Town of Pelzer Council Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2024

**Council Present –** Will Ragland, Donna Ide, Mike Matthews, Eddie Waits

**Absent –** Cruz West

Staff Present – Cheryl Bates – via phone, Town Attorney- Richard Thompson

1. Call to Order – Mayor Ragland

Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance – Mike Matthews

1. Citizens Comments (sign-up required – 3 minutes)
   * + Larry Coker – read a statement that he said he got from the Municipal Association stating roles of Mayor and Council.
2. Approval of Minutes
   1. December 12, Council Meeting – Mayor asked if there were any amendments that needed to be made to these minutes, Mike Mathews stated that he had requested for something to be put on the agenda about the Veteran’s Memorial because he gave 24-hour notice, Mayor stated it was not on the agenda, Mike Mathews requested that it be put on under Old Business. Mike Mathews made a motion to table these minutes, all the council and Mayor agreed to table these minutes.
   2. December 19, Special Called Meeting – Donna Ide made the motion to approve, Mike Mathews 2nd the motion, all in favor.
3. Reports/Presentations
4. Cheryl Bates – Clerk’s Report read by Mayor due to Cheryl was via phone but could not speak due to surgery.

Police Coverage for December 2023 – Traffic Stops/51, Contacts/49, Calls for Service/12, Arrest/2.

1. Old Business – none
2. New Business
   1. Swearing in of newly elected council members – Eddie Waits was sworn in by the town attorney Richard Thompson. Cruz West was absent due to illness.
   2. Election of Mayor Pro Tempore – Eddie Waits nominated Donna Ide, Mike Mathews 2nd the motion, all in favor Donna Ide will serve as Mayor Pro Tempore.
   3. Resolution 2024-001: A Resolution to Accept 2023 PARD Grant Award – Eddie Waits made the motion to approve, Donna Ide 2nd the motion, all in favor.
   4. PHC Veteran’s Memorial – Highway 20 Proposal brought by Larry Coker, Mike Mathews made the motion to approve, Will Ragland 2nd the motion. Donna Ide questioned if this is to approve location at the Monkey Park, Eddie Waits would like to see it put at the new Town Hall Wardlaw park area in lieu of Highway 20, he has concerns about the Monkey Park location. He is not in favor of putting it at Monkey Park. Mayor stated that he is not in favor of the Wardlaw Park location because he is looking at the future of Wardlaw Park being a business district. Wants what is best for the town. The question for tonight is do we approve the Hwy 20 site. Further discussion by Donna Ide stated that years ago they approved this for Monkey Park, when they wanted to put it on the lower mill property, she thought that would be a good location. Mayor Ragland, & Mike Mathews were in favor of approving the Hwy 20 site, Eddie Waits and Donna Ide were opposed. Motion did not pass.
   5. Additional requirements for applicants to Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals. This is a list of additional requirements that was put together by Donna Ide, requirements were read out loud. Mayor stated that most of this was already covered by the application we already use. Donna stated that it is missing 4 words, and the fact that she would like for people to live within the town for a full year. Donna Ide would like to table this item; she gave an explanation as to why she wants to add that they must live within the town for a full year. She also would like to be in the form of an ordinance, so it is enforceable.
   6. Gym rentals – Mayor stated that he had Cheryl do research of surrounding towns charge for rentals – What was presented to Mayor and Council - $30.00/hr., $200/day (8 hr.), plus $50.00 cleaning fee and $50.00 refundable deposit. Kimberly Majors $200.00/month and Business License. Donna Ide stated she approves of the new rates for the rental of the gym but wants the exercise class separately. There needs to be a new agreement made for this property. Mayor stated that we need to vote on the rental rates tonight only. Eddie Waits questioned the monthly rate and the annual lease agreement, why do we want to rent it out for a year. There was no motion to approve, this item was tabled.
3. Executive Session - none
4. Adjournment – Mayor Ragland. The meeting was adjourned by the mayor.

**\*This is not approved until the next Council meeting\***

