

Council Members' and/or Committees' Report

Planning and Zoning Commission: Mr. Bivens suggested everyone visit Virginia Found Goods located on Pocket Road if they have not done so.

Economic Development: None

Human Resources, Legal & Police: None

Budget & Finance: None

Public Works & Relations: Mr. Watson thanked Mr. Hodges for taking him around town and showing him the various inter-workings.

Attorney's Report

Attorney Eller advised he had research and notified Ms. Angela Hudson that her cake business is not exempt from the town's meals tax requirement. She was concerned that she had not been charging for this and therefore may have to pay a couple hundred dollars out of her own pocket.

Administrative Office Report

None

Police Report

In December there were 72 calls for service; 35% were traffic stops resulting in four summonses. For 2017, there were 1,350 calls for service, 20% were traffic stops resulting in 114 summonses. There is a desire to bring Officer Harmon on staff as fulltime. Current budget is for \$12,000 and at half way through the fiscal year this is almost depleted. Another \$6,000 was requested to continue his coverage for the remainder of this fiscal year. There was much discussion about where to get the extra money. A motion was made to use money from infrastructure development to fund the part time police officer position for the remainder of this fiscal year.

Motion: Watson

Second: Johnson

Passage: unanimous

Public Works Report

Mr. Hodges advised that water valves at the pump station on Ricky van Shelton Drive need replacing. He has made several costly repairs that last a minimal amount of time. He will be meeting with Mr. Les Thorpe from Commonwealth Engineering Friday, January 5, 2018 to verify replacing the valves would be the proper direction due to the costs. There was a loss of power at the water tower Monday, January 1 which caused the computer to lose communication. This in turn caused the tank to overflow and significant icing on the roadway, but no citizens lost water. Approximately 15,000 gallons of water was lost. Mr. Hodges suggested contacting an electrician to see if there is a backup such as a small generator that could be installed to prevent this from happening in the future.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Poindexter shared that he had contacted the corporate office of AccuFund regarding the ongoing issues with the town's current accounting software vendor. AccuFund connected him with a new vendor in Maryland. He contacted the Town of Pembroke, who contracts with Inventive Software Systems, the new prospective vendor. They were using the same previous vendor and having similar issues. The new vendor was highly recommended by Pembroke, which is very pleased with the services provided and cost. Everyone agreed that AccuFund is a good product, but we need better support. A motion was made to use \$1,000 which is currently still in the budget for this to get started with the recommended new vendor, terminate the existing contract with Mountaineer Computer Systems, and request a refund of the unused portion of the MCS maintenance agreement for this fiscal year.

Motion: Johnson Second: Watson Passage: unanimous

A work session needs to be scheduled to discuss several things such as economic development, SRRIFA, SVMP, an annual calendar of events, preliminary budget ideas, what to do with the KIP land since the timber has been cut (how to maintain), and storage room clean out. Members agreed to plan a work session, part of which should be jointly with the Planning Commission, for January 17 at 5:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Susan Nichols

Susan Nichols, Clerk

Gary Poindexter

Gary Poindexter, Mayor