

The meeting of the Kirklin Town Council was held on Monday, September 11, 2023, at 7:00 pm at Kirklin Town Hall.

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

Also present were Jay Moore, Billy Walker, Tara Walker, Nick Light and Jay Hawley.

Melinda Jobe opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer.

**MINUTES** – The minutes from the meeting held on August 14, 2023 were approved as written.

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED 2024 BUDGET** – The Public Hearing for the proposed 2024 Budget was opened by Melinda Jobe. Copies of the proposed Budget were made available to those in attendance. There were no questions or opposition to the proposed Budget. Seeing no comments or questions, the Public Hearing was closed.

**SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT REPLACEMENT** – Discussion was had regarding replacement of the sidewalk on the east side of N. Main St. close to Dollar General. Billy Walker stated that only Metzinger Construction responded to his solicit for bids in the amount of \$50/linear foot. Billy stated that he will find out how many feet of the east side of N. Main St. that he can get paved this year based upon the amount left in our Budget.

**WASTEWATER PROJECT** – Melinda Jobe announced that we were awarded a grant in the amount of \$700,000.00 from OCRA. Billy Walker stated that the Household Median Income increases to \$49,500.00 in October which will increase the town's chances of getting Rural Development funds but it will be awhile before we know anything. Brent Stetler made a motion to approve Commonwealth Engineers Invoice #56822 in the amount of \$500.00 for the USDA RD Environmental Report. The motion was supported by Melinda Jobe and it carried with a unanimous vote.

**PORTER ROOFING CONTRACT RESOLUTION #2023-9-1** – After a brief discussion, Melinda Jobe made a motion to approve Resolution #2023-9-1 to award Porter Roofing a contract for hail damage repairs that occurred in June to town buildings. The motion was supported by Brent Stetler and it carried with a unanimous vote.

**PARK BOARD** – Jay Hawley stated that the park board will be removing the fence around the baseball field but leaving the back stops to allow people to play there. He stated it will cost the park about \$4250.00. Billy Walker volunteered that he and Drew can remove the fence sometime this winter to help save the park board money. There are still two sheds at the park owned by the Rec League that have items in them. The park board will check with Danielle Richie to see when they will be removed. Billy will be helping the park make some picnic tables this winter. He estimated the cost at \$150-160 per table for materials.

**UTILITIES SUPERINTENDENT** – Billy Walker provided the Council with a written report. **Water** - Billy stated that our TTHM/HAA5 testing failed in June. He had Water Solutions Unlimited analyze our raw water coming from the ground and it was found that ammonia from our wells is increasing over time. This is likely due to being surrounded by agriculture but the aquifer we draw from is large and could also be seeping into it from decayed woodlands, rotting vegetation in wetlands or even septic systems in the country. He has been conferring with IDEM and is doing daily raw water tests to compile data to help determine what the remedy will be. TTHM/HAA5's are a byproduct of chlorine. He explained the process of having to keep under a certain feed rate of chlorine leaving the plant while also having to provide enough of it to have a chlorine residual throughout the system. It takes 5 parts of chlorine to kill 1 part ammonia and he cannot increase the chlorine rate due to having to stay under a 4.0 level. He keeps the chlorine down where he needs to leaving the plant but the ammonia is taking over the chlorine as it goes through the system. The more it takes over the chlorine in the system, the more byproducts are produced. He also cannot decrease the chlorine leaving the plant as then he would not be able to meet the required chlorine residual throughout the system. There are two options that IDEM and Billy are discussing. Any change of treatment from

chlorine needs to be approved by IDEM. He will be flushing hydrants later this month as well as conducting the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter sampling for TTHM/HAA5 levels. He will continue to work with IDEM on a solution and stated that the chlorine is still disinfecting the water and is approved by IDEM. **Streets** – Billy reported that there is a tree located at 103 N. Perry St. that needs to be cut down. He solicited bids and the only ones who responded were Ben Martin for \$2410.00 and Baber’s Tree Service for \$2800.00. Melinda Jobe made a motion to accept the bid from Ben Martin in the amount of \$2410.00 to remove the tree. The motion was supported by Jerry Faucett and it carried with a unanimous vote. Billy reported that the service truck will be going into the shop soon for hail damage repair.

**MARSHAL** – Nick Light reported that the Ford Explorer has been fixed and is now getting an oil change. He stated that Brendon Bright has spoken to the outfitter and that it should be completed in the next couple of weeks. Nick also gave a short demonstration to those in attendance as to how the new AED located in the community center works. Melinda Jobe inquired about if we have a first aid kit. Tara Walker responded that we have one in the office but not the community center. Melinda stated it is something to consider getting.

**CLERK-TREASURER** – Revenue & Appropriation Reports for August 31, 2023, Billing Adjustment Register for month ending August 31, 2023, Current Register of Claims, Payroll Allowance Docket for month ending August 31, 2023, Statement of Reconciled Accounts for month ending August 31, 2023, w/Fund Report, were given to the Town Council prior to the meeting for review. The original bank statements & Statement of Reconciled Accounts were signed by the Council President. The Register of Claims, Payroll Allowance Docket, and the Adjustment Register were signed by the Council Members present. Tara Walker reminded the council to please remove and replace the old ordinances with the new ones provided to them in their packets to keep their books current.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS** – Melinda Jobe stated that the pavers and sand have been delivered for the paver project. Billy Walker stated that he has scope of work finished and after editing and typing it he will give it to Heidi Turner to solicit bids. Melinda provided a copy of two quotes for banners that would go on the four corners downtown that will attach to the light poles from Mosca Design in the amounts of \$612.95 and \$650.91, depending on what type the council prefers. The idea is that they could have the new town logo on them or something else pertaining to the town. After some discussion, it was decided that the council is comfortable with that price range but will wait for final numbers once artwork is chosen. Brent Stetler would like for the town to have another Christmas Light contest. Melinda Jobe agreed and she will ask merchants for donations. There will be a 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place and both residents and businesses can participate. Two judges will come from out of town on December 18, 2023 to determine the winners. Jerry Faucett stated that he has spoken to residents who do not want a DORA downtown. Brent stated he does not have a problem with the distillery having a DORA but he does not want one downtown. Jerry Faucett stated that there is a need for at least one more street light on E. Pike St. After a brief discussion, Tara Walker will call Duke Energy to inquire about getting another light installed.

Seeing no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm.

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Melinda Jobe