

July 8, 2014
Council Workshop
12191 Magnolia Springs Hwy
Magnolia Springs, Al.
5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Underwood called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members present – Mayor Underwood - Council Members: Dotty Johnson, Bob Holk, Tom Webb and Ben Dykema. Not present: Jim May. Also present: Town Clerk - Karen S. Biel and Legal Counsel – Brad Hicks

3. Invocation and Pledge – led by Mayor Underwood

4. Eddie Sue Winter – Magnolia Springs Seafood Celebration

Eddie Sue, as the coordinator of the event, is asking the council for a letter of support so that she may move forward with applying for grants for the next seafood celebration in 2015. She also added that the celebration did come very close to breaking even which is good for having the event for the first time. Councilmember Holk stated that a letter from the mayor would be good. Mayor Underwood said he didn't have a problem with that.

5. Magnolia Springs Library – Billy and Alida Given

Alida informed the council that the Magnolia Springs Library is number two in Baldwin County as far as circulations per borrower. Billy informed the council that the library is presenting a motion for Councilmember Dykema to make at the regular meeting. The motion is for the town to assume full cognizance of and responsibility of the library effective October 1, 2014. Billy then gave a brief history of the library for the past couple years. He also added that the library board is asking the council to make the decision as soon as possible and to let them know. The library board is also asking that the council's analysis of cost will be balanced with the council's knowledge of how the library performs, has performed, is performing and how the population supports the library. Councilmember Dykema asked why now? Billy said that October 1st is fast approaching and there are things that need to be done whether it's a yes or no. Councilmember Holk stated that not only is there a financial concern but the logistics of running the library needs to be researched. Councilmember Johnson invited Billy to the finance committee meeting and he agreed to attend.

6. Discussion – Minutes - June

Workshop Meeting – 06/10/2014
Regular Council Meeting – 06/24/2014
No comments or corrections

7. Discussion - Financials and Expenditures - June

The Mayor reported: Balances as of 06/30/2014 - General Fund - \$39,328.20. Income - \$18,765.93. Expenses - \$48,592.76. Money Market – \$182,787.16. CD - \$53,895.19. Deepwater Horizon - \$9,714.54. Special Revenue 4, 5, & 7¢ Gas Tax – Income \$326.35, Balance - \$13,751.76. The clerk informed the council that the balance in the General Fund at the present time is about \$11,000.00.

8. Public Comment

Steve Fuller commented on some erosion on Rock Street and that something needs to be done. Harold Sherman stated that he has a general contractors license specializing in erosion control and offered to look at the situation. Mayor Underwood will meet with Mr. Sherman to assess the problem.

Donna Esslinger voiced some concerns about the library situation. She stated that when it was presented at a community supper it was presented that it would cost the town nothing and it would be volunteer effort. She asked the same question as Councilmember Dykema, why now. Donna also had questions about having a professional librarian on staff to qualify for state money and about qualifying for grants. She urged the council to research and take their time in making their decision.

9. Deputy Kaiser's Monthly Report

Deputy Kaiser reported: 4 total arrests – 66 traffic stops – 25 citations – 32 warnings – 14 verbal warnings.

10. Discussion – Ordinance 2014-01– Amendments to Standard Specifications for Sanitary Sewer Installation

Mayor Underwood stated that the council will be considering the ordinance at the regular council meeting. Legal counsel stated that the ordinance was drafted after receiving the comments from the engineers on how to change the specifications to allow for PVC pipe.

11. Discussion – Board of Adjustment reappointments and appointment

Mayor Underwood stated the BOA has made recommendations:

Reappointments:

Joan Dykes – Ken Johnson – John Ruess – David Worthington

Appointments:

Brett Gaar – Kenny Laurendine – Rick Odess

12. Committee/Commission Reports

a) **Finance Committee** – Mayor Underwood stated that the committee will have a budget meeting on July 21st.

b) **Public Works & Safety** – Councilmember Holk informed the council that a meeting has been set with FEMA for a final review. R&S Paving has been contacted and will start the street repairs. FEMA will reimburse 75% and the state will reimburse 12 ½ % so the town will be responsible for the other 12 ½ %. Councilmember Holk added that Alabama Department of Conservation will start the river cleanup – Crowder Gulf was awarded the contract and Volkert will be the monitor on the project.

c) **Public Lands** – Councilmember Dykema stated the committee went to the Springs and the committee has agreed that there is work that needs to be done. The town is waiting on notification on a grant to help assist with the river and the embankment.

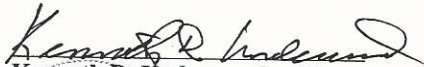
d) **Historic Preservation Commission** – Mayor Underwood reported that Johanna Shields resigned and the commission will recommend David Houser to fill the vacancy.

13. Council, legal counsel and staff comments

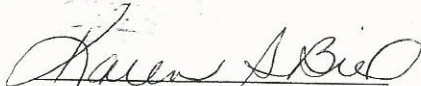
Councilmember Holk mentioned again that he is not against the library and the financial part is not his biggest concern, but the logistics of it are. He suggested that a committee be formed to review the whole process of taking over the library and find out what the intentions are of the people that work at the library. Mayor Underwood formed an ad-hoc committee of himself, Ben Dykema and Bill and Alida Given.

Workshop ended at 6:30 pm

Approved this the 26th day of August, 2014


Kenneth D. Underwood – Mayor

ATTEST:


Karen S. Biel – Town Clerk