
JULY 2024 MINUTES

Attendees: Mayor Joe Slaton; Council Members: Lauren Tiger and Harry Baughn; Town Clerk: Suzanne Hedden; Zoning Administrator, Ron Wallace
Others: Lorraine Bennett (Clay County Progress), Sandy Zimmerman (HHI/Small Town Mainstreet)

Mayor Slaton called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. Mr. Baughn made a motion to approve the agenda; Ms. Tiger seconded the motion; motion approved.

MINUTES

Ms. Tiger made a motion to approve the June 2024 Town Council Public Hearing minutes as written; Mr. Baughn seconded the motion; motion approved. Mr. Baughn made a motion to approve the June 2024 Town Council minutes as written; Ms. Tiger seconded the motion; motion approved. Mr. Baughn thanked Ms. Hedden for the detailed information in the reports. Ms. Hedden also reported that the \$45,000.00 grant from the Southwestern Commission was received on 07/03/2024.

FINANCE REPORTS

June 2024 Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statement – reports are attached.

- Mr. Baughn made a motion to approve the Profit and Loss information and Balance Sheet; Ms. Tiger seconded the motion; motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

- Mayor Slaton presented an updated report for the Mayor’s Park Trail. The Trail is completed except for four (4) park benches to be added along the trail; plans are also being made to put up signs for the Mayor’s Park Trail and the trail on the Whitney property. The Mayor wants to approach the Clay County School Board about building a path that connects the bridge to the Quanassee Path.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mrs. Sara Smith’s term on the Board of Adjustment Board will expire on July 31st. She has agreed to remain active on the committee. Ms. Tiger made a motion to accept continuance of another term; Mr. Baughn seconded; motion approved.
- Mayor Slaton advised Council members that several people were considered for the vacancy on the Town Council Board (Austin Hedden no longer resides with City Limits). A motion was made by Ms. Tiger to add Benita England to the Council; Mr. Baughn seconded the motion; motion approved.
- Mayor Slaton presented two (2) estimates from Sidney Grant for the Whitney Property maintenance and upkeep. The first estimate (\$9,800.00) included clearing brush and small trees, harvesting dead wood and hauling away debris from Business Hwy 64 to botanical garden boundary (15’ buffer from stream on property). A motion was made by Mr. Baughn to approve this recommendation; Ms. Tiger seconded the motion; motion approved. The second estimate (\$4,500.00) was for maintenance of the trail (weed/cut/blow) from July 2024 through December 2024. Council members felt more bids should be obtained before a decision can be made.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

- Mr. Wallace’s report is attached.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Slaton updated Council members on NCDOT projects for Clay County and provided printed information substantiating future construction projects. He also mentioned the SABA event that will be bringing approximately 300 bike riders to our area/town on August 3rd.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Zimmerman reported on: 1) appreciation for repairs that have been done on the roof at the Exhibit Building – she stated that the building is in good shape and lots of visitors have been enjoying looking at maps and hearing information about Lake Chatuge; 2) possibility of getting an ATM in Town; 3) Mural on back of building; 4) Working on a grant involving the library; 5) STAT reports are due in July – will share results at August meeting; 6) Trash to Treasures will close on July 31st – raised over \$32,000.00

Ms. Tiger made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.; Mr. Baughn seconded the motion; meeting adjourned.

ATTEST: Suzanne G. Hedden
Suzanne G. Hedden, Town Clerk

Joe Slaton
Joe Slaton, Mayor