDEC rules and regulations add extra work for the inmate work crew.

Mr. Holland asked and Mrs. Treece advised that as to the stored used tire situation at Tri County Tires on Tri County Boulevard, other agencies are involved with this situation and Mrs. Treece will advise as she receives information.

As a matter of information, Mrs. Treece advised that the Gifford property lawsuit most likely will go to trial in December of 2013.

Mrs. Treece advised that she is now a member of the Retail Advisory Board of Anderson County and the Board will be trying to identify parcels of property in Oliver Springs that could possibly be developed for retail sales.

Mr. Holland asked and Mrs. Treece advised that the building on Tri County Boulevard next to the ice machine has a number of disabled used cars and trucks, and Mrs. Treece indicates she will be addressing this in the future.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Mayor opened discussion as to the creation and use of an Oliver Springs Business Inspection form. Recorder Van Hook advised that as the form was initially drafted, the business license receipt would be withheld until the business had complied with the various information reporting requirements and inspections. However, the business license is not necessarily a "license or permission to do business," but rather is a receipt for gross receipts taxes paid according to State law. If the business properly completes a tax return and pays the taxes, State law requires the receipt to be issued. However, it is possible to review and amend the zoning laws whereby a business cannot open or occupy its physical location unless and until the information has been supplied and the inspections performed. Mayor Hepler indicated that he had talked with an official of the City of Oak Ridge and Oak Ridge essentially used the zoning regulations to obtain this desired result. Recorder Van Hook suggested that other towns be contacted and ordinances or other documents be obtained from each town, and this be discussed either by a separate appointed committee or by Town Council meeting in a workshop as a committee of the whole. T.C.A. Section 47-25-1601 et seq and Section 67-4-710 et seq were also briefly reviewed, as an official with MTAS had also been contacted, and this information regarding flea markets received. After other discussion, the Mayor scheduled a workshop for December 12, 2013 at 6:30 p.m., to further discuss this matter.

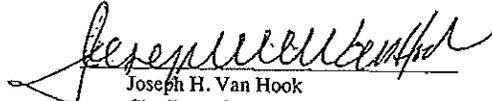
The Mayor, after informal discussion with Town Council Members, canceled the Town Council meeting scheduled for December 19, 2013, due to the holiday festivities.

Tammy Barger, the Chairwoman of Christmas in the City, advised that the opening ceremony would begin at City Hall on December 6, 2013, at 6:30 p.m., with the Christmas tree lighting, complete with refreshments, wagon rides, walking and riding tours of the Town, Santa Claus, and other activities. The parade will be on December 7, 2013 (Pearl Harbor Day), and any individual or organization wishing to have vehicle or float in the parade needs to register by December 4, 2013, in order that the parade lineup can be scheduled. There is no fee to enter the parade, but the committee is encouraging each to bring a new unwrapped toy for the Marine Corp toys for tots drive. Ms. Barger

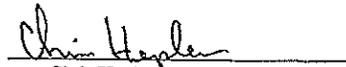
thanked Town Council for allowing her to serve for seven years as Chairwoman of Christmas in the City, as she had enjoyed it immensely. The Mayor and other thanked her for her service, as she has done a good job over the many years.

With no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was upon motion duly made and seconded and unanimously approved, adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Joseph H. Van Hook
City Recorder

APPROVED:


Chris Hepler
Mayor

TOS Minutes 11-21-13