

On Monday, May 9, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., Mayor and all council members met in executive session with Rob Morton, attorney for Gay, to discuss real estate matters and matters of attorney-client Privilege.

At 7:00 p.m. motion was made by council member Blakeley to close the executive session. The motion was seconded by council member Askvig and the vote in favor was unanimous.

At 7:00 p.m. the council meeting for the Town of Gay was called to order by Mayor Nash. Mayor and 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.

The invocation was led by Mayor Nash then the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

Mayor Nash reminded all those present of the Rules of Decorum for conducting meetings and pointed out copies of these rules placed where everyone can have a look them.

Next item was approval of prior minutes for the scheduled meeting of April 11, 2022 and work session minutes of April 25, 2022. Council member Askvig motioned to accept both minutes as written, seconded by council member Blakeley. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Since discussion with Attorney Morton was in executive session, next on the agenda was Greg Arnette.

Mr. Arnette reminded all those present that he has repeatedly said he would not close Tom Mann Road but said he is willing to sign an agreement to that effect if certain conditions are agreed to. He said he and Mr. Summerour, who has property on the road also, will continue upkeep of the road; he wants a sign "Drive At Your Own Risk" and a 15 MPH speed limit sign. These two items are for his insurance company. He wants to leave the pillars up and gates left in a "locked open" position, as these things deter large trucks and vehicles from attempting to travel the road. The grade at the rail crossing does not allow those vehicles to cross due to being so low they get stuck. ~~Fire trucks and ambulances do not use this road for that same reason.~~

Council member Blakeley motioned to allow our attorney, Mr. Morton, to meet with Mr. Arnette or his attorney to see if they can work out details acceptable to both parties. Council member Watts seconded the motion and the vote in favor was unanimous.

Next on the agenda was Mr. Keith Summerour. He wanted to say that the fairs were greatly successful with his fair having approximately 36000 visitors.

Mayor Nash said she would like to thank Mr. Arnette for his donation of a heli-pad and search and rescue helicopter to Meriwether County for emergency use. Mr. Arnette said he would like to invite everyone to visit the site and said this is not a heli-pad for pleasure use, but strictly emergency.

The next item was Tom Mann Road update but there was no discussion, since it had just been addressed.

The next item for discussion was cost of permits for the fairs. The ordinance passed had the fee at what amounted to approximately \$40.00 per year per vendor. That might have to be amended depending on cost of deputies and 911 vehicles. The cost for deputies is \$35.00 per hour and EMS is \$250 per vehicle. We had only 3 deputies at this fair and they would not direct traffic. According to State Highway Authority, anyone directing traffic must be uniformed and be law enforcement. We definitely need more than 3 officers.

Council member Blakeley motioned that he, along with council members Askvig and Keith form a committee to determine what other law enforcement agencies we can get officers from for security and traffic control during fairs and other events, costs involved and any other information. The motion was seconded by council member Keith and the vote in favor was unanimous.

Next on the agenda was Land Use Advisory Committee update. The suggested members of this committee are Keith Summerour, Willis Everett, Joe Nash, Greg Westbury, Gary Alford and Chip Perdue (currently in quarantine). Shellie Lester was in attendance and had previously expressed willingness to participate. Council member Askvig motioned that Ms. Lester be added to the list. The motion was seconded by council member Blakeley and the vote in favor was unanimous. Those who have been invited are all willing to participate but others have not yet been asked about participation but will be. Council member Blakeley is in charge of details.

Mr. Everett was in attendance and said he will be on the committee. He asked several questions about meeting times, a plan and where will guidance come from. The Three Rivers Regional Development Commission is very helpful any time we ask.

Council member Watts said the only negative information she got about the fairs was from the owner of the Miracle Mart who complained about the number of fair goers who came into his establishment wanting to use restroom facilities as wait times in the fairs was outrageous. That is a matter that needs to be addressed.

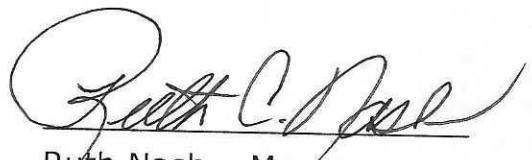
Gabriel Andrews, a representative of Meriwether County Community Meetings was in attendance. He was there to introduce himself, get information about our meeting, where, when, etc.

The next item was the house on Caldwell Road, which has been discussed as a candidate for condemnation proceedings. There has been no further progress on this issue.

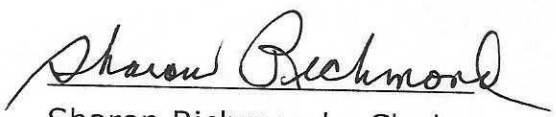
Financial documents were available but there was no discussion and no questions. Council member Watts motioned to accept the documents, seconded by council member Blakeley. The vote in favor was unanimous.

The last item was any update on the Historical Preservation issue. Council member Keith said she has no new information at this time.

As there was no more business to discuss, council member Askvig motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.



Ruth Nash - Mayor



Sharon Richmond - Clerk

