**MINUTES**

**March 20, 2017**

Attending the meeting were Mayor Spencer R. Schlosnagle, council members Julia Sines, Pam Humberson, Fred Fox, Robert Sines, Jerry Fike, Sheryl Sines and Clerk/Treasurer Karen Benedict. In the audience was Crede Calhoun, Pastor Mike Robinson, and John Croskey.

**Call to Order:** Council President Julia Sines called the March 20, 2017 meeting of the Mayor and Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:** Pastor Mike Robinson of the Anchor Church gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all who were in attendance.

**Approval of the Agenda and Minutes:** Pam moved to accept the agenda. Sheryl seconds the motion. All in favor. Pam moved to approve the minutes of March 6, 2017. Sheryl seconds the motion. All in favor.

**TO THE FLOOR**

John Croskey and Mike Robinson came before council to speak on the events the Friendsville Way is planning this summer. They would like to have a Makers Market Sunday, May 29th from 1 to 6 as well as a farmer’s market every other Friday of the month beginning June 9th and ending August 25th from 4 to 7. There was a discussion on liability insurance.

Crede Calhoun spoke on a project he would like the town to consider that would require a grant being written through a State Highway Recreational Trail Grant. He would like to create a wildlife viewing area between the I- 68 and Rt. 42 bridges outside of the scenic corridor. It would include an interruptive display on wetlands. There is a 50/50 match to this grant and the application is due in July. He would like to do the graphics on this should the grant be awarded.

Crede also spoke on an event he and others are planning June 11th in the Community Park. It is to be a private fracking ban picnic where persons will be coming from all over the state. They would like to rent the whole park. Live music, activities, food and alcohol will be provided. There was a discussion on insurance for the event.

Mike Robinson spoke on the Second-Year Tree of Life Program sponsored by the Anchor Church.

**COMMITTEES**

Spencer proposed the new committee appointments for this new council year. Fred moved to accept the committee appointments. Pam seconds the motion. All in favor. Spencer spoke on the proper protocol when addressing problems in town.

**Streets:** Garrett County Roads Department ground down an area on Second Avenue near Ross Avenue, hoping to help with water run off near the Stemple residence. They did not charge for this service. Jerry presented the estimate from the county on paving 2,600 sq. ft. at 2-inch depth on Second Avenue where it has been ground down at a cost of $1,820. Also, 9,960 at 2-inch depth on Chestnut Avenue at a cost of $6,934. This is between First Avenue and Morris Avenue. Discussion. Pam moved to accept the County’s paving proposal for Chestnut Street and Second Avenue at a cost of $8,754. Sheryl seconds the motion. All in favor. There was a discussion on an area at Chestnut Street and Morris Avenue where a large hole makes water flow toward Friendship Heights Apartments. Pam would like to have Alley 14 paved or the millings from where the streets are milled put on the alley. The alley belongs to the town.

**Christmas Home Tours:** A tentative date has been set for December 2, 2017. A quilt show is also being considered on that date as well.

**Economic Development/Kendall Trail & River Resources:** Crede wants to be informed of any work done on the Kendall Trail.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

* Basketball backboard: Phil Smith is out of town and will have the proposal by our next meeting. Fred questioned being able to patch or stop the hole or spider cracks from spreading.
* Water drainage at 265 Maple Street: Dred, Clint, Fred, Bob and Jerry looked at the area behind Pat Hamlin’s where water is running onto his property. A really deep cut would have to be made along the alley to fix the problem. The other properties along the alley do not have water problems.
* The county milled a small section of paving on First Avenue and Walnut Street to help with standing water.
* Election questions: There were only two questions presented for Steve Fratz from council. They will be turned over to the election committee for further investigation.
* Income Tax Forgiveness: The House passed the bill forgiving 73 municipalities from paying back money that was overpaid. It will go to the Senate now for a vote.
* HUR: Spencer gave an overview of where the house and senate bills are with increasing the County and Municipal HUR funding.

**NEW BUSINESS**

* MML Summer Conference: June 25th-27th. Early birds must register by April 3rd to receive discount.
* Wetlands grant for Crede Calhoun: More information is needed before making a decision. Crede will provide it at our next meeting.
* Celtic Festival banners: The Friendsville Way wants the town to support the Celtic Festival with banners. Estimated cost is $800; council wants a design and specifics before making a decision.

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

* Bruceton Farm Service – Old Mill: Spencer received an email from one of the Vice President’s stating they will address the Old Mill at their next management team meeting.
* Trish Anderson – Flea Market: Trish met with the fire department and they will sponsor the flea market in their parking lot.
* Work Session: March 27, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. Municipal Circuit Rider Peggy Jamison, and Code Enforcement Officer Jarrett Mahoney will be in attendance as well as Duane Yoder, Rodney Durst and Elaine Hinebaugh from Community Action.
* John Braskey, POS – Solar Panels at pavilions: Solar panels would only be allowed if they were to supply electric solely for the park.
* Paul Harvey, Thank you. Pam moved to purchase donuts and coffee for the county employees in appreciation of working so closely with the town and our street projects. Julia seconds the motion. All in favor.
* Planning Commission meeting: March 28th at 6:00 p.m. to work on the Comprehensive Plan updates.
* Takeout ramps: Pam will contact the fire department to have them spray down the ramp so the employees can apply a paint with abrasives hoping it will not be so slick. Contact Corp in regards to trees that are falling over along the walking trail.

**CONCERNS**

Jerry proposed the following:

* Raising the takeout fees from $4 per person to $5 per person beginning this rafting season. Only two rafting companies are paying this fee.
* Doubling the salary for council and mayor.
* Purchasing a broom for the Kubota tractor at a cost of $4,714.
* Speaking with Roger Zbel about blocking the street. Emergency vehicles cannot go through when he does this.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen S. Benedict

Clerk/Treasurer