

City of Townsend
Called Commission Meeting Minutes

For

December 18, 2012

Attendance: Attending the meeting was Mayor Michael Talley, Vice Mayor Becky Headrick, Commissioner Ron Palewski, Commissioner Jackie Suttles, Commissioner David Wietlisbach, City Recorder Shelia Moss, Police Chief Ron Suttles, Sandy Headrick, Charles King, Iva Butler, and Mary Ann Ashworth

Pledge: Mayor Talley opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:02 pm.

Minutes: A motion to approve the November 20, 2012 minutes was made by Commissioner Palewski pending two corrections. Vice Mayor Headrick seconded and the November 20, 2012 minutes passed with 5 yea votes.

Finance Report: Recorder Moss gave the finance reports for the month of November. She then informed the Commission that she had successfully completed the CMFO program but, would have to obtain twenty four hours of training per year to maintain the certification.

Police Report: Chief Suttles reported that the Christmas Parade went well. He mentioned that everyone worked together and he had received a lot of good comments. He reported a problem with one of the police vehicles and has had some expenses for repair. Chief Suttles reported that it has been quiet since the house fire.

****Commissioner Palewski made a motion to allow employees to use their 2012 vacation hours through the end of March 2013. Commissioner Wietlisbach seconded and the motion passed with 5 yea votes.**

Maintenance: Chief Suttles reported that everything has been quiet. He reported that the truck is still being repaired and that we have enough salt for the winter unless there is a major snow. Chief Suttles informed the Commission that new bulbs will be needed for the Christmas lights before next Christmas. Commissioner Palewski asked about the banners. There was discussion about visibility issues relating to the banners, street signs, and road striping however, no action was taken.

Fire: No Report

Recreation: Commissioner Suttles thanked everyone who helped with the parade. Recorder Moss gave an overview of expenses for the parade and the amount of donations received. Recorder Moss stated that the amount that would be deposited in the Kallstrom account would be \$1,860.64. There was some discussion about the parade and the Kallstrom benefit. Commissioner Suttles reported that she only received one complaint and it related to a parade participant going too fast. She also reported that next year the first Sunday will be during the Thanksgiving weekend and thinks the date should be changed to the second Sunday. Mrs. Headrick asked if December 8, 2013 would conflict with other dates and about sufficient publication. Recorder Moss mentioned sending a press release to multiple organizations. Commissioner Palewski reported that the sound system was no longer operational and that the City may need a new system. There was some discussion about establishing a parade committee. Commissioner Wietlisbach mentioned that a committee needs to be established sooner than later since there are some things that need revision. A possible theme for next year was mentioned ("Hometown Christmas").

Old Business

Mayor Talley - Great Smoky Mountain Regional Greenway Council: Mayor Talley read a portion of the interlocal agreement aloud and informed the Commission that one citizen and one elected official with voting rights would represent the City. He also reported that the fee is \$200. Mayor Talley mentioned that being part of this council may help the City of Townsend have a bigger voice. Commissioner Palewski made a motion to pay the \$200 and become a part of the GSM Regional Greenway Council. Vice Mayor Headrick seconded and the motion passed with 5 yea votes.

Mayor Talley - Speed Limit Discussion: Mayor Talley informed the Commission that he is not sure where the grant stands. He mentioned that lowering the speed limit gets the City more points toward the grant but that he is cautious because he doesn't want to lower the speed limit and not receive the grant. Commissioner Palewski mentioned that he would rather put up a stop light at Webb Road. Vice Mayor Headrick mentioned that lowering the speed limit will have a negative effect. Chief Suttles mentioned that he agrees with Commissioner Palewski. Commissioner Wietlisbach asked if there was a cost estimate for a second traffic light. Chief Suttles mentioned the cost will depend on the variables. Mayor Talley asked Vice Mayor Headrick to do some research and mentioned that the Commission will wait to see where the grant goes. Mrs. Headrick mentioned that the Tennessee Department of Transportation will do design work for islands and no charge.

New Business

Ordinance 263-13-1C, An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 233-07-1C and Adopting 2006 International Building Code Fees: Mayor Talley explained Ordinance 263-13-1C and read the Ordinance caption aloud. Mayor Talley made a motion to approve Ordinance 263-13-1C on first reading. Commissioner Palewski seconded and the motion passed with 5 yea votes.

Mayor Talley asked the Commission if they would be in favor of submitting a letter of support for the covered bridge project to the Blount County Commission at their meeting on Monday, December 20, 2012. Commissioner Palewski made a motion to approve a letter of support for the covered bridge project. Commissioner Wietlisbach seconded and the motion passed with 5 yea votes.

Mrs. Headrick mentioned that she encourages the Commission to have a tourism planning meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Shelia Moss

Approve: _____ date _____

Title: _____