

City of Townsend
Commission Meeting Minutes
For
January 17, 2012

Attendance: Attending the meeting was Mayor Pat Jenkins, Vice Mayor Ron Palewski, Commissioner Michael Talley, Police Chief Ron Suttles, Recorder Shelia Moss, Jackie Suttles, Charles King, Don and Sandy Headrick, Bryan Daniels, Kathy Delozier, and Tammy Ford. Commissioner David Wietlisbach and Commissioner Charles Tippitt were absent.

Called Beer Board Meeting: Vice Mayor Palewski opened the Beer Board meeting at 7:00 pm. He explained that an Off Premise Permit application has been submitted for by Jimmy's Market and Subs. He mentioned that Chief Suttles performed the background check which, came back clear. There was some discussion regarding this application. Commissioner Talley made a motion to approve an Off Premise permit for Jimmy's Market and Subs. Mayor Jenkins seconded and the motion passed with 3 yea votes.

There being no further business, the Called Beer Board Meeting was closed at 7:03 pm.

Regular Commission Meeting

Pledge: Mayor Jenkins opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:04 pm.

Minutes: A motion to approve the December 20, 2011 minutes was made by Commissioner Talley. A second was made by Vice Mayor Palewski and the December 20, 2011 minutes passed with 3 yea votes.

Finance Report: Recorder Moss gave the financial report for the month of December 2011. Vice Mayor Palewski made a motion to approve the December 2011 finance reports. Commissioner Talley seconded and the motion passed with 3 yea votes.

Police Report: Chief Suttles reported that it has been quiet and that everything is going good. He mentioned that Inservice is scheduled for April and that the bullet proof vests have been ordered. Chief Suttles informed the Commission that the department is trying to finish taking their vacation time.

Maintenance: Chief Suttles reported that the ditches have been cleaned out and that the white Ford Ranger has electrical problems and needs to go to the shop. He also reported that him and Commissioner Talley visited Myers spring and determined that it is sinking. He stated that they are going to ask Mr. Bill Dunlap of the County Highway Department for guidance. There was some discussion about the spring. Mayor Jenkins asked about the buckled sidewalk. Chief Suttles stated that the backhoe was used to get it pressed back down and that it looks good right now.

Fire: There was no fire department report however; Mayor Jenkins reported that Vice Mayor Palewski, Chief Suttles, and he went to the ribbon cutting for the new fire station and that there was a lot of interest. He also mentioned that Richardson Construction did a good job.

Recreation: Deferred to next month.

Library Report: Mayor Jenkins read the Library report aloud to the Commission and the people in attendance.

Blount Partnership, Bryan Daniels: Mr. Daniels introduced Ms. Delozier and Ms. Ford. He stated that that he has been with the partnership for eleven years and that he is an engineer by trade. He mentioned that he worked with Mr. Herb Handy in the past. He mentioned that Mr. Handy's former position will come back as a recruiter and that they plan to have the spot filled by February or March. There was some discussion relating to policy, the board, and the festivals that take place at the Visitor Center. He stated that he can't make everybody happy, nothing's perfect but, he is trying to make it better. He mentioned putting a process in place to include Townsend. He stated that he can't answer for the past and can only work on the future. Mr. Daniels mentioned that he wants the business community to run the board. He reported that the Cities of Maryville and Alcoa have pumped a lot of money into events. He mentioned that he doesn't want a competition and would like to see everyone work together. Mayor Jenkins inquired about the distribution of seats on the board. There was some discussion relating to three types of travel with an example of travel to The Inn at Blackberry Farm being different from travel to Townsend. Commissioner Talley stated that at a previous meeting with Mr. Daniels at the Visitor Center that it was said that the distribution had to be passed by the County. There was further discussion. No action was taken.

Old Business

Code Enforcement: Vice Mayor Palewski stated that the ad was in the Sunday paper. He also mentioned that Mr. Claude Scarbrough will sit in on the interviews and that he planned to have the applicant pool narrowed down to three by month end.

Update – Banners, Mary K Jenkins: This item was deferred to next month.

New Business

Other Business: Mayor Jenkins stated that he received a letter of resignation from Commissioner Tippitt. He reported the Commission could appoint someone to fill his vacancy but, it had to be within twenty days.

Recorder Moss asked for guidance on the development of the website relating to color schemes and photo's. Mayor Jenkins instructed Recorder Moss that Commissioner's Talley and Wietlisbach will make those decisions.

Mr. Don Headrick asked about allowing Blount County to help with our Code Enforcement. Mayor Jenkins informed Mr. Headrick that the County stated they could not help.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Shelia Moss

Approve: _____
Mayor Pat Jenkins Date