

On Monday, April 25, 2022, the work session meeting of the Town of Gay was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Nash. On roll call, council member Keith was not present but arrived shortly after. All other members were present.

Council member Watts motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by council member Askvig, after she questioned returning to the lists of items from the previous work session. The lists are attached to and part of the agenda.

The first item of business was discussion of the Alcohol Ordinance. Council member Watts was concerned it allowed for the establishment of "Liquor Stores" in Gay. It was explained that the Ordinance allows for by the drink sale on premises only, where food is served.

The next item for discussion was Tom Mann Road. Council member Watts handed each council member, Mayor and city clerk, copies of documents concerning past discussions about Tom Mann Road. She said she had received new information from attorney Rob Morton. She said Mr. Morton gave her a copy of an e-mail sent to Mayor Nash stating that Mr. Hill is no longer the attorney for Mr. Arnette and Mr. Morton was waiting for word from the Mayor to proceed on the matter of Tom Mann Road. Mayor Nash said she had not received that e-mail from Mr. Morton. Mr. Arnette was present and said that his attorney is another attorney in the same office, but not Mr. Hill.

Council member Watts stated the people of Gay have been patient waiting for the outcome of the decision on the road, but action needs to be taken and if that means going to court, then it must be done.

Mr. Arnette asked to speak and said he has already agreed not to close the road but said he and his lawyer will meet with Mr. Morton about the matter.

Council member Askvig questioned council member Watts about whether the road has been closed and was told it has not been closed but it needs to be definitive, not just someone's word.

The next item addressed was a picture on face book which appeared to show or indicate the name of the town is to be changed to "Longleaf, GA". There

is not, nor has there been any discussion of changing the name of Gay. That face book post has apparently been removed and was a misunderstanding.

The next item was discussion of Rob Morton as our attorney. Council member Blakeley suggested we postpone that discussion until the next regularly scheduled council meeting on May 9, 2022, when Mr. Morton has been invited to attend. Council members will have the opportunity to speak to Mr. Morton.

The last item on the agenda was discussion of a culvert going from Evans Street on to Flat Shoals. Council member Watts said it is becoming dangerous and needs to be repaired. Mayor Nash said she had looked at the area in question. Although she had not been previously made aware of any problem in that area, she notified the county of the condition so it can be repaired.

At this time, discussion went to items on the list presented by council member Askvig for the last work session, but not discussed due to time constraints.

The first item on this list was policy for when water/trash or property taxes are not timely paid.

Mayor Nash explained that when water/trash amounts get higher than the deposit amount, service is cut off. However, during Covid, it was not permissible to discontinue services. As for property tax, when Meriwether County Tax Commissioner has a tax sale, any we have can be added. One particular property we have has 3-years past due tax with total less than \$100.00. These small amounts would cost more to collect than what is owed but county tax is apparently kept paid, as it is not on the county list.

Next item concerns day to day items council members can share, to help Mayor and clerk. Mayor said the banking documents and even signing checks. Council member Askvig said she will volunteer to look into May financials.

Item three how much could be saved if we should consider making water bills paperless. Mayor said too many residents in Gay do not have internet or do not want to pay bills that way. Some residents in attendance agreed with that.

Item four is goals of the Council. Items mentioned were walking path and sidewalks.

At this time there was no more business to discuss. Council member Askvig motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m., seconded by council member Watts. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ruth C. Nash – Mayor

Sharon Richmond - Clerk