

TOWN OF REDDICK COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

December 7, 2023

Reddick Town Council met in regular session on Thursday, December 7, 2023, at 7:00 PM at the Community Building.

PRESENT:

Steven Rogers, Council Pres.
John Vetter, Mayor

COUNCILMEN

Martha Cromwell, Councilman Pro Tem
Shirley Youmans, Councilman
Myra Sherman, Councilman
Nadine Stokes, Councilman

ABSENT: Marjorie Stroup, Clerk

GUESTS

Patti Vetter	Pam Gerard	Dick Gerard	Fondale Evans	Jan Stratton
George Stratton	Kiana Kiner	Alphonso Lamar	Cynthia Davis	Keith McQuaig
Dave				

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Council President Rogers, with Councilman Sherman giving an invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

- Minutes of the November, 2023 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Councilman Cromwell to approve minutes with no corrections. Councilman Youmans seconded motion and motion carried unanimously.
- Financial Statement for the month of November, 2023 was presented for review. Expenses exceeded income for the month by \$921432, and \$15902.52 for the year. This was caused mainly by paying liability insurance for the year. Raymond James' statement has not yet been received. Motion was made by Councilman Cromwell to approve the November financial statement, and was seconded by Councilman Youmans. Motion carried unanimously, pending audit.

SHERIFF'S DEPT:

Lt. Keith McQuaig gave a report for November activity. 110 calls for services. There were 14 traffic stops, 21 building checks, 3 assisting other agencies, 1 burglary, 1 petty theft, 10 reports were written; and he was happy to report all in all there was no cause for concern. He met with the Public Library this morning and they will be hosting their annual reindeer romp on Dec. 16th, from 12:00-2:00pm. Among activities, the Sheriff's Dept. will be there with their horses and mounted unit for horse demonstration and the Explorers will be there to help with traffic. Northwest Dist. Will be restructured which will result in deputies covering smaller area. Council President Rogers asked about any more information on shooting on NW 148th. Lt. McQuaig said that the investigation was stalled. There were no shell casings found and could have been someone testing a gun. No information was available. The car parked in front of the Community Center since 12/2 was still there. Lt. McQuaig said they were working on it. Mayor Vetter stated that it was parked on the Town right-of-way. Lt. McQuaig stated they will look into it further and have it towed. Councilman Youmans asked about what could be done about people parking in the middle of the road on NW 48th and NW 157th on the curve. They are parking day and night on the road and road right-of-way and when they are asked to move they get angry. Lt. McQuaig said he would look into it.

ROADWORK & STREET MAINTENANCE:

Councilman Youmans reported that she called Grady Stafford about stop sign on NW 46th, knocked down during a speed chase with Sheriff's Dept. She voiced concern about cars racing on NW 47th and kids playing in the area. She also stated that even though they graded NW 155th a couple months ago, there are new pot holes forming that need attention. Council President said the Town pays the County to grade the road four times a year. Councilman Youmans stated that the pot holes really needed to be taken care of and Council President responded that he would look into it, even though the Town does not own that roadway. He will contact people working with Mr. Cassidy to get permission to go onto property to get limerock. Councilman Youmans commented that no one has contacted her about any other problems. Council President Rogers stated that she should try to be more proactive and during the month and before Council meeting, she should ride around Town and visually see any problems and take notes to bring to the meetings. Councilman Youmans commented that down from Church of God on County 25A there is a tree limb touching lines. Mayor Vetter stated that he saw that also and that it was touching inactive lines. He would look into it further. He also commented that NW 42nd Lane has a root system growing out onto the road and cracking the road. NW 152nd Lane has also had the pot holes filled. Pam Gerard also reported a tree limb hanging by Community Center on NW 152nd St and also a broken limb in parking area that needs to be knocked down.

STREET LIGHTS:

All street lights seem to be working.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Vetter asked if anyone was present for Cody Thompson. No one was present. Mayor Vetter stated that last month his mother addressed the meeting and a certified letter was sent to her home outlining violations that needed attention. His mother asked for leniency and an extension to address violations. She was given an additional 30 days but nothing has been done. She called and said they could not attend meeting but plan on coming to house on Friday to do some weed eating. Mayor Vetter now is presenting it to Council again for disposition. Do we want to turn it over to County Code Enforcement for processing. Council President Rogers explained to Council that once it is turned over to Code Enforcement then they will assess the situation and could place daily fines on the owners until the violations are completed. If the County gets someone to come in and clean up the property, the Town will pay for the cost and then a lien will be placed on the property. Councilman Cromwell made a motion that we proceed with Code Enforcement on the property, Councilman Sherman seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Councilman Youmans asked if there was anything that could be done to clean up trash along NW 157th and NW 155th. It is unsightly. Mayor Vetter commented that he was seen the County with workers picking up trash on NW 155th to the dead end on two occasions this month. Councilman Youmans said she could not see any improvement and did not see anyone. Pam Gerard spoke from guests and stated that NW 155th was not a town road and that the residents should be responsible for keeping their property cleaned up. Fondale Evans suggested we contact the Sheriff's Dept or whomever and see if they will come on a regular basis to pick up trash thrown out on the right-of-ways. Mayor Vetter stated that he could and would see what he can find out. He will have an answer at the next meeting. The Town of Reddick does not have the ability to do this. Littering is an enforcement issue, we have the ordinance. If the sheriff's dept. doesn't see it being done, then they can do nothing. Hopefully, with the new redistricting, we can have better coverage. Councilman Sherman suggested we get the churches together for a cleanup Saturday and have a lunch afterward. We need to pick a day.

Sent certified letter to Lillie Wilson estate located on W. Hwy 316 and received a call from Altoine Griffin. He asked for a little time, but he would get it cleaned up and will take the house down as it is an unsafe structure. Today, the house has been taken down. A letter was also sent to Alfred and Chandra Simmons on property on NW 42nd Terrace. House is uninhabitable. He asked for extended time, It is an inherited property and Mayor Vetter will check with him again before next meeting. Certified letter was sent to Aaron Rae about

two houses on NW 152nd Lane. One house has caught fire sometime ago. The other has vagrants sleeping in the house. We have not heard back as of yet. Mayor Vetter stated that he is not trying to remove any history from Reddick, just trying to clean it up and make it safe.

Work done on Community Center. Parking stops were raised and replaced, and the building was pressure cleaned. Some parking signs replaced. Another "disabled" parking sign is on order. On generator, OnSite send a circuit board to Pennsylvania for repair and should be installed next week. Attended Zoom meeting with group from Local Tourism in Marion County. There will be a public meeting Dec 14th at the Hilton Oaks, SW 36th Ave. Duke Energy cut tree that was impeding power lines. Left tree on the ground. Walked around Dec 5th with Duke Energy contractor about abandoned cable lines that are dangling around down. Hopefully, they will get the approval from Duke to remove all remaining cable by the end of the year.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **FUNERAL HOME AT BANK BLDG:**

A request for a Special Use Permit to use the bank building for funeral services. Signed has been posted and has parking has been worked out. With no questions being asked, Councilman Cromwell Made a motion to grant the special use permit to Regal Funeral Services, and Councilman Stokes seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Kiner is to contact Mrs. Stroup for a letter on Town letterhead granting special use permit.

- **PROPOSED RECREATION AREA:**

Council President Rogers attended another meeting on proposed park, Design team has come out and we have received a time table. Survey needs to be done first, then they can move forward pulling permits and then start the bid process, then construction begins in the spring. We ask for a target date of summer of 2024. Concern is how to monitor and keep it a safe place for the children. Council President has talked with Lt. McQuaig about safety. This is an area we need to continue to think about.

- **REINDEER ROMP:**

Town will like to provide hot dogs for Reindeer Romp. It is from 12:00 – 2:00 Pm and it is a fun time for the kids. There will be snow cone, popcorns, books, crafts and games. This is a Public Library event and has the Councilman Cromwell made a motion to provide hot dogs, water, and condiments. Councilman Youmans seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **CYBER SECURITY CLASS:**

Council President Rogers attended an 8-hour class put on by EMS. His biggest take home was security. Average cost for cyber attack is \$5 million dollars. Attacks are on hospitals, municipalities, companies. Cyber insurance is soon to be mandated.

- **COMMUNITY CENTER KEY DROP BOX:**

Has been installed.

- **ROBERTS FUNERAL HOME HONORING CLERGY:**

They will be providing lunch for all Marion County clergy at the World Equestrian Center.

- **QUARRY OPENING BACK UP:**
Question was raised about a quarry applying for permission from DEP to reopen. No further word.
- **CONCERT IN REDDICK:**
Rock the Country.com is bringing in a concert June 6-7th, 2024 at Majestic Oaks just outside Reddick. The Sheriff's Dept. are expecting 40, 000 people over a three day period.
- **RACE TRACK GAS STATION/TRUCK STOP**
At the intersection of Hwy 441 and CR 329, at the busy traffic area, they are building a RaceTrac Truck Stop. There is a public meeting Dec 15th in the Community Center.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:

Marjorie Stroup, Town Clerk

John Vetter, Mayor