

The regular meeting of the Kirklin Town Council was held on Monday, April 11, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at Kirklin Town Hall.

On the Call of the Roll the following Council Members were present: Jennifer Bowman, Jerry Faucett, Melinda Jobe, Walt Minnick, and Brent Stetler.

Also present were Patty Quick, Steve Reynolds, Dwaine Pitzer, Tommy Dillingham, Tanessa Curry, Amber Hendrickson, Billy Walker, Jay Hawley, Dan Mann, Jim (Chip) Mann, Stacey Richardson, Jay Moore, Danielle Richey, and Mary King.

MEETING CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order by Melinda Jobe, and she led with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer.

MINUTES – The Minutes from Town Council Meeting held on March 14, 2022, were approved as read.

KIRKLIN MAIN STREET – Dwain Pitzer, KMS Board President, introduced himself and gave a list of who the current officers are on the KMS Board. He explained that KMS is moving forward with the Monon Trail Project which had been put on hold during COVID. He explained that they have obtained deeds outside of Kirklin and land has been surveyed. They will be putting down gravel on some sections this year. Members are coordinating with Boone County to work on connecting Boone County with the Clinton County project. CSX wanted \$100,000.00 to even begin talks for approx. 11/2 miles of the old railroad tracks for the project, so we have to go through the public road system. He is requesting that the Town Council consider giving more money to KMS to continue the project. He explained that KMS did not receive grants for two years from the hotel fund and that lost revenue totaled \$10,000.00. (Chip) Jim Mann explained the new approach KMS is taking concerning the Monon Trail extension. Three miles has been secured outside of town. Five to seven miles in Boone County are still needed. Boone and Clinton County are discussing closing off County Road 900 in both counties. KMS has established a sub-committee to continue the downtown decorative paver project. They are working on developing an Economic Development Team driven by Chip, Dr. Chuck Dietzen. They think that it is in the best interest of the town to move forward with our section of the Monon and that might put a little more pressure on Boone County to move forward with their section. Steve Reynolds, Executive Director for KMS spoke about the Monon as well. He asked for approval from the Council to close Madison Street for the events as they've done in the past. He also welcomed ideas from the Council and citizens for future downtown events. Jerry Faucett had the suggestion that we try to avoid having events on the Saturdays that surrounding communities have events. Jennifer Bowman suggested that KMS try to find vendors that have fresh fruits and vegetables, flowers, and homemade items. Chip Mann said that they are working to attract the right businesses for Kirklin.

WATER RATE STRUCTURE – Chip Mann spoke to the Council about the difficulty the distillery is having with the current water rate structure. The distillery is the largest water user in town every month and the current rate structure does not provide for industrial-type user rates. He is requesting that the Council change the current rate structure to lower the rate for water usage over 20,000 gallons. He is requesting that the price per 1,000 gallons after 20,000 be changed to \$6.00 per 1,000. The rate for the first 20,000 would remain the same which is currently \$12.44. He further explained that they are also working on reducing water consumption by water recovery. This will require a \$30,000.00-\$50,000.00 investment on their part. They are already experimenting with the process, but since you drink the product, it needs to be well researched to keep the quality intact. They would like to add two more stills, but the current water rate structure would

prohibit that due to the cost. He said that adding two more stills would add more employees; they are currently up to four. Chip stated that the current situation with water quality isn't ideal and at times they have to filter the water additionally to be able to use it, but there are so many reasons why they would like to keep the distillery in Kirklin. Dan Mann said that they have unofficially been bringing tours through the distillery and that has already brought many from out of town to Kirklin. They are hoping to have the tasting room licensing by June 15th and start the tours on June 16th. They are in the process of siding the big building. Chip said that things will just continue to look cleaner and better near the distillery.

FIREWORKS DISPLAY REQUEST – Amber Hendrickson asked for permission to hold their fireworks display at the Town Park on July 4th. She wanted to get verbal permission prior to ordering them and moving forward with insurance, etc. Walt Minnick expressed concerns because there was a lot of debris on the ground blocks away from the park last year following their fireworks. Jerry Faucett expressed concerns about kids setting off the lanterns and them getting stuck on wires or falling to the ground in the past. Amber agreed that if allowed to have the fireworks, they would not set off lanterns. A motion was made by Jennifer Bowman to approve allowing Amber Hendrickson to use the park for fireworks, but not allowing the lanterns. Jerry Faucett supported the motion, and it was carried with a unanimous vote. Mary King questioned if the Recreation Board would need to approve it since they lease the ball diamonds. Danielle Richey thought that it would be ok for this year, but if they are able to get grants and invest in the ball diamonds, they wouldn't allow it in the future. Amber said that she would have a rain date option as well.

COMPLAINT AGAINST COUNCIL MEMBER – Tanessa Curry, Park Board Member, read a letter she had written concerning a meeting members of the Park Board had with a Council Member at the Town Park last week. She felt that the Council Member acted in an unprofessional manner towards her, and she felt bullied. The Council Member admitted to using foul language but did not recall the incident in the same manner and said that her statements were general for the Park Board and Recreation Board to get along and not directed at Tanessa personally. Tanessa asked for the resignation of said Council Member and stated that if she would not resign the Council should take steps to remove her from office. Tanessa asked if the Town Council had adopted a Code of Conduct for Council Members, employees, and volunteers. She said if they had not, they should. The Council took the issue under advisement.

PARK BOARD – In light of the ongoing conflict between the Park & Recreation Boards, Brent Stetler made a motion to ask all of the Park Board Members to resign. The motion died for lack of a second. Patty reported that they would need to call a plumber for some work in the restrooms. She has concerns over the length of the lease with the Recreation Board. Amber asked if the Council would be willing to set a special called meeting to review additional quotes for concrete at the park so that the project doesn't have to be put off until the May meeting. Amber is to let the Clerk-Treasurer know when all the estimates are in. Billy had gotten a quote to do some of the work, but not all. The quote also was for making some repairs rather than replacing concrete in order to cut costs. Jay reminded everyone that the quotes need to be for the exact same items. He also said that it needs to contain language that allows choosing only parts of the project at this time. Patty wanted to be sure that the Council was ok with her going to local churches and the Bridge to get volunteers to clean up sides of the streets in town. **RESIGNATION** – Crystal Houston submitted a letter of resignation from the Park Board as of March 15, 2022. Due to that vacancy, Patty Quick introduced Stacey Richardson who is willing to serve as a replacement for Crystal on the Park Board. A motion was made by Walt Minnick to appoint Stacey Richardson to the Kirklin Park Board. The motion was supported by Jerry Faucett and carried with unanimous vote.

RECREATION BOARD – Danielle Richey provided the Council with a drawing of the fence they would like to have installed around the area that the Recreation Board Leases at the park. She reported that she has applied for a Community Foundation Grant as well as an SIA Grant to help fund the project. She has met with the lady who had the ag-lime issue and has volunteers lined up to repair the fence behind the baseball diamond. The Rec Board has scheduled April 23rd and 30th for workdays at the park. **LEASE** - Danielle has some items in the lease that she would like to see changed. She would like the section that says that the Park Board will give the Rec Board \$500.00 to be changed since it is actually the town that gives them the \$500.00 and not the Park Board. After reviewing the lease dates, everyone agreed that it would make more sense to delete that section and have the Rec Board lease the property year-round. It was agreed that both the Park & Recreation Boards would submit proposed changes to the lease. All requested changes will be compiled and reviewed at the same time.

WASTEWATER PROJECT – Billy Walker reported that the PER kick-off meeting with Commonwealth Engineering will be this Friday morning, April 15th at 9:00 a.m. at Town Hall. The meeting is open to anyone who would like to attend. Mary King reported that she and Billy had already provided Darren Wells with information that he has requested to begin work on the project.

UTILITIES SUPERINTENDENT – Billy Walker submitted a written report to the Town Council prior to the meeting. Highlighted from that list is that the Consumer Confidence Report will be hand-delivered to residents at the end of this month. The #3 blower at the WWTP is down and needs major repairs. Billy presented a quote from Aerzen in the amount of \$8,552.16. A motion was made by Melinda Jobe to approve the estimate for blower repairs by Aerzen in the amount of \$8,552.16. The motion was supported by Walt Minnick and carried with a unanimous vote.

MARSHAL – Tommy Dillingham attended the meeting in Brendon Bright's place. Tommy said that Brendon just wanted to let the Council know that he and his Deputies would begin watching out for grass clippings in the road and mowing violations. The new radar unit has been installed in the police truck.

CLERK-TREASURER - Revenue & Appropriation Reports for March 31, 2022, Billing Adjustment Register for month ending March 31, 2022, Current Register of Claims, Statement of Reconciled Accounts for month ending March 31, 2022, w/ Fund Report, given to the Town Council prior to the meeting for review. There were no questions concerning the reports. The Register of Claims and Billing Adjustment Register was signed by all Council Members. The Statement of Reconciled Accounts was signed by the Council President.

COPIER LEASE OPTIONS – After reviewing the options given by Cardinal Copier Solutions, a motion was made by Melinda Jobe to lease the Ricoh IMC400 for \$79.67 per month option and keep the Sharp copier we are currently leasing at no charge. The motion was supported by Jennifer Bowman and carried with a unanimous vote.

Resolution 2022-4-1 Authorizing Single Signature for Street Projects – Mary King explained that we would need to appoint a new signatory for the Community Crossing Grant documents. Adopting a resolution is a simpler way than sending signed Minutes. This also provides for additional signature by any Council Member in the absence of the president and vice president. A motion was made by Brent Stetler to adopt Resolution #2022-4-1 Authorizing Single Signature for Street Projects. The motion was supported by Jerry Faucett and carried with a unanimous vote.

LEAK ADJUSTMENT – A motion was made by Jerry Faucett to approve the leak adjustment request by Tom Kelly in the amount of \$52.63. The motion was supported by Brent Stetler and carried with a unanimous vote.

COUNCIL MEMBERS – The Town Council discussed not having a Park Board at all if things don't settle down with the Park & Recreation Board soon. The Town Council would be responsible for the park if this were to happen. All Council Members agreed that it would be a good idea to give it a little more time to see if things get better.

AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION #2022-3-1 – Mary King explained that a new option had been recently made available to choose the lost revenue option for the ARPA money the town received. Choosing this option before meant calculating actual losses to the town for government services. The new rule allows for communities to take a standard allowance of the full awarded amount up to 10 million dollars. A motion was made by Melinda Jobe to amend Resolution #2022-3-1 using the project category 6.1 provision to use the standard allowance for revenue loss in the amount of \$174,956.14 for revenue replacement for government services. The motion was supported by Walt Minnick and carried with a unanimous vote.

Adjournment – Seeing no other business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:34p.m.

Melinda Jobe