

Minutes of the special-called meeting of the Saltville Town Council held on October 21, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. in the Town Hall

Council: **Monica Johnson, Hiram Robinson, Eugene Call, Bryan Morris, Steve Surber, and Gary Call**

Mayor: **C. Todd Young**

Staff: **Jordan Powers, Acting Town Manager
Steve Johnson, Clerk/Treasurer**

Old Business

1. Bridge water line repair

Acting Town Manager Jordan Powers told the Council that the funds from the Mount Rogers Water/Wastewater program could be used to offset the cost of replacing the pipe at the bridge at Cedar Branch. Councilman Morris made a motion to have these funds used for that purpose, and Councilman Eugene Call seconded. All were in favor.

2. VDOT paving

Acting Town Manager Jordan Powers said he had spoken with VDOT, at Councilman Surber's request, about possibly using the funds designated to pave and re-do the intersection of Lake Drive with West Main Street be used to pave Palmer Avenue going down towards Old Quarry Road instead. VDOT said those funds could not be diverted to Palmer Avenue. Therefore, Councilman Eugene Call made the motion to go ahead with the project at the intersection of Lake Drive and West Main Street, and Councilman Morris seconded. All were in favor.

New Business

1. CARES Act

Clerk/Treasurer Steve Johnson told the Council that \$291,201.80 of the town's funding has been committed so far. The flooring cost is still an estimate since a labor quote was not part of the amount turned in from the contractor. Councilman Morris asked about the cost increase for the Barbrow Trail extension, and the Mayor told him the Coon Club was concerned that the trail path was too far on their leased property, so now the path has to be diverted to go around that property, and more labor and materials cost will be involved.

Nathan Gary of the Saltville Rescue Squad gave the Council a handout of some equipment the Squad was requesting but said their top priority was a monitor(s) for one of their ambulances. Monitors are used to diagnose what a patient's problem actually is, such as a heart attack, so the proper treatment can be administered. Monitors are also required by law to be on ambulances.

Also on the list of requests are Automatic Electric Defibrillators (AEDs). These are used for standby events such as football games, fairs, or the town's Labor Day festival, and their purpose is to shock a heart to get it back into rhythm. The last main item on the list is an AutoPulse system. This basically does CPR on a patient that is in cardiac arrest which allows the Squad member tending to the patient to do other tasks such as starting an IV treatment. The AutoPulse also eliminates the need for a backboard since no compressions will have to be done. Other items requested by Mr. Gary include respirator masks, portable radios, and Panasonic Toughbooks.

Mr. Gary told the Council he had been speaking with Ballad Health, and that organization has said they may be able to contribute some funding as well through an RASF grant. This funding now would involve an 80/20 match with the Squad being responsible for the 80%. Overall, Mr. Gary said he would like the Council to fund one monitor and the AutoPulse system based on the amount of funding the town has left. The Mayor thanked Mr. Gary for attending the meeting and mentioned to him that the town now has a grant writer who could help the Squad with funding projects as well, and Councilman Morris suggested talking to the county again, too, since they funded a new ambulance. No action was taken by the Council.

Closed Session

Councilman Morris made a motion to enter Closed Session In accordance with the Code of Virginia, Section 2.2-3711(A)(7) for consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body. Councilman Eugene Call seconded, and all were in favor.

After exiting Closed Session, Councilman Morris made a motion to certify that the Closed Session was conducted in conformity with Virginia law regarding those matters that are exempted from open meeting requirements and nothing was discussed other than what was mentioned in the motion to convene Closed Session. Councilman Eugene Call seconded, and the roll call vote was 6-0 in the affirmative.

Lastly, Councilman Morris made the motion to adjourn, and Councilman Eugene Call seconded. All were in favor.

