

On Monday, March 13, 2023 the council meeting for the Town of Gay was called to order by Mayor Nash. All members were present at roll call and it was determined a quorum did exist.

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

Next was the Pledge of Allegiance and a quick review of the rules of decorum.

The next item of business was approval of the minutes from the meeting of February 20, 2023 and the budget public hearing of March 6, 2023. Council member Watts motioned to approve both minutes, seconded by council member Askvig. The vote in favor was unanimous.

The first item on the agenda was the vote on proposed Budgets for FY 2023/2024. After discussion, it was determined no changes were required on the budgets and council member Watts motioned to approve the budgets seconded by council member Blakeley. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Next on the agenda, Keith Summerour had been scheduled to attend the budget public hearing via zoom, but that was not available. So he was included on the agenda for this meeting via zoom. However, the assistant clerk was not able to complete the zoom call so council agreed to allow his participation via speaker phone.

Mr. Summerour wanted to propose a way to help the Town raise money for a generator to put at the second well. EPD wants us to have a generator at each well, but we have not been able to afford the second one, as they cost about \$35,000.00.

He and another resident, Richard Hartman, were discussing perhaps having dinners and selling tickets with the proceeds donated to the town for a generator and/or any other requirements. There would be no obligation for the town other than to help publicize the affairs. When asked where these dinners would be held he said his farm has a beautiful site that could be used and perhaps, if Willis Everett will participate, on the river at the shoals. With many more possibilities. He said Walter Citterio the chef from Quercus Farm would prepare these meals. Council members all seemed to like this idea and thanked Mr. Summerour for his support of the Town.

Mr. Summerour also stated the first concert for the summer is Corey Smith, on June 10, 2023.

The next item on the agenda was Joe Nash who had questions on the building permit approved by council and issued in January.

The above building permit for work at 18762 Highway 85 is very near completion but his question was if painting that building white to fit into the existing aesthetic could also be included. He had samples of painted brick buildings in Gay and included factors that the building is not historic therefore no future historic protection would apply to the structure.

Council agreed no vote was necessary, as the painting could be part of the original application and approval.

The next item on the agenda was a Beer and wine license for Mark McKernan, who is opening the gas station at 18638 Highway 85. His fingerprints have not yet been recorded but he owns several other gas stations selling alcoholic beverages so there is no reason to think there will be a problem. Approval at this time will simply save him a month in being able to open.

Council member Watts motioned to approve the alcohol license pending receipt of the fingerprint report. The motion was seconded by council member Askvig. The vote in favor was unanimous, with council member Blakeley abstaining.

Next under public comments, Kris Price, former city clerk in Warm Springs, stated EPD had required them to have a maintenance agreement on their generators. We might have to add that to our budget in the future.

Under staff reports, council member Watts said she had been contacted by Lt. Gilbert of the Meriwether County SO about security for the coming fairs in Gay. He said the cost will be \$40.00 per hour per deputy and asked how many we wanted. The recommendation was for 6/7 but get with Brin Jones from the county for a plan and see if they can patrol.

Under staff reports, council member Blakeley said the Comprehensive Planning committee has a meeting tomorrow, Tuesday March 14, at 6:00 p.m. and Three Rivers representatives will be present.

Under staff reports, assistant clerk said she registered the Town in a program which makes us eligible to obtain surplus government property, and gave an over view of how it works.

Mr. Summerour recommended representatives of Gay should visit Round Rock to see how some venues operate in other areas.

Mayor Nash asked Joe Nash to tell council about a television program he has gotten interested in that reminds him of what growth problems Gay is now going through.

Financial documents were available. There were no questions or comments and council member Watts motioned to accept the documents, seconded by council member Keith. The vote in favor was unanimous.

As there was no more business to discuss, council member Askvig motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. The motion was seconded by council member Keith and the vote in favor was unanimous.

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Ruth Nash – Mayor

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Sharon Richmond - Clerk