

The regular monthly meeting of the Beverly Town Council was held Monday, January 14, 2019, at 6:30 pm in the council chambers of the Beverly Town Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Cindy Karelis. Those present were Recorder Barbara Smith, councilmembers, Tena Pritt, Connie Pingley, Matt Lewis, Becky Weese and Rodney Cooper. Visitors included Randolph Council Board of Education personal, Superintendent Gabe Devono, Amanda Smith and Brad Smith; representatives from Beverly School, Paul Zickefoose, Briella Arbogast, Taylor Thomas, Nicole Currence, Cynthia Hardy, and Alisha Doyle. Other visitors included Marlene Arbogast, Chris Mielke and Rhett Dusenbury.

Chris Mielker gave a report on the Old Fashion Christmas that was held in December at the Heritage Center. He said the main display this year was the letters to Santa found behind a fireplace mantel that were written by a six year old girl over 100 years ago. An article written about the letters was published in the Elkins Intermountain and picked up by Fox News, USA Today and several other news stations and possibility read by over 4.9 million people. The buzz around these letters has actually put Beverly WV on the map! The Mayor said it is very exciting to see this little town come alive with this kind of excitement. Several new ideas have sprung up for upcoming events due to the attention the letters have shed on Beverly.

Superintendent Devono gave council members a personal look into the Randolph County School Levy. He started by sharing all the new things that has been done in the county schools in the past year. In Beverly School alone, over two million dollars have been spent to add a new cafeteria, kitchen and class rooms. New lighting and air conditioning has been added also. He said the new levy is to place students first, buildings second and community third. He went into detail explaining what the new levy will support. His input was very informative.

Marlene Arbogast asked for support from council to help start community events for kids. She suggested an Easter parade, things to do in the summer and Christmas activities. The Mayor explained the council can't organize these events but the town does have a Fairs and Festival fund that could possible donate. Mayor Karelis suggested to Mrs. Arbogast that she try to get some interested persons to work on ideas, while she checks on what is required to do these activities.

MARTSILLER DEMOLITION – FILL DIRT

Jeremy Metheny is waiting for the ground to freeze to demolish Charlie Martstiller's house on Main Street. Once the house is demolished, fill dirt is needed. Dirt can be purchased from Charlie Bell at \$200 for 18 ton of fill dirt and \$350 for top soil. A motion was made by Mrs. Weese to purchase this dirt from the IPMC fund at a cap of \$1000. Seconded by Mr. Cooper with all in favor.

UTILITY BOARD ORDINANCE

Mayor Karelis walked council thru history on the Utility Board Ordinances. No previous action has been taken to put the ordinances together, with one of the ordinances only having been voted on once when it was adopted in 1980. More investigation will be conducted to study the ordinances so a new ordinance can be written properly. The Mayor will consult our town attorney, Rob Chenoweth.

P-CARD

No interest is shown in the town getting the Purchasing Cards known as P Cards. Mrs. Pritt said Citizens Bank has debit cards with a \$1000 a day limit. The Mayor will check on these.

PSC REPORT – TETRICK & BARTLETT

The Public Service Commission has given Tetrick & Bartlett permission to do the town's PSC report. Tetrick & Bartlett will be sending a contract to the town to be signed.

MANOR LETTER

Mrs. Weese made a motion that the Beverly Manor letter that has been drafted by Mayor Karelis to notify residents about voting in the town election be ran by our lawyer for his approval and include any changes he recommends; and then it be provided to the residents of the Beverly Manor. Motion seconded by Mr. Lewis with all in favor.

ARMSTRONG COST SHARE

A letter received from Robbie Morris regarding the Armstrong Cost Share has council confused as to whether the cost share is being asked by Armstrong Flooring or the Randolph County Development Authority. Clarification is needed before council can make any decision.

LIGHTS AT BEVERLY SCHOOL

PTA President, Cindy Hardy on behalf of concerned teachers and parents at Beverly School has asked council for help in getting more lighting along the street at the school and to help in getting the DOH to adjust the blinking caution lights with an on/off switch to be used during after school events. The mayor assured those present that the idea would be investigated further.

EASTER PARADE

Earlier in the meeting, council discussed with Marlene Arbogast her request for a children's Easter parade in town. Council doesn't feel an Easter parade warrants shutting down the main highway; that the fire department would be a more suitable place to have one. An Easter egg hunt was also discussed.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE ORDINANCE

A motion was made by Mrs. Pingley to create a Personnel Committee Ordinance. She suggested one member from water, one member from sewer and two members from the council make up the committee. Motion seconded by Mr. Lewis, all in favor. A draft will be drawn up by the Mayor and given to the town attorney

MUNICIPAL LEAGUE TRAINING – ELECTION

A motion was made by Mrs. Pritt to send the town clerk, Robin Wilson, to Charleston on January 29, 2019, for a Municipal League training for the upcoming election. Motion seconded by Mrs. Pingley with all in favor.

PART TIME MAINTENANCE EMPLOYEE

Council is interested in hiring a part time maintenance employee, maybe 2-3 days per week. The Mayor has been asked to get a dollar figure on cost.

ELECTION/CANDIDATE FILING

Council members received a certificate of announcement to file for election in the upcoming election. Filing starts today and goes till 4:00 pm on January 25th with mailing deadline being midnight January 26th.

WAIVER-GAS PURCHASES/SUNOCO CARD

After attending State Auditor training, the mayor addressed council regarding the Utility Department buying gasoline at "Bobbie's" which is owned by the town recorder Barbara Smith. The mayor consulted Ethics Commission lawyer, Derek Knopp, who expressed his opinion that this violated the Public Contracts section of the WV Ethics Code. Ms. Smith told council she understood and if it was decided not to purchase gas from her, she understood but some council members felt that the purchases were not in excess and wanted to wait till next meeting to decide how to handle the situation. A motion was made by Mr. Cooper to apply for a Woodford gas card and to hold purchases at an allowable maximum of \$1000 a year from Bobbie's. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Pritt, but failed to lack of vote. Council did decide to apply for the Woodford gas cards.

MUNICIPAL LEAGUE TRAINING

Municipal League Training was offered for council and utility board members, but it was to be conducted during the day when most council members are at work and couldn't attend. Council expressed no interest.

INVOICES

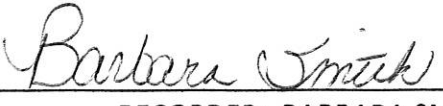
A motion was made by Mrs. Weese to pay the invoices in the amount of \$2094.32. Second was made by Mr. Lewis with all in favor.

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Motion made to adjourn by Mr. Cooper, second by Mrs. Pritt. Meeting adjourned at 8:52 pm.


MAYOR: CINDY KARELIS


RECORDER: BARBARA SMITH