



BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING/COUNCIL MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, June 27, 2023 at 6:00 PM
RUTH TOWN HALL

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

David called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION

David offered an invocation.

ROLL CALL

David called roll. Participants include David Guy Mayor, Commissioners William Steppe and Nicholas Goode, Town Manager Amie Hanaway.

AGENDA ADOPTION

David requested a motion for agenda adoption. William made a motion and Nick seconded. Passes unanimously.

AGENDA ADOPTION

1. All guest speakers MUST have contacted the Town Manager ahead of the meeting and be placed on the agenda with allotted time. Agendas are created a week in advance.

No guest speakers have notified requesting time allotment.

COMMUNITY FORUM

2. All participants should sign in giving their address and contact information preferences. Speakers have three minutes each to speak during community forum; not to exceed 10 speakers.

Citizens & Guests include James Adams. James addressed the board sharing the following comments: DOT or someone to close off Church street as it connects with Hwy 64. He detailed the accident and near accident of his wife. He encourages the board to encourage the DOT to move ahead of schedule. David detailed the intersection in question as the hwy project is completed. He shared other's opposition and request for other access. William thanked him for coming out and sharing his position and the opposition the board has heard prior.

COMMUNITY FORUM

David invited a motion for approval of last meetings minutes. William made a motion, Nick seconded. Passed unanimously.

COMMUNITY FORUM

3. Open forum to hear comments regarding the proposed budget 2023-2024. visitors must be signed in, only have three minutes per. Mayor Guy should ask for a motion to enter into Public Hearing session, likewise a motion to close Public Hearing session once proposed budget is adopted. Amie will be happy to review the documents if necessary. They are attached for ease of view.

Budget documents were reviewed. Amie offered comments. David invited attendees to speak if they had public comments regarding the budget. No comments were given. David asked the board for a motion to adopt the proposed 2023-2024 budget and supporting documents. William made a motion to adopt, Nick seconded the motion, passes unanimously.

4. All financial reports were circulated and discussed during budget workshop on the 13th of this month so the only report attached is the current, YTD budget vs actual. Also attached is my proposed budget

amendment ordinance for the month of June. We need a motion to adjust budget to actual for the year and all line items.

Amie reviewed the current financials, asked the board for two motions: 1. motion to accept budget ordinance for June. William made a motion, Nick seconded, passes unanimously; 2. motion to adjust budget to actual for year end. William made a motion to adjust budget to actual for year ending June 30, 2023. Nick seconded the motion, passes unanimously.

5. We need to formally approve and sign off on the audit for this closing year.

Amie presented audit contract and asked for board approval to accept the contract from C. Randolph CPA, PLLC with signaturization to follow. William made a motion to accept audit contract, Nick seconded, passes unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

6. I will communicate to the Board what this item is about. In the meantime a quote and references have been attached to this line item for your perusal.

Amie referred the board to the attachments from No Cost Solutions. She reviewed with the board this is a group of experienced professionals in the telecom and utility worlds who may be able to influence cost reductions she cannot. She asked the board to review the attachments for their references and quote/contract. No cost up front, 50% split if cost reductions are realized. Asked if the board would like for her to proceed with releasing the telecom and utility accounts to these consultants? William wants Amie to ask what happens if we break the contract before the 36 months expires? Amie will inquire and report back to the board.

COMMUNITY FORUM

7. Status update for entrance of Shadywoods Lane: the entrance landscaping has already begun this week and should be completed by week's end. As a reminder, this includes pulling all bushes and small trees, removing all mulch, preparing and planting grass seed. I have attached some ideas to this line item that were supplied to the graphic designers and sign installers. A few renderings have been submitted and are attached to this item content. Reminder the creative process is the most long suffering. I liken it to a large funnel, we pour LOTS of ideas in until we are WOWED by what comes out on the other side.

Below is the feedback I provided for rendering version 3

This one is much more on target. I'd like to see this rendering with the following modifications:

The panels/boxes behind the lettering taller, so there's not such an abrupt demarcation between the letters in front and the end of the panels behind.

I'd like to see a rendering including the letters The Town Of Ruth. I realize this might elongate and lengthen the sign, but we want this to be a WOW, smack you in the face, futuristic sign.

I'd like to play with the panel colors; different colors than what's provided here. Perhaps shades of blue etc. Colors that won't take away from the lettering and that will show up well @ night.

Amie reviewed signage details. Provided comments shared by inquiring citizens. Board liked what they reviewed but want to see more and to experiment with more colors. Amie will pass this along and will present when renderings are provided.

8. Per suggestion from the Board as to Mike's interest in leasing property mentioned rather than buying, he's equally as interested to lease. GIS of property in question has been attached to this line item.

Upon previous meetings and discussions, Board asked Amie to see if Mike would be interested in leasing the property in question as opposed to buying. Amie made contact with Mike and he is definitely interested in leasing. Amie asked the board if they would like for her to proceed with the legal investigations into leasing the property? The board indicated they do want Amie to research the legal framework to pursue this endeavor.

9. David was to hopefully procure the size/dimensions and perhaps a quote for a cement pad for the outdoor exercise equipment. Insurance has been cleared.

David has been unable to get information yet on pricing for a cement pad. Amie asked if the equipment is still available? David picked the equipment up and it is stored. This item will be tabled until next month.

10. The board was supplied with the quotes and requested time to sit with each and review. Inquiring as to if there is discussion, questions, decisions, etc. Both quotes have been attached here again for refreshing.

Amie asked the board if they had time over the past month to review the quotes and whether they had made a decision or if this item should be tabled again? The board asked for it to be tabled and for Amie to ask Joe Shubin about the details of his roof. She will do so and report back.

11. There was feedback provided via citizens that a yard sale had been conducted @ the McSwain property. Pictures are attached as examples. Regarding Insurance, our insurance company recommends and would require the renter to provide their insurance general liability certificate including Town of Ruth as an additional insured. Our insurance provider communicated after it's more economical for the renter to purchase Special event insurance naming themselves and Town of Ruth as covered for the event for the day. The insurance company also said it's good (not required) to have a lawyer draw up a contract covering the legality of the circumstances. He believed our legal rental contract might suffice.

Board had asked Amie to inquire regarding Insurance for such an event. Amie communicated in the agenda and here in person the information our insurance company gave her. The board felt it was not interested in the liability at this time.

ADJOURN

Nick made a motion to adjourn, William seconded. Passes unanimously.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons who need accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Town Hall at (828) 287-7943 within 48 hours prior to the meeting to request such assistance.