**MINUTES**

**Town of Atkinson**

**Regular Meeting & Budget Hearing**

**August 5, 2021 – 7:00 PM**

**Honorable Mayor Wendell Newkirk; Honorable Mayor Pro tempore Dee Turner; Commissioner Denise Lewis; Commissioner Bryan Stewart; Commissioner Gary Alsup**

**Town Clerk, Becky Lanier**

**Robert Kenan, Town Attorney**

**(Mayor Newkirk, 4 commissioners, Becky Lanier, Town Clerk and Robert Kenan, Town Attorney were in attendance)**

1. **Honorable Mayor Wendell Newkirk called the 08/05/2021 Regular Meeting to order.**
2. **Commissioner Gary Alsup led the prayer.**
3. **Commissioner Denise Lewis led the Pledge of Allegiance.**
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
* **06/30/2021 Regular Meeting : Motion Commissioner Dee Turner 2nd Commissioner Gary Alsup Motion Carried 4-0**
1. **Approval of the Agenda:**
* **Motion Commissioner Bryan Stewart 2nd Commissioner Gary Alsup**

 **Motion Carried 4-0**

1. **Public Comments:**
* **Jerry Jacobs inquired about having the Gym open on Sundays for 2-4pm. He was instructed that the Gym could be open on Sundays as long as a board member or Town employee was present. Mr. Jacobs asked about a key and he was told that only board members and town employees would be able to open the Gym. Also this would be a Town sponsored event so Mr. Jacobs wouldn’t have to carry extra insurance. Also with the Town opening and closing the Gym it would cut down on how many people would have a key.**
1. **Public Information:**
* **Lori Kirkpatrick who is with Safe Haven of Burgaw spoke about Domestic Violence and informed us that there is information out there for anyone who needs it. She thanked everyone who was involved in the Community Day Event and she informed us that with what was raised that day and what was sent in after the event the total monetary donation was $1500.00. Also she explained that February is Teen Violence and Dating Month.**
* **Crystal Dunning thanked everyone for their support in the Community Day Event. She also stated that she has started Advocated for Atkinson Facebook page and that she will not tolerate any ugliness on this page. Ms. Dunning publicly apologized to Commissioner Bryan Stewart for falsely accusing him of saying something to her when he wasn’t in town. Commissioner Bryan Stewart accepted her apology and thanked her for doing that.**
1. **Fire Department: (Fire Chief Jason Turner)**
* **See attached Fire Report**
* **Fire Department inspection in on September 8th. They are working hard to get things ready for this.**
* **Fire Chief Jason Turner read a letter from the Brunswick County Government for Fire Department Appreciation along with a certificate for participation in recovery efforts after the tornado that struck the county February 2021. We had 3 volunteers’ members that heeded the call Nick Squires, Doyle Rutherford and Bryson Stewart.**
1. **Financial/Clerk Report: (Becky Lanier, Town Clerk)**
* **Becky Lanier gave the Mayor and all Commissioners a copy of the Powell Bill Expenditure Report**
* **Also Becky Lanier presented to the Commissioners and Mayor a proposal from Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Co., P.A. in the amount of $12,500.00. The reason this proposal is so high is due to the fact that the Mayor Elton Newkirk back in February 2021 decided to file a complaint against Town Hall for embezzlement.**
* ***Commissioner Dee Turner made the motion to accept the proposal for this year and in January start looking for other options Commissioner Gary Alsup 2nd Motion Carried 4-0***
1. **Library Report: Commissioner Gary Alsup**
* **Cards 2**
* **Visitors 30**
* **Books 25**
1. **Maintenance Report: (Commissioner Bryan Stewart)**
* **See attached Envirolink Report**
* **Commissioner Bryan Stewart read Aaron Floyd’s report on the tasks that he performed for the town for the month of July.**
* **Commissioner Stewart presented a list of tools needed in the shop the Maintenance Supervisor Aaron Floyd put together.**
* ***Commissioner Bryan Stewart made a motion to purchase the tools Commissioner Gary Alsup 2nd motion carried 4-0***
* ***Commissioner Dee Turner also made the motion to only spend up to $2000.00 on the tools Commissioner Gary Alsup 2nd motion carried 4-0***
* **Commissioner Stewart presented several estimates for renting some heavy equipment to help in cleaning out the canal and the town ditches they were broke down weeks and monthly rentals. (see attached estimates) Maintenance Supervisor Aaron Floyd will be the one operating the machine.**
* ***Commissioner Bryan Stewart made the motion to purchase the machine for 4 weeks from Untied Rentals in the amount of $2506.54 Commissioner Gary Alsup 2nd motion carried 4-0***
1. **Old Business:**
* **Diane Spencer all work was completed by Maintenance Supervisor Aaron Floyd on July 26, 2021. Everything seems to be working properly.**
1. **New Business:**
* **Library: Carolyn Wilson needs a wireless router and a modem for her computer. Commissioner Dee Turner agrees that she needs one but to only spend up to $200.00 on one.**
* ***Commissioner Denise Lewis made the motion to purchase router and modem up to $200.00 Commissioner Bryan Stewart 2nd motion carried 4-0***
* **Outside basketball court: Commissioner Gary Alsup brought up that the outside basketball court needs to be repaved. After much discussion Commissioner Gary Alsup is going to be in charge of getting 3 quotes for the outside basketball court and also for Red Cross St.**
* **American Rescue Act: Commissioner Dee Turner had been in contact with the coordinator for the ARA, at this point the Town has to approve the American Rescue Act in order to move forward.**
* ***Commissioner Denise Lewis made to motion to approve the American Rescue Act Commissioner Bryan Stewart 2nd motion carried 4-0***

***Motion to go into Closed Session was made by Commissioner Denise Lewis and 2nd by Commissioner Gary Alsup Motion Carried 4-0 8:20pm***

***Motion to go out of Closed Session was made by Commissioner Dee Turner and 2nd by Commissioner Denise Lewis Motion Carried 4-0***

***Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Commissioner Denise Lewis, 2nd by Commissioner Gary Alsup Motion Carried 4-0 ended at 9:52pm***