

TOWN OF HOMER
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 14, 2023

REGULAR MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Doug Cheek.

Present were Sandra Garrison, Judy Harper, James Dumas and Cliff Hill.

The invocation was given by James Dumas.

The pledge to the flag was led by Mayor Doug Cheek.

Motion was made by James Dumas to approve the minutes from the October 10, 2023 meeting. Motion was seconded by Sandra Garrison and approved. (5-0)

ROUNDAABOUT UPDATE

Mayor Cheek and Cliff Hill have met with DOT Engineer, who was advised of many problems at that area, such as closing Athens Street, Golden Pantry changes, water drainage and Dollar General. The Engineer is looking at concerns and trying to address the concerns.

Council discussed the current plans which they feel will be devastating to the businesses in that area. A letter will be sent to Chris Erwin, Representative, expressing the concerns of the Mayor and Council regarding the roundabout and the effects it will potentially have on the businesses and the Town.

WELL UPDATE

No report. James Dumas will check with Ken Bryan to see if he can speed the process up.

GARBAGE RATES

Mayor and Council discussed the current service with Waste Management, customer complaints, and the price increase of \$19.70 per container. A letter will be written expressing the dissatisfaction of service and letting Waste Management know that quotes are being accepted from other companies.

The current rate being charged to customers is \$20.00 per container. Due to Waste Management's increase a motion was made by Judy Harper to increase the town's garbage fee to \$25.00 per container beginning Jan. 1, 2024. Customers will be advised of the increase on the next bill they receive. The motion was seconded by Sandra Garrison and approved (5-0)

OTHER BUSINESS

James Dumas discussed the need for a sewer feasibility study. The cost will be \$24,500.00. Mr. Dumas feels this study is necessary in order for the Mayor and Council to see the different options they have regarding the sewer. He would also like to get a timetable from Banks County about bringing sewer into the Town of Homer. Motion was made by James Dumas to proceed with the feasibility study the first of 2024. Motion was seconded by Cliff Hill and approved. (5-0)

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Cliff Hill discussed the grant that the Homer Fire Department has received. He would like have Robert Davidson to be the grant administrator, Mr. Davidson would take care of everything regarding the grant and would be paid out of grant money. Motion was made by Sandra Garrison to appoint Robert Davidson as grant administrator for the Homer Fire Department grant. Motion was seconded by Judy Harper and approved. (5-0)

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HOMER TIRE SHOP

The Mayor and Council are concerned about the appearance of the Homer Tire Shop. Complaints have also been received from Town residents regarding the situation. Mayor Cheek asked for David Syfan, Town Attorney, to be contacted for insight on what can be done by the Town regarding the situation.

DDA REPORT

Kellie Jones gave a report from the Downtown Development Authority. The Pumpkin Festival held October 21, 2023 was a great success. The children really enjoyed the parade and games. Christmas on the Farm will be December 9, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. with the parade starting at 10:00 a.m.

Mrs. Jones asked for the Mayor and Council to reappoint Laurie Erwin and Debbie Massey for another 4 year term on the Downtown Development Authority. Motion was made by Sandra Garrison to reappoint Laurie Erwin and Debbie Massey to another 4 year term. Motion was seconded by Cliff Hill and approved. (5-0)

She also asked the Mayor and Council to appoint Kelby Walkuski to the Downtown Development Authority Board. Motion was made by Sandra Garrison to appoint Kelby Walkuski to the Downtown Development Authority Board. Motion was seconded by James Dumas and approved. (5-0)

The church rental fell through due to the renter not agreeing with the terms of the lease.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Cliff Hill to go into Executive Session regarding personnel issues at 7:14 p.m.

Motion was seconded by Judy Harper and approved. (5-0)

Roll Call: Mayor Doug Cheek, Sandra Garrison, Judy Harper, Cliff Hill, and James Dumas.

Motion was made by Cliff Hill to close the Executive Session at 7:43 p.m. Motion was seconded by James Dumas and approved. (5-0)

No decisions were made.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Carol Ayers, Clerk

Doug Cheek, Mayor