

January 8, 2008

Bell Buckle Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in regular session. All members were present. A Public Hearing was held prior to the study session at 6 PM to discuss CDBG funding options. Sarah Brown was not able to attend. Alderman Hunt presided.

The CDBG application is not due until February 27. There was discussion that unless we have a Director's Order, we probably wouldn't be eligible for a sewer grant. It would probably be more feasible to apply for water rehab. Joe Richards, the leak surveyor, has not quite finished his survey of the system. It was recommended that we wait until his report is complete before deciding for sure on where in the system to rehab. Several possibilities were presented. This is an 80/20 grant. It was decided to apply for \$300,000 limit for water rehab.

Alderman Anderson, seconded by Alderman Felices, made a motion to suspend the reading of the minutes from December 11. All Aye. Alderman Reagor, seconded by Alderman Anderson, made a motion to approve the previous month's minutes. Motion carried.

Alderman Anderson, seconded by Alderman Felices, made a motion to approve the Financial Reports. All Aye. Alderman Anderson reported that he had spoken with Ron Bell from Regions Bank regarding the rates on our checking and savings accounts. They have raised our rates on both checking and savings to 1.35%. Also, the TML loan should be able to close by the end of the month and we could make our first draw the first week of February. The rate on the loan is now at 2.95%

Supervisor Ronnie Lokey gave the Water/Sewer Report. Work continues on the EQ basin. The tank is complete & is ready for water. Joe Richards continues to work on the leak survey. He has located 6 service leaks and 2 fire hydrant leaks. The leaks were estimated by Mr. Richards to have been losing 27 GPM or 38,880 GPD or 1,166,400 GPMonth. All leaks have been repaired.

The amount of water we have been purchasing has been going down & the amount of water in our tanks has been holding up better because of repairs. Water loss went down 6 % from last month & will hopefully continue to drop. Mr. Lokey will be meeting with DREMC about power for the telemetry locations.

Mayor Webb recommended raising Randy Johnson's wages up to \$16 an hour (a \$2 an hour increase) and also giving him an achievement award of \$250 (net pay) for passing his WW Grade III Operator's test. Motion was seconded by Alderman Hunt. Motion carried.

Chief Ronnie Lokey gave the Fire Department Report. They had answered 16 calls – 5 fire and 11 medical. Work continues on the new Fire Hall with the epoxy floor being installed. We have taken delivery of the new tanker truck from VFSI and have 3 men trained to drive it, with more being trained. January 26 is the date of the Chili Cook-off

at 6 PM. Everyone please attend & enter your chili. We are in the process of obtaining a grass truck from Station 1. It will be the same kind of lease agreement as signed on the other trucks from VFSI. Olan Mills is conducting the picture campaign this month.

Alderman Reagor gave the Planning Commission Report. Webb School was approved for a Site Permit. Robert Allison was approved for a subdivision of his property on Liberty Pike. The park was also approved for a Site Permit for the Amphitheater. There was discussion on PC 1101.

Alderman Hunt gave the Sidewalks Committee Report. We are in a holding pattern-still do not have a signed contract from the State. We have requested a notice to proceed from TDOT.

Alderman Hunt reported for the Chamber that March 15 is the Daffodil Day.

No Avian Flu Report

Alderman Hunt gave the Parks and Recreation Report.

1. Preliminary report from the Forestry Division indicates the Tree Board has been approved for the tree grant submission to replace trees lost due to the late freeze and drought of 2007. The grant also included a request to purchase and plant a dozen dogwood trees for the back end of the park. No report as yet if the Tree Board will receive the full amount for which they applied. The Tree Board applied for a 50-50 grant of which \$2,853 would be covered by the grant.
2. Eagle Scout hopeful Matt Bettis has flagged areas at the park for 500 tree seedlings. He plans to plant the seedlings depending on the weather on Jan. 19th. The following species will be planted: shumard oak, pin oak, nuttall oak, bald cypress, & water tupelo.
3. The Park Board is making plans for 2008 activities and also for long term projects at the park. We would like public input on the project list recommended by park board members. A list is attached of all the projects and the Park Board asks that everyone that is interested to number from 1 (highest priority) to 10 (lowest priority) to help us in our planning. Feel free to add other projects if you do not see something that interests you on this list. The list needs to be turned in to Town Hall by next Tuesday, Jan. 15th.

Mayoral Updates:

Mayor Webb requested each alderman to e-mail Janet a message when they have completed the Ethics Disclosure.

MTAS is hosting an Elected Officials Academy soon. Mayor Webb, Alderman Hunt and Alderman Anderson would like to attend

The Mayor will attend the Joint Economic Board meeting. The 3 Star Program Requirements have changed. He will report on that.

Mayor Webb assigned each alderman to specific duties:

Alderman Hunt: grants, sidewalks, liaison with Sheriff's department, Parks & Recreation Committee, Fire Department liaison, and the census

Alderman Reagor: water rates, property taxes, Planning Commission, concept of Police Officer (work with Alderman Hunt), ordinances regarding the clean up of properties

Alderman Felices: concept of interlockatory agreement, personnel policies, continuing education programs, water technology and infrastructure

Alderman Anderson: finances, budget, investments (retirement &/or 401K)

The date for the Planning Session has been set for Friday, the 1st of February at 10 AM.

Old Business: Mayor Webb reported that the general consensus regarding the speed bump on School Street was that the neighbors do not want it removed. No motion and no action taken.

New Business: Alderman Felices presented a motion to repeal the Ordinance Title 8 Chapter 3 on Brown Bagging. Seconded by Alderman Anderson. Several people were there to state their opinion. Motion passed on first reading. There will be a Public Hearing and a second reading in February.

There being no further business, Alderman Felices, seconded by Alderman Reagor, made a motion to adjourn. All Aye.

Dennis H. Webb, Mayor _____

Janet Robinson, Town Recorder _____