

Town of Talking Rock Monthly Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2022

Mayor Pro Tem and board member, James Bryant called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

I. ATTENDANCE

Board:

James Bryant
Tony Hawf
Steve Lewis
Mary Bregantini
Lynda Cagle

Town Clerk: Dawn Carver

Town Attorney: Seth Stroud

Others in attendance:

Mary Livsey, Dan Pool, Mary McDonnell, Mark McDonnell, Michael Marchbanks,
Michael Carver, Brenda Clark, Curtis Clark, Ben Highman, Robert Keller,
lieutenant Chrisley

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Mayor Announcements

Budget hearing was mentioned and pointed out the council went through the budget, line by line during the Budget Hearing on September 1, 2022, and everything in the \$119k budget was accounted for.

IV. Approval of August's Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Tony Hawf, seconded by Steve Lewis to approve the meeting minutes from the August 18 regularly scheduled meeting. All voted unanimously in favor.

V. Approval of August's Financial Report

A motion was made by Mary Bregantini, seconded by Lynda Cagle to approve the August Financial Report. All voted unanimously in favor.

VI. Maintenance Report

None

VII. Old Business

Heritage Days Update - Mary Bregantini announced we now have potentially 50 booths compared to last years 46, with 32 of those being vendors (some being double) and 9 food. Both income total is up to \$3400. Sponsorship is approximately \$5825 with Coke and Woodland Capital, Old Mule House, Ithink bank, and several in kind donations. Entertainment is filled for both days.

VIII. New Business

- A. The motion was made by Steve Lewis, seconded by Tony Hawf to approve the 2022 budget. All voted unanimously in favor.
- B. Partitions for Park Bathrooms - The options for the partitions for the park bathrooms were discussed with cost vs. durability. Tony Hawf suggested the solid plastic option for replacement of current partitions because if there was another flood, they would endure. The board concurred. A motion was made by Tony Hawf, seconded by Steve Lewis to use the solid plastic option for replacement of current partitions. A color will be chosen at a later date. All voted unanimously in favor.
- C. Building Inspector, Tony Hawf said there wasn't a whole lot to update on his end, no new building inspections, nothing newsworthy.
- D. Guest Speaker, Dr. Robert D. Keller, CEO, Atlantic Coast Conservancy, Inc., came to speak to the town regarding the Rails to Trails project and how it can have a positive impact on Talking Rock by allowing another connection point for visitors to come through. He listed several obstacles, narrow passages, areas where it will be necessary to cross the rail, or pass down under, but mainly the Patriot Railway Company, that would have to be overcome. Said that money is not an object because of grants, etc. Will put up \$200k of his own money and \$1 million in grants. Public interaction followed.
- E. Mayor Pro Tem James Bryant mentioned there will be a public hearing for O'Bryant variance on October 6, 2022 at beginning of working session.

IX. Adjourn

A motion was made by Steve Lewis, seconded by Lynda Cagle to adjourn the meeting at 7:50pm. All voted unanimously in favor.

The next meeting will be October 6, 2022 at 7pm with the working session beginning the same day at 5:30pm.

James Bryant Jr. Mayor Pro Tem

Lynda Cagle

Tony Hawf

Mary Bregantini

Attested by:

Steve Lewis

Dawn Carver