

Town Council Meeting
April 15th, 2024
Westport Community Building

The Westport Town Council met in regular session at the Westport Community Building, with the following present, Bryan Gatewood, Glenn Black, Russell Wilson, Jennifer Hryb, Dolores Honeycutt, and Clerk Treasurer, Gloria Alumbaugh. Bryan Gatewood called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, followed by the Pledge to the Flag.

Approval of the Minutes from the March 11th & March 15th 2024 Council Meetings:

Russell motioned to approve the March minutes, seconded by Glenn. Vote 5:0

Approval of Funeral Deeds, Adjustments, Payroll Vouchers and Monthly Bills:

Jenny made a motion to approve funeral deeds, adjustments, payroll vouchers, and monthly bills, which was seconded by Dolores. Vote 5:0

Commonwealth Update:

Rachel Runge gave an update on the Wastewater project, passed out an updated Memorandum to the council, and reviewed the bidding schedule. Rachel presented an amendment to the Owner-Engineer Agreement with an increase of \$10,000, which was approved by Glenn, seconded by Russell, and signed by Bryan. Vote 5:0

Westport Community Building Board Report:

Connie Davis presented their report, stating that trim is still being installed in the Community Building and the board is looking for a contractor to work on the drywalled ceiling project. Jenny Hryb stated that any contractor recommendations would be considered for repairing the ceiling project.

- **Establishing a Donation Non-Reverting Fund, Ordinance 2024-1:** Bryan explained to the public that the council is working to establish a fund specific to the Community Building's needs that would not be part of the General fund. This fund could assist with larger capital projects and the Westport Community Building Board would be able to access the funds at any time. After discussing Ordinance 2024-1, Jenny motioned to table until next month, seconded by Russell.

Kiwanis Fishing Rodeo:

Mike Gasper requested permission for the Kiwanis organization to hold a Fishing Rodeo at the Westport Waterplant lakes on May 18th, 2024. The council stated that the Waterplant Lakes will be available.

Mike Gasper:

Mike Gasper and William Brewer presented the Roy Saylor housing development of 6 lots on Kathleen Drive to the council. William Brewer asked the town to consider the benefits of new housing and Mike Gasper asked the Council to waive the requirement to include sidewalks on each lot. Glenn motioned to approve waiving the sidewalks on the 6 lots presented to the council with no other waivers, seconded by Russell. Bryan Gatewood stated that he would write a letter of decision to Decatur County Area Planning to ensure that Westport Town Council's decision is clearly understood by the county. Vote 5:0

ARP Funds (\$142,957.48):

Bryan suggested that the council consider using ARP Funds to finish the flooring update at the Westport Area Community Building, estimated to cost \$29,903. Bryan reminded the council that planning is needed to appropriate the funds before spending so that the funds are spent by the end of the year.

Jenny made a motion that they appropriate funds to finish the flooring update at the Westport Area Community Building, seconded by Dolores. Vote 5:0

Jeff Bradley and Walter Hunter gave public comments about spending money on community building rather than using it on sidewalks and other town needs.

Public Works Superintendent Report:

Damon reported that the town residents will see more construction work this summer due to the Wastewater Project starting in July and the Community Crossings Matching Grant award. Damon stated that the CCMG will cover the cost of asphalt and sidewalks on Main St. starting at the intersection of Range Street and going east to Shady Ln. Damon added that Paul and Small Streets will also receive new asphalt. Damon told Mike Gasper and William Brewer that he wonders if there will be enough "fall" in the sewer lines from the housing addition to connect to Westport's sewer lines. He also asked who is responsible for maintaining the retention pond after installation. Damon also gave an update on general sidewalk repairs stating that he will try a geogrid system to repair some of the existing sidewalks to make them more level.

Internal Control Policy for Town Hall:

Gloria presented the Internal Control Policy explaining that while there is an Ordinance, nothing was documenting exactly how to carry out Internal Controls at the office so now there's a written policy. Bryan made a motion to approve the policy, seconded by Jennifer. Vote 5:0

From the Floor:

Bryan announced that Westport Dumpster Day is on Thursday, April 18th at the Westport Town Hall parking lot. Bryan gave an update on the 508 N Range St. property saying that the town plans to hire a structural engineer to assess the safety of the property. Bryan announced that Primary Elections are May 7th at the Westport Area Community Building and Gloria added that early voting is April 27th from 8 am – 3 pm.

Rob Duckworth introduced himself to the town residents and said he is running for county council in the primary election.

Russell motioned to close the April monthly meeting, seconded by Dolores.



Council President



Vice President



Council Member



Council Member



Council Member



Attest: Clerk-Treasurer