

TOWN OF CEDAR GROVE

MAYOR

MELISSA YOUNG

RECORDER

SAMANTHA GOODWIN

MUNICIPAL JUDGE

JAMES CONFERE

POLICE CHIEF

JACK ICE

COUNCIL

RYAN COLEMAN

MARK HARRISON

LESLIE SIGLER

ASHLEY YOUNG

CLAYTON YOUNG JR.

TOWN CLERK

JESSICA MORRIS

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302 Alexander Street

Cedar Grove WV, 25039

Incorporated since 1902

Town Council Meeting

Cedar Grove Town Hall

September 10, 2024

7:00 PM

Meeting called to order by Mayor Young at 7:00PM.

Roll Call

Mayor Melissa Young – PRESENT

Recorder Samantha Goodwin – PRESENT

Councilmen/women:

Leslie Sigler – PRESENT

Clayton “Jock” Young – PRESENT

Ryan Coleman – ABSENT

Mark Harrison – PRESENT

Ashley Young – PRESENT

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Approval of Minutes

Samantha Goodwin stated that she put the wrong date for the approved minutes, and this would need to be amended. Mark Harrison motioned to approve the Minutes from August 27, 2024, with the amendment. Ashley Young seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Approval of Financial Statement

Jock Young motioned to approve the August financial statement. Ashley Young seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution of B&O Tax Ordinance – Second Reading

Samantha Goodwin read the revision of the Business and Occupational Tax ordinance (4-1-1-2) for the second time. This revision changed the tax obligation of the water company from 2% to 4%. Jock Young motioned to accept the reading and the changes. Mark Harrison seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Yard Sale

There was supposed to be a town yard sale this coming weekend. This was not well advertised so the council decided to cancel.

Street Update

The grass has been cut in the alleyways. There was a sewer issue at a residence in town. Mayor Young said that the issue had been resolved. Leslie Sigler commented on the alleyway behind her house because of it being rough and traffic being higher with school being in session and the continued construction. Mayor Young said more gravel needed to be brought in and it would be looked at.

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NEW BUSINESS

Sewer

There were two metal boxes that had wires fried inside of them at the sewer plant. Mayor Young kept the remnants to see if AEP could be held responsible. With this issue, they discovered that the generator had not been serviced in many years. This has been taken care of as well. Jock Young suggested that they be added to the normal maintenance list. Mayor Young said that Zomax Services will be coming to check it. Just over \$700 is the expense to care for it for the year. Mayor Young said that the other generator used for Fall Festival also needs serviced – the council agreed that that be taken care of. Back to the sewer, Mayor Young said she had complaints of sewer smell in a resident's homes, and it was discovered that the line was full of grease. It is speculated that this is coming from the baseball field. There will be signs put up in the concession stand to hopefully prevent this from happening again.

*Sidewalk issue brought up around 18 minutes

Baseball Field

One of the coaches contacted Mayor Young about the gravel not being wheelchair accessible around the baseball field & concession stand. She said that an option would be to pull the gravel out and concrete the full area. Mark Harrison and Jock Young mentioned that it would be cheaper to make a sidewalk that goes around to all the necessary locations. Mayor Young asked them to meet her at the field to map out how they can do the sidewalks on Thursday morning. Leslie Sigler mentioned again that they need to mark arrows to keep people from going the wrong way on the one way by the school block.

Air Conditioning

The air conditioner project has begun at the Community Center. The older furnaces have been removed. The Town paid \$1,573 for these heaters in January 2023. A gentleman is wanting to purchase one of the heaters and Mayor Young was wanting to know what we should sell for. Jock Young suggested that if we can get \$1,000 out of it, then we should follow through with that.

Ashley asked about vendors for the Fall Festival—there are 6. She asked if there was any update on the story book characters. She also asked if there were any volunteers. Mayor Young is going to send a sign-up sheet for volunteers from the high school for community service and that the entire council must participate. Samantha Goodwin mentioned that she has obligations that weekend. Mayor Young suggested that this may be the last year we do the fall festival. The council

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agreed being that it does not turn any profit, nor do we have enough volunteers. Mayor Young asked if we should cancel this year for lack of interest. Mark made the comment that Belle is having a car show that same weekend. Mark said we should cancel this year. Ashley agreed. Mayor Young said that the council will need to settle on what events they want to do for the following year by January to send out letters for donations/sponsors. The council agreed to cancel Fall Festival for 2024.

Jock Young wanted to know about the money that the council allotted for the investment pool. He said the council motioned to do it, but it had not been done. Mayor Young asked how it was done and Jock told her it was online. Mayor Young said that was Samantha Goodwin's responsibility. Jock suggested that Jessica could handle it if she was willing. Leslie Sigler said we should not add more to Jessica's workload because we did not give her the raise she wanted. Mark Harrison said we needed to read the ordinance about separating the clerk and recorder positions. Jock said that the recorder position is responsible for overseeing things, not necessarily doing certain things in how he interpreted it. Mayor Young asked if Samantha wanted to invest the money or if she wanted Jessica to do it. Jock explained the process. Samantha said Jessica would be more equipped to handle that because she is involved in every other exchange of money and Samantha does not have access to the accounting system on the Town's computer. Samantha also stated that the accountant should be the one to decide the amount of money invested month-to-month.

Jock mentioned the issue with the sidewalks and the storm drains again and said he would contact the appropriate people.

Jock Young spoke with the lawyer. He told him to get ahold of the Federal Prosecutor's Office regarding the police situation and Mayor Young suggested that she suggested that he should not do that because it could be considered interfering with the investigation. Jock said the lawyer told him that he did not have any issues with us allowing Jack Ice to return to work. Mayor Young said that she brought that to the council and the council said no. Jock agreed that we do not want Jack Ice back without being released from the investigation. He suggested that we bring the lawyer to a meeting to explain his point of view.

Jock Young said that the Town of Cedar Grove could participate in the demolition of 2 houses that had been in question. Jock said that he would send the addresses to the person he spoke with. He also said that the Sanitary Housing Ordinance was for residents, and he said that we would have to write tickets and take it to Magistrate Court and then put a lien against the property after the Town cleans it up. Jock said we could use the Recovery money and B & O taxes from the school to take care of these kind of problems.

Mark Harrison asked about new police inquiries. Mayor Young said no. Leslie Sigler said that she knows someone in the police academy who wants to come work part time. Jock Young said that he knew of someone that used to work for Cedar Grove that was interested after seeing the pay increase.

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Dee Gibson asked about the water drainage on Depot Hill. Mayor Young said that she has called multiple times, but it is an issue for the state road.

Leslie Sigler motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ashley Young seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:53PM.