

On Monday, December 12, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. the council meeting for the Town of Gay was called to order by Mayor Ruth Nash. All council members were present at roll call and it was determined a quorum did exist.

The first item of business was approval of the agenda. Council member Watts motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by council member Askvig. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Next was the invocation, Pledge of Allegiance and review of the rules of decorum.

The next item of business was approval of minutes from previous meetings. Council member Keith motioned to accept the minutes for the council meeting of November 14, 2022, seconded by council member Askvig. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Council member Blakeley motioned to approve the minutes from the special meeting of November 17, 2022, seconded by council member Keith. The vote in favor was unanimous.

The only item on the agenda was a resolution concerning a 90 day building moratorium for new construction and exterior renovations and remodeling.

Council member Askvig asked for clarification of the reasons for considering a moratorium. She said it sounds like we are starting to become like HOA.

Council members Blakeley and Watts explained the main reason is to allow the planning and zoning committee time to complete their recommendations for required ordinances to be enacted so zoning can be in place to protect the integrity of the Town and keep any potential unwanted commercial enterprises away from down town. Even though the resolution is for all new construction, it is intended specifically for commercial enterprises and there is a process for homeowners to request variances/exemptions. Also specific exceptions are listed, including but not limited to, regular maintenance and minor repairs.

There was considerable discussion, including whether an existing business could become a franchise for some other business. Again, this would not be "new construction" so there would be no reason why, for example, an existing business could not become a Chick-fil-A franchise. Another question was if an exemption request would be needed to paint a building. That also is no, as painting is a specific exception in the resolution.

When there were no more questions Mayor Nash called for a motion and council member Keith motioned to approve the 90 day Building Moratorium, seconded by council member Watts. Three council members voted in favor of approving the resolution, and one member abstained. The vote in favor passed.

Council member Blakeley said DOT is going to redo some curbing at the 1911 building to the gate. This is not part of the DOT grant council member Askvig is working on. She has not yet received any information as to whether or not our application was approved.

When asked about the next planning and zoning meeting, council member Blakeley said they will not have another meeting until after the first of the year.

The subject of the speed limit inside the Town of Gay was again brought up. The state has done some studies and will not change the speed limit. The Town has been trying for several years to get the limit lowered, to no avail.

The next item of business was financial documents. Council member Watts noted that expenses were getting close to budget amounts and asked if it was going to be a problem. Mayor Nash noted that we are beginning to collect property taxes so there should be no problem.

There were no other questions or comments so council member Blakeley motioned to accept the financial documents, seconded by council member Keith. The vote in favor was unanimous.

As there was no more business, council member Askvig motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m., seconded by council member Keith. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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Ruth Nash – Mayor

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Sharon Richmond - Clerk