

On Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. the security meeting for the Town of Gay was called to order by Mayor Ruth Nash. Council members Askvig and Watts were present at roll call.

The only item on the agenda was the discussion of security and traffic control for the upcoming fairs and craft festivals, May 6-7, 2023.

It was expected that a representative from the sheriff's department would be in attendance but the representative failed to attend.

Council Member Watts suggested making a list of expectations for the off-duty deputies' duties during the fair and sharing this list with the county sheriff.

Harrison Summerour stated that a meeting with law enforcement would still be needed before the Fair in May. Jeff Boatwright stated that opening both parking lots at the same time, as requested by law enforcement during the October 2022 fair could not be done due to staffing issues, Council member Watts agreed with this point.

Chris Price stated that traffic control was needed after 5pm on Sunday to help with vendor trailer traffic on Hwy 85 for everyone's safety.

Council Member Watts stated GDOT changed the signal at the intersection of Hwy 85 and Spur 109 to flashing during the October Fair 2022 so law enforcement could control traffic at the intersection. Fair owners and deputy reported that it was ineffective

It was mentioned that we had 5 officers at the October 2022 fair and that the officers should walk around the area and not stay stationary for any extended period. It was suggested to stagger their shifts to allow for security beyond just fair operating hours.

The concern of alcoholic beverages leaving the Cotton Fairgrounds was addressed. The issue of closed package alcoholic beverages was addressed by Joe Nash. He stated that vendor would not be at the upcoming fair.

Chris Price requested trash containers be placed throughout the town.

Harrison Summerour suggested a security liaison be appointed between the town and the officers to be paid by the town. Steve Bowman was the recommendation.

As there was no more business to be discussed, council member Askvig motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m., seconded by council member Watts.

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Ruth Nash – Mayor

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Sharon Richmond - Clerk