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**SEPTEMBER 2024 MINUTES**

Attendees: Mayor Joe Slaton; Council Members: Harry Baughn, Benita England; 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 6:30 p.m. Mr. Baughn made a motion to approve the agenda; Ms. England seconded the motion; motion approved.

**MINUTES**

Mrs. England made a motion to approve the August 2024 Town Council minutes as written; Mr. Baughn seconded the motion; motion approved.

**FINANCE REPORTS**

**July 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; Mrs. England seconded the motion; motion approved.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Mayor Slaton recommended Mountain True be added to our annual non-profit donations, and, suggested an amount of \$1,000.00. Ms. England made a motion to approve donation; Mr. Baughn seconded the motion; motion approved.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- In discussing Lynn Myers' P & Z term (expires September 30<sup>th</sup>), Mr. Baughn asked if she is willing to serve for another term; it was confirmed she is willing to continue serving. Mr. Baughn made a motion to continue her tenure; Mrs. England seconded the motion; motion approved.
- The mayor's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Clean-up is scheduled for October 8-15; however, Ms. Bennett (Clay County Progress) was asked to not include the date in the newspaper, due to many people outside of city limits take advantage of the free service.
- Of the six (6) benches that were planned for the Mayor's Park and the Whitney property, five (5) have already been installed.
- The Clay County Board of Education has two (2) questions before approving the trail construction on their property. Mayor Slaton will contact Clay County Superintendent Melissa Godfrey to provide answers for any concerns.
- It has been brought to the Mayor's attention that our town is experiencing panhandling situations around the square. Mayor Slaton provided sample ordinances for the Council to review, and, will pursue this matter with Attorney Paul Lipof. Mr. Baughn added that non-profit organizations should be exempt from this ordinance (i.e., CCCRA, Lions Club, American Legion, etc.).
- There is a possibility a sidewalk will be constructed from DeSoto Square to First Free Will Baptist Church.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

- Mr. Wallace's report is attached.

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**MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Mayor Slaton's report is attached and includes the information for the proposed project on Mill Street. He met with an engineer, but has not received a report.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Zimmerman reported on: 1) Repairs between exhibit hall and garage should be finished in two (2) weeks; Tommy Davis is getting an estimate for replacement of the garage doors (he previously advised Mayor Slaton that doors need to be replaced); inmates will paint; 2) Master Gardeners will soon be working on the plants around the gazebo; 3) Steins and Wine – October 5<sup>th</sup> – possibly fourteen (14) vendors; 4) HHI can possibly donate a bench in Mayor's Park; 5) Working on possibility of school students being able to use Old Town Hall; 6) Working with Dogwood – in reference to possibility of Moss Memorial Library receiving a \$20,000.00 grant by October 1<sup>st</sup>; 7) Updated information on North Carolina stat sheet from NC Commerce.

Mrs. England made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:01 p.m.; Mr. Baughn seconded the motion; meeting adjourned.

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

Joe Slaton  
Joe Slaton, Mayor