

Town of Walden
Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2021

CALL TO ORDER OF THE REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Lee Davis called the regular monthly meeting of the Town of Walden to order at 6:30 pm.

The following interested citizens were present at the Walden Town Hall: Joe Durek, Winston Robbins, Linda Collins, Angela and Mike Cassidy, Dawson Wheeler, Joe Robbins, Karen Stone, Katy Murphy, Joe Robbins, and Jared Seely.

Fern Lockhart opened the meeting with a prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Fern Lockhart called the roll and noted the presence of Mayor Lee Davis, Alderwomen Sarah McKenzie, Vice Mayor Lizzy Schmidt, and Town Attorney Sam Elliott.

APPROVAL / CORRECTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

ALDERWOMAN SARAH MCKENZIE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 13, 2021, SECONDED BY VICE MAYOR LIZZY SCHMIDT, AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.

POLICE REPORT

No report.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial report is attached hereto as an exhibit to these minutes.

CODES ENFORCEMENT

No report.

WRES REPORT

No report.

BACHMAN COMMUNITY CENTER

Katy Murphy reported that the summer camp information is on Bachman's website and there are two vacant seats on the Bachman board. Please call if anyone is interested in serving on the board.

PUMPKIN PATCH

No report.

MCCOY FARM & GARDENS

Mickey Robbins reported that the first wedding at McCoy Farms & Gardens will be May 15. There will be no Memorial Day Celebration on the property this year. Earl Hereford is working on the new equipment shed. Rick Bartel is compiling a volunteer list. The children's garden is coming along and the McCoy board contracted with Paul Lang for landscaping services.

DOG PARK

Alderwoman Sarah McKenzie reported that volunteers spread mulch at the Puppy Patch.

LAND USE STUDY COMMITTEE

Dawson Wheeler reported that all the information about upcoming planning meetings is on the waldentn.gov website.

WALDEN'S RIDGE CIVIC LEAGUE

The Walden Ridge Civic League's report, given by Karen Stone, is attached in writing as an exhibit to these minutes. Mrs. Stone mentioned the need of new soccer nets for the civic league property. Mayor Davis agreed to reimburse the civic league for the purchase of two new soccer nets.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Alderwoman Sarah McKenzie reported that John Barry is chair of the budget committee. Marty Haynes, the Hamilton County Assessor of Property, attended the budget committee meeting a couple of weeks ago. Mr. Haynes explained the process of reassessment of real property and setting a certified tax rate.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Mayor Lee Davis read the monthly report for the Parks and Recreation Committee which is attached hereto as an exhibit of these minutes.

ROADS AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Vice Mayor Lizzy Schmidt reported that the Roads and Safety Committee met twice with the focus on getting drivers to slow down. They discussed the possibility of a traffic study and the need for more police presence.

NEW BUSINESS

1. DISCUSSION ON DRAINAGE CULVERT AT 3700 WILSON AVENUE.

Jared Seely addressed the board regarding water crossing the road near his residence at 3700 Wilson Avenue. He said that two or three times per year water runs over the road. Mr. Seely opined that the existing culvert under the road is too small. Mayor Davis said the town engineer is aware of the situation and asked for a few weeks to look at the area. The town will not meet in July but will discuss the engineers' findings in the August meeting.

2. CONSIDERATION OF QUOTE FROM YOUNG'S PAVING FOR ADDING PIPE IN THE ROADSIDE DRAIN AT 4304 WILSON AVENUE.

Larry Skaggs said vehicles hit his mailbox due to the curve of the road and limited shoulder of the roadway near his mailbox. Mayor Davis said the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office has a record of two accidents at that location.

Town Engineer, Mack McCarley provided an email outlining a proposed plan to address the shoulder condition at 4304 Wilson Avenue which is attached hereto as an exhibit of these minutes. Mr. McCarley reached out to multiple contractors but only received one bid from Young's Paving. The bid is in the range of \$6,500-\$9,900.

VICE MAYOR LIZZY SCHMIDT MOVED TO APPROVE UP TO \$7,500 FOR REPAIRS TO THE SHOULDER OF THE ROAD AT 4304 WILSON AVENUE BY YOUNG'S PAVING, SECONDED BY ALDERWOMAN SARAH MCKENZIE, AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.

3. DISCUSSION / APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH A LINE ITEM OF \$6,500 FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE FOR PROJECTS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

ALDERWOMAN SARAH MCKENZIE MOVED TO TRANSFER \$6,500 FROM LINE ITEM # 4600-440, STATE OF TENNESSEE GRANT TO LINE ITEM # 45200-437, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE, SECONDED BY VICE MAYOR LIZZY SCHMIDT AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.

4. FIRST READING BY CAPTION OF ORDINANCE 2021-338, AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND TAX RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2022.

ALDERWOMAN SARAH MCKENZIE MOVED TO APPROVE BY CAPTION ORDINANCE # 2021-338, AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND TAX RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2022, SECONDED BY VICE MAYOR LIZZY SCHMIDT, AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.

5. DISCUSSION ON PAYMENT OF \$7,750 INVOICE FROM CIVICPLUS IN ADVANCE OF SERVICES RENDERED FOR WEBSITE.

VICE MAYOR LIZZY SCHMIDT MOVED TO PAY \$7,750 TO CIVICPLUS IN ADVANCE OF SERVICES RENDERED, WAIVING THE TOWN'S PURCHASING POLICY, SECONDED BY ALDERWOMAN SARAH MCKENZIE AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.

6. ANY OTHER NEW BUSINESS.


Alderwoman McKenzie reported that one part-time employee left in March resulting in a vacant position in the office.

ALDERWOMAN SARAH MCKENZIE MOVED TO HIRE ELLEN YOUNG TO FILL THE PART-TIME POSITION, AT 2 DAYS PER WEEK, SECONDED BY MAYOR LEE DAVIS AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITIZENS

1. Joe Robbins said that the culvert matter is very important and the town needs to have a civil engineer involved. Mayor Davis said that Mack McCarley is a civil engineer and is looking at the situation.

The meeting adjourned by motion.



Respectfully submitted:
Fern Lockhart, Recorder



Approved:
Lee Davis, Mayor