

Town Of Hamilton
Regular Monthly Board Meeting
July 11, 2019 7:00 P.M. Meeting date change due to 4th July Holiday

Present: Mayor Matthews; Commissioners Williams, Staton, Freeman, Jackson and Everett.

Call to order: Mayor; prayer lead by Commissioner Williams. Pledge to the flag by all.

June 6, 2019 minutes read by the mayor. Commissioner Freeman had one correction to minutes which was corrected. Commissioner Williams motion that the June 6, 2019 minutes be approved with one correction and the motion was second by Commissioner Everett carried 5-0 unanimously.

Old Business: Ms. Mattie Randolph on behalf of Ms. Carol Shields Roanoke River Partners asks Town Board to continue supporting the Roanoke River Partners Project to assist in operation concentrating on renovation of the Rosenwald School project.

Commissioner Everett motions that the Board approve donation \$18,750.00 in support of the Rosenwald School project contingent upon the bookkeeper, Ms. Cockrell, finding funds in the present budget. Motion was second by Commissioner Freeman. There were no discussion on the motion and motion carried 5-0 unanimously.

Mayor excused himself from the meeting and meeting continued by Mayor pro tem, Commissioner Ervin Williams.

New Business: Carl Reese of Electricities and Jason Semple, CEO of Martin County Economic Development. Mr. Reese states that USDA looks at Town's fund balance to assess Town's need. The Town of Hamilton fund balance is well above requirement and if the Town wants to pursue grants from USDA that the Board should look at making minor changes to the fund balance. He states that the Town is in good financial condition and attributes that to responsible stewardship of the finances. They also reviewed the Hamilton Economic Development Strategic Plan with the Board.

Available grants: Electricities \$5000.00 matching grant and \$10,000.00 downtown development grant without matching.

Mr. Henry Lewis discussed his plans for developing land that he purchased in Circle Drive. Plans to build home and also utilize other lots to build low income housing.

Citizen Ms. Patricia Morring the ditch across from her house is clogged and hole has formed, cemetery sign on long street missing, will beautification committee be formed rather than have maintenance crew water pots.

Mr. Freeman asks has she contacted the property owner and that the problem is the property owner's. He states the Town can fix it with the owner's permission however; owner will be responsible for supplying materials, and pay cost for labor. He also states he will get Mike Bennett to paint a sign for the cemetery. He states that 7:30 AM to approximately 8:05 AM one man check wells and the other man is idle so they suggested that man could water the pots because he didn't have anything to do during this time frame.

Ms. Judith Stewart: Voices concerns about the cost to operate school and what impact it will have on the citizens, audits 2017 and 2018 has not been sent in to the LGC this affects the Town ability to get grants; scrap metal being stored on Town property is a storage fee being charged. Also she reports seeing snakes on her property and her neighbors' reports seeing snakes also on their property.

Mr. Freeman states that when the crew picks up scrap metal discarded citizens it is not the Town's property, it is stored in the shop yard and ask Board if they wanted to attach a fee for storage; he states that metal is only picked up during his personal time and he uses his personal equipment.

Mr. Williams states that Early Head Start is at the school and Head Start as well as the Administrative Staff will be at the school also. We are in Partnership with them and they have their own liability insurance. As of now there is no cost to the citizens. Head start has a majority of the building but the Town will be using old computer room to setup computer lab and we have computers that has been donated to the Town and the old library will be used as a reading lab. At some point there will be an open house and everyone will have to opportunity to walk through and view classrooms, computer and reading labs.

We have received the audit drafts 2017 has been approved and we need to approve 2018 once approved we will notify Carr, Riggs and Ingram that they have been approved and they will then be sent to the LGC.

Ms Mattie Randolph- on behalf of West Martin School Alumni and West Martin Community Center thanked the Town Board of Commissioners for their support and also presented a commemorative booklet from the June 15, 2019 celebration. Ms. Randolph thanked the Board and the clerk for all they do for the Town and citizens. Your hard work to attract businesses and to keep the Town thriving is appreciated. Ms. Randolph's complete statement is filed with the minutes.

Financials General Fund, Electric Fund and Water Sewer Fund reviewed by the Board.

Commissioners' Report: Commissioner Staton states that in Circle Drive pipes are clogged and water looks like its not draining talked with Mr. Freeman who states he would put a catch basin.

Commissioner Williams Dues for MidEast are due need a motion from board to approve \$350.00 yearly dues to MidEast. Motion by Commissioner Staton and second by Commissioner Freeman. Motion carried 5-0 unanimously.

The Town received a plaque from Electricites for Exceptional Achievements in the area Value of Public Power. Glenique Nails grand opening was very successful about 75 people attended. We are working with the Browns on the Farmers market to get the building into shape they need it to be. We are also working with Head Start to set date for their Grand Opening and we will notify citizens when date is set.

He asks for motion to go into closed session to discuss contract. Motion by Commissioner Everett and second by Commissioner Jackson. Carried 5-0 unanimously.

Motion to come out of closed session by Commissioner Everett and second by Commissioner Jackson. Carried 5-0 unanimously.

Back in open session. Commissioner Everett motion that \$1117.17, be given as an incentive to Head Start for cleaning up the school. Motion second by Commissioner Jackson. Motion carried 5-0 unanimously.

No further Business discussed motion to adjourn by Commissioner Everett and second by Commissioner Staton. Carried 5-0 unanimously.

DG Matthews 8-1-19
Mayor

Carrie B. Jones 8-1-19
Clerk