

TOWN OF CLINCHCO
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES OF MEETING ON 2/17/2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman, Herbert Branham, Jelane Mock, Cynthia Ellis

MEMBER'S ABSENT: Mayor Jarvis Deel, Trevor Counts, Stearl Branham

TOWN CLERK: Tina Deel

TOWN ATTORNEY: Greg Baker (Via Telephone)

Call to Order & Welcome by Vice Mayor:

Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman called the meeting to order, and asked for everyone to stand for the pledge of allegiance; (everyone stood towards the flag). Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman asked for a moment of silence.

Approval of Minutes;

Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman asked council to take a look at their minutes and asked if there were any questions; Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman asked for a motion to approve the minutes; Herbert Branham made a motion to approve the minutes; Jelane Mock seconded the motion; a vote was taken and Herbert Branham voted yes, Stearl Branham voted yes, Jelane Mock voted yes, Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman voted yes, Cynthia Ellis abstained from voting for the reasoning of her husband, Jimmy Ellis made comment and his name wasn't in the minutes. The Clerk explained that couple years ago council voted that the minutes must reflect word for word on motions and votes, but in conversation it was allowed to be summarized.

Consent Expenditures:

Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman asked for council to look at the expenditure report and if there was any discussion; Jelane asked about the website charge being \$286.00; Tina Deel explained that she asked the same question and the reason was because the yearly rates had increased. Jelane stated he assumed that we weren't locked into a contract; Tina stated no, not that she was aware of. Jelane Mock made a motion to approved the consent expenditure report; Herbert Branham seconded the motion; a vote was taken and all members were in favor.

Additions to the Agenda:

Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman asked for any additions to the agenda; no additions were made.

Approval of the Agenda:

Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Jelane Mock made a motion to approve the agenda as is; Cynthia Ellis seconded the motion; a vote was taken and all members were in favor.

Old Business:

Friends of the River:

Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman stated that friends of the river are here with us tonight and handed discussion over to Bill Tanger. Bill explained to council what friends of the river is and how they work on several different things including cleaning up the river. Bill gave a presentation including pictures of the dam. Bill asked for the plat to show boundaries of the piece of property that had the playground material on the piece of property owned by the town. Bill handed over discussion to Corey Kanuckels with the USFWS partners for Fish & Wildlife Program, Corey explained they were here today to look at the dam and request some plat information to be able to locate boundaries of the town property, and get councils support on the removal of the dam. Discussion was made of the legal paperwork involved, and gave suggestions of probabilities of removal of the dam and how it can be utilized after the removal. Corey explained that the river did have the Big Sandy Cray Fish and how they had to work around their location and they would not be allowed to work on the dam from July – October due to that. Discussion was made of possible access points and possibilities of future use. Other discussion was made with the public regarding the dam. Corey stated to council to make a decision as soon as they could due to the permitting process and they would like to get started on it as soon as possible. Jelane asked about funding the removal. Corey stated we don't ask the town to find the funds, we will find the funds for removal. Herbert Branham made a motion to support; Jelane Mock seconded the motion; Cynthia Ellis asked to talk about it a little more. Herbert Branham stated yes, we can. They are talking about it now; it isn't going to cost the town anything. Council discussed how they felt it is a good idea and protentional way of revenue. A vote was taken and all members were in favor.

Rally:

Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman stated she had some exciting news. McKenna Blevins was unable to attend, but we have mentioned in the past and Jelane and I have discussed Rally a long time ago. This isn't something new, it's just took a long time to happen. Finally, it is going to happen. Dates have been set: the community was given \$3,000.00 for a project so there will be a meeting on March 1st everyone is invited to come by. McKenna will be here; she will be leading the meeting. Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman stated that as exciting news, and the first time in the region the Rally program has established a youth Rally program. This has never been done, so our kids here will be used as a model and if their project is successful.... well, first off, they will be given \$1,500.00 for a project. If their project is successful, they will be used as a model for other areas in the region. Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman stated so on March 1st will be for the community meeting and March 8th will be the youth program. Ruby also informed council that this isn't the only time we can do the Rally program. It can go on many more time and the amount could go up to \$5,000.00. Other discussion was made of the dates and times of the upcoming meetings.

Lot 127-Main Street:

Cynthia Ellis stated that she was noticing that, and council should make a vote. But I noticed it was looking bad, junk out there right in front of the town hall and I was wanting to make a motion that we go ahead and allow the owner to park her vehicle there other than every Tom, Dick and Harry parking there, it looks like a junk yard parking lot; The owner of the home spoke

up and addressed Cynthia regarding the vehicles that are parking there. Cynthia Ellis stated she just wanted to make a motion. Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman stated what was your motion; Cynthia Ellis stated that no one should park there other than the owner all these other vehicles shouldn't be allowed there. The home owner addressed council in saying her son lives there. Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman asked for discussion; Herbert Branham stated he didn't know who lived there; the home owner spoke up and said she did. Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman stated to the home owner who owns the property; the home owner stated she did and her husband, but her husband passed away. Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman asked who lived in the home; the home owner stated me, Jesse, and her two grandchildren. Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman stated so there are how many occupants; the home owner stated four occupants in the home. Cynthia Ellis asked the home owner if the other occupants were co-owners of the property; the home owner stated no, she was the owner of the property. Other discussion was made of the vehicles that park on the town owned prop. Cynthia Ellis made discussion of other stuff on the property as a trailer, and hay bales. Discussion was made of it not being fair trying to set a limit of vehicles from visitors that may park there for a shorter period of time, but the property should be cleaned up a little bit. Discussion was made of the number of vehicles that is being parked on the town owned property. Cynthia Ellis showed council pictures of trash on the property. Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman stated we do have a responsibility and it being town owned property and it makes it a little different. As far as being able to tell you who can park there, I don't feel comfortable with that at all. I do think that as far as parts and stuff that it could probably be done better. As far as a tent working on something in the rain for a short amount of time, I don't see a problem with that. A little bit of better organization, a bed liner that is still attached to a truck, I don't see a problem with that. Ruby asked Jelane if there was something else, and if he looked at the picture; The home owner asked Cynthia Ellis what gave her the authority to go take pictures of the property, explain that. Cynthia Ellis stated, I don't have to talk to you. Discussion was made of rules of order in a meeting and how they should be upheld for all. Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman stated we had a motion, there was no second. So, the motion failed. Ruby asked for any new motions; no other motions were made.

Car Wash:

Greg Baker stated to council that he was able to negotiate successfully of the purchase of the car wash property in the amount that council authorized. We will be closing that deal next Tuesday. Sam and Lois Edwards will be signing the deed at the closing and we will be paying the money that we agreed to pay. Greg asked for a motion tonight that we authorize the Vice Mayor to accept the deed. Herbert Branham made a motion to authorize the Vice Mayor to sign the deed; Jelane Mock seconded the motion; a vote was taken and all members were in favor.

Tiny Business Village Update:

Tina Deel stated that Ruby and I have successfully submitted ARC application on February 1st in the amount of \$600,000.00 to hopefully get the Tiny Business Village going, I also submitted back to the DHCD a CPRP application for \$50,000.00, and submitted to the BOS through a APRPA application \$130,000.00. The BOS meets next week, so hopefully we will know something. We will still be around \$130,000.00 shy for completion of the construction; however, I do plan on submitting an application through the Tobacco Commission. Vice Mayor

Ruby Coleman explained to council that we already have partnerships going on for different people to come together to make sure there is a revolving door to keep it fully housed. The business plans are already being put together.

Community Center:

Cynthia Ellis stated that she had asked Tina to see if Peggy Kiser could come, Tina said she would try to invite Peggy Kiser (Peggy Kiser wasn't able to come.) My question is, I think I have asked it before, but why was the Community Center given to the town; Jelane Mock stated it was all part of that one deed that I got whenever, that I asked the County for the playground so we could get the playground fixed. In that, I mentioned in the meeting and we actually voted on it in August that the same deed that the church had. The same lease that the church had with the county would remain the same, and we voted on that in August and everyone agreed unanimously that we would keep the same deed, the same lease. Cynthia Ellis stated what I am saying Jelane is that I think it was done dirty, and I think it was done undercover. Why wasn't the church notified, do you think that is fair; Jelane Mock stated that he couldn't speak for the County of why they didn't notify them of the ownership changing hands. Other discussion was made of the Church being notified. Jelane Mock stated if you recall when I first started digging into the playground nobody knew who really owned it. First it was the BOS, then the School Board, then it went back and forth, so it took forever to find out who even owned it and what property did come with it, we didn't know that in the beginning. Herbert Branham asked Jelane Mock about council voting for it. Jelane Mock stated we did vote for it. Herbert Branham stated then who wants to change it; Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman stated her question was why didn't the church know about it; Jelane Mock stated yes that was her question. Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman stated to Cynthia Ellis that she would have to go to the BOS. The Pastor of the Church addressed council in stating what he was under the impression was he knew the town got the land, but the building didn't come with it. Discussion was made about the Community Center, Land and the playground. The Pastor asked about the \$1.00 payment that secured the lease. Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman stated we just wanted to donate it back to the Church. Other discussion was made of the community center and how the Church utilizes the center. Jimmy Ellis gave some history of the Community Center to Council. Discussion was made of Council voting on the lease on the Community Center.

Christmas Decoration:

Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman stated Christmas Decoration, I guess everyone got to see Clinchco Glow this year. At one of our previous meetings (council took a brief break) Vice mayor Ruby Coleman asked council to view the estimates. Tina Deel went over the estimates with council. Council made discussion of the Christmas Decoration, other discussion was made citizens regarding the hardware for the pole decorations, and Make Clinchco Glow. Council decided to table the discussion until the next meeting. Jelane Mock made a motion to table the topic until next monty; Herbert Branham seconded the motion; a vote was taken and all members were in favor.

New Business:

ARPA-Proforma Study:

Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman asked council if everyone had their copy. Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman stated this study was performed for the Tiny Business Village and it was needed to complete and submit the ARC application. Other discussion was made of the proforma study. Jelane Mock made a motion to pay \$4,600.00 for the Proforma study that was completed by the Lane Group and to pay this out of the ARPA funds; Herbert Branham seconded the motion; a vote was taken and all members were in favor.

Virginia Outdoor Foundation:

Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman stated that Neal with VOF was unable to make the meeting tonight. He was hoping to pop in tonight and meet with everyone.

Americorps Vista:

Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman stated this is something that Jelane and I looked into early on as far as try to find assistance with grants. Clinchco doesn't have a grant writer. We struggle through and get them done we aren't experts on this. How this works is you have an inhouse person and they do community outreach, they do community programs. Right now, Clinchco doesn't have their own programs, that would be something Americorps Vista would do is create those different types of programs, outreaches. They also do technical things; they do grant writing. Originally when we first looked at it, it was so unachievable for Clinchco to even think about doing it. We would be responsible for their salary, housing, you have to give them gas reimbursements to go to trainings. We just gave up. All these different partners and friends that we have been making, and them seeing Clinchco trying. These people want to help. The salary was cut for Clinchco to.....we don't have to provide housing it will be someone local that we would share with another community. 20 hours with us and then 20 hours with another community. The other thing is that person would write the grant so that would fund a full-time position for the following year. We are just their supervisor we supervise them X amount of hours a week. They work under a different group that is going to sponsor Clinchco. All of this and Clinchco is only responsible for \$3,500.00. Another community will pay \$3,500.00 and we share that vista. We will get them 20 hours and the other community will get them 20 hours. It doesn't stop there but we have other friends that will be trying to cover the \$3,500.00 for us, now that might not happen. They do realize we do struggle. Being a mining community gave us a discount. With Americorps Vista we will be required, however we get it \$3,500.00. We will have to decide to go that route as a possibility for the town. I can't guarantee that I can get the last \$3,500.00 covered. Jelane Mock stated, I feel \$3,500.00 is worth it. You're at least guaranteed 2 years for \$3,500.00. They will write a grant to fund it for the following year. To get two years of grant writing that is worth \$3,500.00. Jelane stated that his question would be to Greg could we cover that under the ARPA somehow; Greg Baker stated yes, I believe so it would be economic development. Jelane Mock agreed. Other discussion was made by council of this would be a good opportunity for Clinchco. Discussion was made of how this will be great for Clinchco. Jelane Mock made a motion that we take \$3,500.00 out of ARPA funds to pay for the Americorps Vista; Herbert Branham seconded the motion a vote was taken and all members were in favor.

Shifty Lane:

Vice mayor Ruby Coleman stated right before Christmas we received a telephone call from Delegate William Wamplers Office with the interest of dedication of Shifty Lane as Staff Sergeant Darrell "Shifty" Powers Memorial Hwy. Ruby asked Greg how far it has went on the floor; Greg stated the House has passed it, it passed 99 to 0. It has now been moved over to the Senate, I am sure it will pass over there as well. Greg explained to council how this will be in the Hwy system forever now, memorializing it to him. Greg stated that will probably be passed next week in the Senate then the Governor will sign the bill. Then it will be a matter of getting some signs up. Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman stated as far as the signs go we have a put in a verbal request, we haven't done any kind of written request in hopes the county could help us with one. We did look at other options we just haven't found anything as far as paying for it. The kids did attempt to do a fund raiser with photographer and the photographer was going to do a give all the proceeds to the kids for this and that didn't really work out. There was some stuff going on with the Senior Citizens building at the time and we had to not go through with that. Other discussion was made of other options for fund raisers and finding other sources to help pay for the signs.

Town Bronco:

Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman stated the town Bronco needs work. We need someone to look at it. Herbert Branham stated we need to take it up there to the Wright Way. Vice mayor Ruby Coleman asked how do we get it up there. Herbert Branham suggested to have a wrecker take it up there. Jelane Mock stated he had a car hauler. Herbert Branham stated if Jelane has a car hauler then they could take it up there. They both agreed to take the Bronco to the County Shop and have it looked at. Herbert Branham made a motion for himself and Jelane to use the car hauler to take the Bronco to the truck shop to be looked at for repairs; Jelane Mock seconded the motion; a vote was taken and all members were in favor.

Public Comments:

Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman asked for public comments; no comments were made

Jelane Mock made a motion to take a 5-minute recess before executive session;

Executive Session:

Jelane Mock made a motion to go into executive session under code 2.2-3711; A1, to discuss personnel matters; Herbert Branham seconded the motion; a vote was taken and all members were in favor.

Certification:

Jelane Mock made a motion to certify all that was discussed in executive session was personnel matters under code 2.2-3712; Herbert Branham seconded the motion; a roll call vote was taken: Cynthia Ellis voted yes, Herbert Branham voted yes, Jelane Mock voted yes, Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman voted yes.

Council Comments:

Vice Mayor Ruby Coleman asked for council comments; Cynthia Ellis stated about the situation on the building, you said we voted on it Jelane. I couldn't remember it but I went back and got my minutes. The way Tina got this written up and the way I brought it to the board the building wasn't included. It was talking about the playground, and I didn't know the playground and the building come under the same heading, when I seconded the motion. Jelane read out loud the minutes of August regarding the community center. Other discussion was made of the community center. Tina explained the checks written to the Fire Dept and the ATL account to council. Greg stated they had until December 2022 to pay the debt. Other discussion was made regarding the money from the Money Market account to the Clinchco Fire Dept.

Recess:

Jelane Mock made a motion to recess the regular council meeting until February 22nd at 5:30 pm; Cynthia Ellis seconded the motion; a vote was taken and all members were in favor.