

TOWN OF CUMBERLAND GAP
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMAN
APRIL 5, 2021
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The Board of Mayor and Alderman met in regular session on April 5, 2021 with Mayor Pucciarelli calling the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall building, 330 Colwyn, Cumberland Gap, TN.

Mayor Pucciarelli called for a roll call of the Board Members. Board Members answered as follows: John Douglas- here; Teresa Fuson- here; Joe Gill- absent; Jerry Hopson- here; Duke Parish- absent; John Ravnum- here.

Mayor Pucciarelli called for a motion to approve the minutes. Jerry Hopson made a motion to the approve minutes, with a second by Teresa Fuson. Mayor Pucciarelli called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: John Douglas-yes; Teresa Fuson- yes; Joe Gill- absent; Jerry Hopson- yes; Duke Parish- absent; John Ravnum- yes.

Mayor Pucciarelli next called for the Financial Report. Town Recorder, Linda Moyers, reported the balances of all the accounts. Mayor Pucciarelli called for a motion to approve the Financial Report. Jerry Hopson made a motion to approve the financial report, with a second Teresa Fuson. Mayor Pucciarelli called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: John Douglas-yes; Teresa Fuson- yes; Joe Gill- absent; Jerry Hopson- yes; Duke Parish- absent; John Ravnum- yes.

Mayor Pucciarelli directed the meeting to approval of the bills. Town Recorder, Linda Moyers, reported the total bills due for all the accounts. Mayor Pucciarelli called for a motion to approve the bills. Jerry Hopson made a motion to pay the bills, with a second John Douglas. Mayor Pucciarelli called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: John Douglas-yes; Teresa Fuson- yes; Joe Gill- absent; Jerry Hopson- yes; Duke Parish- absent; John Ravnum- yes.

Planning and Zoning- The new owners of the church building, on Pennlyn Street, came before the planning and zoning board with their plans for the building. They would like to turn the former church into a community/event center. Currently the building is zoned as residential so therefore their plans would not be permissible. They submitted a formal request asking the committee to consider rezoning the property to commercial. The request will be considered and the procedures researched.

Finance- The proposed budget for FY 2021 was reviewed and discussed at last week's planning meeting. In order to balance the budget for next fiscal year, it is necessary to raise the water rates by \$6.00 and the sewer rates by \$3.00.

Law and Order- Mayor Pucciarelli encouraged anyone who experiences any problems to call 911.

Historical – The next meeting of the Historic Zoning Commission will be Tuesday April 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. The committee will consider the COA submitted by the new owners of the church building on Pennlyn Street.

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Streets- Hinkle Construction has been consulted regarding road work the town is interested in doing. It is recommended that milling be done before any more asphalt is poured. As it is now the street is above the sidewalk in places. Some of the milling will be done in the current fiscal year and the remaining will be done in the next fiscal year.

Parks and Recreation –The grand opening of the bike share program is tentatively scheduled for July.

The Festival Park Project is almost ready to be advertised for bids.

Tourism/Events- Upcoming Events include:

04/10/21 (Sat) Second Saturday Night Fever

04/10/21 (Sat) Hammer in the Gap

04/24/21 (Sat) Antiques, Art, & Craft Show

05/07/21 (Fri) First Friday Movie Nights

05/08/21 (Sat) Second Saturday Night Fever

Water- The proposed budget for FY 2021 was discussed earlier.

Sewer- The proposed budget for FY 2021 was discussed earlier.

Fire Department- The fire department was recently awarded a defibrillator. Placement is unknown at this time.

This was Chief Kale Davidson's last meeting and his replacement will be at the next meeting. He was wished the best of luck.

OSHA Safety Director- There was nothing to report.

Litigation- Mr. Clouse's attorney sent a representative to town hall last month to copy documents pertaining to the case. The town's motion to dismiss is set to be heard on May 10, 2021.

Mayor Pucciarelli called for Old Business:

Special Event Permit Application- Air Stream Urban Rally (location change)

The location for the Air Stream Urban Rally, scheduled for October 14 – 17, 2021 has changed and will now be held downtown on Colwyn Street.

Jerry Hopson made a motion to approve the location change, with a second by John Ravnum. Mayor Pucciarelli called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: John Douglas-yes; Teresa Fuson- yes; Joe Gill- absent; Jerry Hopson- yes; Duke Parish- absent; John Ravnum- yes.

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Citizens Comments- The idea for a mural the Artist Co-op would like to paint on the bridge by the sewer plant was discussed. The exact painting is not known at this time but would consist of natural designs such as trees, animals and pioneers.

While Congressman Burchett was in town last week he looked at the culvert, on Norfolk Southern Railroad property, that is causing the flooding issues in town. He agreed to help the town resolve the issue.

Mayor Pucciarelli called for New Business:

Special Event Permit Application- STILL: Cumberland Gap Tour Launch

A special event application, STILL: Cumberland Gap Tour Launch, was submitted by The Guardians of the Gap and is scheduled for April 30th & May 1, 2021. The event includes the launch of the walking tour designed by Artist Caroline Hatfield. Historic statues, along with history talks, will be placed at strategic locations throughout town.

John Douglas made a motion to approve the above special event permit application, with a second by John Ravnum. Mayor Pucciarelli called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: John Douglas-yes; Teresa Fuson- yes; Joe Gill- absent; Jerry Hopson-yes; Duke Parish- absent; John Ravnum- yes.

Resolution No. 1-2021 – Resolution Authorizing the Execution, Terms, Issuance, Sale, and Payment of not to Exceed \$288,000 Sewer System Revenue and Tax Refunding Bond

While reviewing possible cutbacks in the water and sewer fund, it was determined the town could save by refinancing a sewer loan. The loan refunding will:

- Lower interest rate from 4.25% to 2.64%
- Saves over \$4,500 a year on interest (\$93,198 over the life of the loan)
- Shortens the life of the loan by 5 years (from 25 remaining to 20 years)

John Douglas made a motion to approve the above resolution, with a second by Jerry Hopson. Mayor Pucciarelli called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: John Douglas-yes; Teresa Fuson- yes; Joe Gill- absent; Jerry Hopson- yes; Duke Parish- absent; John Ravnum- yes

Clean up Month- Mayor Pucciarelli designated April as clean up month.

Duke Parish's Resignation Letter- Duke Parish submitted a letter resigning from his position as alderman as he is moving.

John Douglas made a motion to accept the resignation letter, with a second by Jerry Hopson. Mayor Pucciarelli called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: John Douglas-yes; Teresa Fuson- yes; Joe Gill- absent; Jerry Hopson- yes; Duke Parish- absent; John Ravnum- yes.

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Alderman Appointment- Mayor Pucciarelli recommended Kathy Maxwell be appointed to replace Duke Parish.

John Douglas made a motion approving the appointment, with a second by Jerry Hopson. Mayor Pucciarelli called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: John Douglas-yes; Teresa Fuson- yes; Joe Gill- absent; Jerry Hopson- yes; Duke Parish- absent; John Ravnum- yes.

Special Event Permit Application- Yarn in the Gap!

A special event application, Yarn in the Gap, was submitted by The Guardians of the Gap and is scheduled for April 24, 2021. The group “Yarn” will be performing a free concert in Berkau Park.

John Douglas made a motion to approve the above special event permit application, with a second by John Ravnum. Mayor Pucciarelli called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: John Douglas-yes; Teresa Fuson- yes; Joe Gill- absent; Jerry Hopson- yes; Duke Parish- absent; John Ravnum- yes.

Cancelled Movie Nights- Kimberly Kotlar reported that several of the movie nights had to be cancelled due to weather. She stated that the movies had been already been paid for and she would like to reschedule.

John Douglas made a motion allowing the cancelled movie nights to be rescheduled at the Guardians discretion, with a second by John Ravnum. Mayor Pucciarelli called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: John Douglas-yes; Teresa Fuson- yes; Joe Gill- absent; Jerry Hopson- yes; Duke Parish- absent; John Ravnum- yes.

Announcements

Agenda meeting- Monday April 26, 2021 @6:00 p.m.

With no other business to come before the board, John Douglas made a motion to adjourn, with a second by Jerry Hopson. Mayor Pucciarelli called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: John Douglas-yes; Teresa Fuson- yes; Joe Gill- absent; Jerry Hopson- yes; Duke Parish- absent; John Ravnum- yes.