

**BADIN TOWN COUNCIL – SPECIAL CALLED MEETING**

February 6, 2024

BADIN TOWN HALL

**VISITORS**

None.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Gary Lowder, Mayor

Demar Huntley, Mayor Pro Tem

Deloris Chambers

Dale Ward

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Charles Council

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Jay Almond, Town Manager

Opening prayer by Deloris Chambers.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag recited.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Lowder called the meeting to order.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

Motion to add 5(a): Discussion on Eagle Creek letter: Lowder

Second: Huntley

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Motion to add 5(b) Event Application: Lowder

Second: Huntley

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

**BUSINESS**

Town Council sent a letter to Eagle Creek requesting shoreline cleanup but received no response. Eagle Creek cut shoreline brush but left debris in the lake and haven't cleared the Hwy 740 side much. Council prepared a second letter. Lowder asked if it was needed since work is being done. Huntley said since there was no response to the first letter, we should send the second. Council consensus was to send the second letter by certified mail.

Town council discussed Polar Plunge special event application for March 16. Eagle Creek doesn't allow activities at the water except the plunge. They would like to use the waterfront park for the event. Lowder said they need a parking plan inside the park and a security and emergency plan.

Town Council discussed budget goals.

- Ward proposed a list of areas for paving, and suggested major arteries first, such as Spruce and Sherman streets. Huntley said the board decided to prioritize the worst areas before getting estimates. Ward talked about getting estimates for the whole list to get costs for everything before deciding what to do. He said to start on Spruce St. from Pine St. to Boyden St., and Sherman St. from Lee St. to Lincoln St. Lowder said we need to reduce Powell Bill budget for patching to \$10,000. Ward said alleyway patching will come from general fund.

Motion to get prices for paving Spruce and Sherman streets only: Ward

Second: Huntley

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

- Town Council discussed ARPA funds. \$150,000 was allocated for police department for a pickup, an SUV, radios and Tasers. \$104,000 was spent on those items, but not radios yet. Total ARPA funds were \$633,773, leaving \$483,773 for storm water projects.
- Council discussed climate controlled evidence space for the police department. Huntley said it's been on the list a while and it needs to be done, he suggested Almond, Eudy, and Chief Smith develop estimates.
- New town hall receptacles and light switches are purchased. Will hire an electrician to install. Council consensus is to change only the ones in the front office and meeting room and add split lighting in meeting room. Huntley requested staff get 3 estimates on flooring. Lowder mentioned the flooring will have to be in next year's budget.
- Almond said legal fees for Connie Mosher will be \$350 per hour or \$75 per hour for the paralegal. Legal & Audit fees line item is \$12,000 for audit. Huntley suggested separating legal and audit line items in the next budget, suggested \$4,000 - \$5,000 for legal fees.
- Huntley requested estimates from sign vendors replacing town entry signs and asking Jane Rife or Sue Dalton to oversee the landscaping around the signs. Ward opposed stone signs as too expensive and suggested waiting until we need to replace them before changing them.
- Ward said citizens asked for Stuart St. right of way clearing. Almond will contact Randy Bush.
- Eudy is to get prices on reflective safety coats for public works.

Council discussed long term goals.

- West Badin Park Restrooms. Lowder would like to put \$20,000 in the next budget so we can apply for the county's \$10,000 matching grant. Almond said we need to close out the current grant and the deadline is April. Lowder said Garmon Mechanical is aware of the deadline.
- Badin Police cruisers are being tracked by the CAD system.
- Chief is waiting for Criminal Justice Standards on new hires.
- Electric Vehicle Charging Station. Previous council wanted electric vehicle charging station in Waterfront Park. There are grants available. It's not currently on the park project plans.
- Boy Scout Troop for Badin.
- Town bank account balances should be available.
- Explain grants work in the Badin Villager.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn special called meeting: Ward

Second: Lowder

Discussion: Huntley asked if anyone has followed alley work in Albemarle. He said the city is regretting it and homeless people are being dropped off there.

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Minutes Prepared by: Amanda Bowers

Minutes approved March 12, 2024.