

WESTMORELAND CITY COUNCIL

November 19, 2007

Minutes

The Town Council, Town of Westmoreland, met in regular session on Monday night, November 19, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Meeting Room.

Mayor Ricky Woodard and the following Town Council members were present: Vice-Mayor Cynthia Templeton, Brad Penick, Mike Carter, Brian Smalling and Frank Ruckman. Town Attorney, John Bradley, was present for the meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Woodard at 7:00 p.m.

The Invocation was given by Mayor Woodard.

Motion by Cynthia Templeton, second by Frank Ruckman to accept the minutes for the Special Called Meeting of October 5, 2007. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Brad Penick, second by Brian Smalling to accept the minutes for the regular meeting of October 15, 2007. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion of policy and procedure manual. Brad Penick suggested the next work session be used for this purpose.

Mike Carter discussed street lights, phase I. He then discussed phase II. On the handout if it had a capital "T" that stood for a transformer that was on a pole to power a light. There are 8 transformers that need to be removed. The Town is charged \$300 per transformer according to Councilman Carter. The lights on New 31 and New 52 have to go through the State for changes to be made. He discussed the park behind the library and those lights being replaced. Council person Templeton questioned the cost of the changes. According to Councilman Carter it would be 1.25% + usage which would equal 2-3 cents per light. Motion by Brad Penick, second by Frank Ruckman, to approve phase II of the street lighting plan. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Brad Penick, second by Frank Ruckman to convert contract dispatchers for the Police Department to part-time status at \$10.75/hour and one to full-time status at \$10.42/hour. Vote was 3 voting for the motion being Brad Penick, Frank Ruckman, and Mike Carter. Cynthia Templeton and Brian Smalling abstained. Motion carried.

Motion by Brad Penick, second by Frank Ruckman to reimburse Terry Garrison \$20,000.00 for money he spent to run a water line to Homepro. The money was to be taken out of the Water fund. Vote was 4 for the motion with Cynthia Templeton abstaining. Motion carried.

Motion by Cynthia Templeton, second by Frank Ruckman to rehire Jerry Kirkman as the Town Recorder, same terms and conditions as before. Vote was 3-2 with Mike Carter and Brad Penick against the motion. Motion carried.

Dr. Ruckman presented a report on the ECD and IDB. They will have a strategic planning session on November 29, 2007, at 6 p.m., at Macon Bank and Trust.

NEW BUSINESS

Joe Braswell and Mr. Jent presented the Council discussion for the preliminary plan for a memorial to honor veterans. They requested land either by the gazebo or the walking track. Motion by Brad Penick, second by Mike Carter, authorizing the use of the land but must bring a plan back to the council for consideration. Motion carried unanimously.

Deborah Burnett, clerk at City Hall, requested assistance for water taps for people that could not pay the full amount up front. Council denied the request stating that no work could begin before payment was made in full as state law mandates.

Motion by Frank Ruckman, second by Mike Carter, to adopt resolution 426 authorizing the Mayor to pursue the establishment of a water utility board between Westmoreland, Portland, Bethpage, and Castalian Springs to develop a plan to obtain water from the Cumberland River. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Brad Penick, second by Brian Smalling, to update Westmoreland's building codes to the 2006 International Building Codes and the 2006 International Residential Building Codes effective January 1, 2008. Motion carried unanimous.

Motion by Frank Ruckman, second by Brad Penick to hire Chris Blankenship and William Crook as full-time police officers. Vote was 3-1-1 with Cynthia Templeton voting against and Brian Smalling abstaining. Motion carried.

Motion by Brad Penick, second by Cynthia Templeton to defer the request to send Connie Cassidy to the Academy until a new chief is hired. Motion carried unanimous.

Dr. Ruckman inquired of Chief Etheridge about a budget for the Drug Fund.

Motion by Brad Penick, second by Frank Ruckman, to obtain bids for the renovation of the C & C building that is owned by the Town of Westmoreland to bring it into OSHA compliance. There is to be one bid for the entire project, and a separate bid for the front project. Electrical will be a separate project. Mike Carter to compile the bid information to be published. Preliminary estimates are \$59,000.00 Motion carried unanimous..

Discussion of Veteran's day as a paid holiday for city employees in the 2008-2009 budget. No action taken.

Chris Carter presented the Public Works monthly report.

Motion by Brad Penick, second by Cynthia Templeton, passed 4-1 with Carter casting the "no" vote for Jerry Kirkman to purchase a laser printer for Town Hall to print checks that are now being typed on a typewriter. Motion carried.

Motion by Frank Ruckman, second by Brian Smallikng, vote 3-2 with Carter and Penick voting against, authorizing Jerry Kirkman to hire a part-time person to work as needed during vacation and days off for training. Motion carried.

Jerry Kirkman presented confirmation of his bond to the Council.

Discussion of State health insurance plan. Motion by Mike Carter, second by Frank Ruckman, passed unanimously, to pay for the PPO option, \$517.84 per month on the State of Tennessee Health Insurance Plan.

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Jerry Kirkman, Town Recorder

Ricky Woodard, Mayor