

May 15th, 2024
Monthly Meeting
Junius Town Hall

Present: Supervisor Ernie Brownell, Councilman Rick Wadhams, Councilman Kyle Black, Councilman James Patsos, Councilman Randy Wadhams, Planning Board Linda Mott, Highway Superintendent Dave Fisk, Assessor Phil Griswold, Bookkeeper Denise Darcangelis, Town Clerk Colleen Smith

Absent:

Also Present: an estimate of 45 folks from the town

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Hearing on the Water rates increase was called to order at 6pm

Councilman Rick Wadhams made a motion to open the public hearing, Councilman Kyle Black seconded the motion.

VOTE: Aye- 5; NAY – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0

Supervisor Brownell explained to the folks of Junius that The Town of Waterloo has raised their prices. It is a wholesale increase. The town of Junius is not increasing the water rates.

A resident inquired about new water meters being installed, another resident asked where the different districts are located. Also why are District 1 and 2 going up but not water district 3? Supervisor Brownell replied that we only received notice of 1 and 2 having price increases.

A motion was made to close the public hearing by Councilman Randy Wadhams and seconded by Councilman James Patsos.

VOTE: Aye- 5; NAY – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0

Supervisor Brownell called the regular Board Meeting to order at 6:10

Privilege of the Floor:

Audit of Claims- The bills have been reviewed by the board and are authorized to be paid as follows:

Pre-Pays: General \$1,023.53, Highway \$2,770.60, Water District #1 \$286.02

Paying Tonight: General \$19,976.97; Highway \$1,969.20; Water District #3 \$15.20

Motion made by Councilman Kyle Black and seconded by Councilman Randy Wadhams accepting of paying the bills.

VOTE: Aye- 5; NAY – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0

Approval of Minutes: Motioned made by Councilman Randy Wadhams and seconded by Councilman James Patsos to accept the minutes.

VOTE: Aye- 5; NAY – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0

Town Clerk Report: 18 Dog Licenses and 1 Marriage License. A check for \$180.50 was given to the Town.

Motioned made by Councilman James Patsos and seconded by Councilman Randy Wadhams to accept the Town Clerk report.

VOTE: Aye- 5; NAY – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0

Committee Reports:

Water Committee: It was found that the ice-skating rink on Route 318 is hooked up to town water for the fire protection service only. The Town of Waterloo water department supervised and installed the hook up.

A metal detector has been ordered. It is the same model that the Town of Phelps uses.

The new water meters will be installed in District 1 and District 2. Core Main will be sending out letters and contacting residents to install the new meters.

Highway Committee: Superintendent Fisk reported that the Town's clean up days were a success. He gave the town a check for \$361.66 from scrap metal. 744 tires were collected, 4 pallets of miscellaneous electronics and 37 gallons of used oil. A special Thank you to Seneca Meadows for taking the tires and to D C Rauscher for hauling the tires.

Superintendent Fisk would like a law with fines to address the dumping issues of furniture, tires and other garbage being dumped on Junius's roads.

Councilman Black is looking into programs for recycling furniture. A current solution would be a couple of dumpsters for mattresses, furniture and electronics kept at the Highway department.

Councilman Randy Wadhams made a motion to have dumpsters for furniture and electronics for the town folks to dispose of their unwanted items, Councilman Rick Wadhams seconded the motion.

VOTE: Aye- 4; NAY – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 1

A fire hydrate that was damaged in a car accident has been repaired. They would like an extra repair kit on hand for future use.

Building committee:

Planning Committee: Planning Board Linda Mott has received a Moratorium waiver request from Delaware River Solar for a small solar farm they want to install on Burgess Road.

Assessor Report:

Old BUSINESS: Supervisor Brownell suggested a date for the Town picnic, September 21st. He will check with Jay Martin to see if that date works for him.

New Business: Supervisor Brownell requested a resolution for the purchase of a new snowplow truck for the highway department. Councilman Randy Wadhams made the motion to accept the DASNY Grant Disbursement Agreement between the Town of Junius and DASNY for the purchase of a snowplow truck project ID# 25523. Councilman James Patsos seconded the motion.

VOTE: Aye- 5; NAY – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0

Public Hearing for Town Zoning: was called to order at 6:30. Councilman Rick Wadhams made the motion to open the public hearing, Councilman Randy Wadhams seconded the motion.

VOTE: Aye- 5; NAY – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0

Supervisor Brownell addressed the residents that the meeting was an information meeting to see who was in favor of it and who was opposed. The Town has a comprehensive plan to help State Route 318 develop and draw in businesses. There is a need to clean up some of the properties in the Town. The Board is not looking to create a huge book of rules. Just some basic zoning for the well-being of the Town. The residents were encouraged to speak with a 5-minute time limit.

Some of the pros for the zoning were: noise ordinance, vacant homes with overgrown yards, properties full of broken campers, farm animals wandering on other properties, farm animal carcasses being buried on private property.

Some of the cons for zoning: The extra cost it would create, We do not want to be told how to live, Why are we creating zoning just to develop Route 318. Why can't the board tell the folks to clean up their properties.

Councilman Kyle Black made the motion to close the public hearing at 7:15, Councilman Rick Wadhams seconded the motion.

Superintendent Fisk thanked the town folks for coming to the meeting. He asked if they were interested in a newsletter. We could send emails to those that have access. Mailing out letters could get costly. The Town's minutes and events are posted on the website. Meetings are posted in the paper.

Adjournment: Councilman Rick Wadams made the motion to adjourn the meeting; Councilman Randy Wadhams seconded it. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM

VOTE: Aye- 5; NAY – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0

Minutes recorded and submitted by Town Clerk

Colleen Smith