

The Clermont Town Council met on February 4, 2014. The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Mayor Nix asked Pastor John Moore of Trinity United Methodist Church to lead the invocation. Mayor Nix led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Present: Mayor, James Nix, Council members, Kristi Crumpton, Seth Weaver, Lynn Adams, John Brady and Debra Armour. Deputy Clerk, Amy Lomax, and Town Clerk, Sandra Helton.

MINUTES: Seth Weaver made a motion to approve the January 7, 2014 minutes. John Brady seconded and all Council, members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Seth Weaver made a motion to approve the January 2014 Financial Statement. Kristi Crumpton seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

REPORT: ORDINANCE 97-01 PLANNING AND ZONING: The Council reviewed this report.

TRINITY CHURCH SIGN: Pastor John Moore appeared before the Mayor and Council seeking permission and requesting a variance to the current ordinance to allow non-profit organizations such as their church to place a 4ft x8ft church sign at the corner of Clarks Bridge Road and Highway 129. The Pastor said the reason for placing the sign is to become more visible to the community. The Mayor explained that in our sign ordinance Highway 129 is designated as a Scenic Corridor Overlay Zone area that does not permit off-premise advertising. Therefore, with the requested sign advertising the church which is not at this location it is considered off-premise advertising. Seth Weaver asked exactly where the sign would be placed on J.K. Crumley's property. Pastor Moore stated that the sign would be either inside or just outside of the fence, but would be 15ft off the road. John Brady asked if they would be willing to change the size of the sign. Pastor Moore said he would be happy to change it to comply with the wishes of the Mayor and Council. Seth Weaver said that he would consider a compromise on the size, lesser height and placement. Kristi Crumpton stated that drivers on Highway 129 need to be safe and that signs not be in a distracting place. Lynn Adams suggested we table the issue so we could look at the area where the sign would be placed and vote at the next month's meeting. The council did not wish to table this request. John Brady made a motion to permit Trinity United Methodist Church to place a 3ftx6ft sign that would be 12 foot high at the corner of Hwy 129 and Clarks Bridge Road. Seth Weaver seconded. Seth Weaver and John Brady voted in favor. Kristi Crumpton, Lynn Adams and Debbie Armour voted against. Motion failed. Debbie Armour mentioned that if we allowed for placement of this sign, we possibly would have to allow for other requests from other churches and non-profits. Pastor John Moore asked if the land were deeded to the church, would they be able to place a sign there. The Mayor told him this might be permitted.

TRACTOR PURCHASE: Seth Weaver presented three quotes for new tractors: Cain Equipment, Nelson Tractor Company, and Mason Tractor Company. The Mahindra tractor quoted from Cain Equipment is \$27,000.00. The Kubota tractor quoted from Mason Tractor Company is

\$33,500.00. The John Deere tractor quoted from Nelson Tractor Company is \$34,827.00. Seth Weaver said that all three of these tractors have comparable specifications. He recommended that we go with the 6530 4WD Mahindra Rise 30 series. He said the tires would need to be changed to the industrial tires. Seth Weaver made a motion to purchase the 6530 4WD Mahindra 30 series tractor from Cain Equipment for \$27,000.00. John Brady seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

OLD LIBRARY DEMOLITION: Seth Weaver made a motion to hire Gainesville Waste and Recycle to demolish and clean up the old library site for \$29, 00.00. Debbie Armour seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed. Kristi Crumpton asked that we let the people of the Town know the building is scheduled to be demolished. Her concern was there may be some people that have a personal connection with the building. The Mayor asked how to advertise this information. Everyone agreed that it should be put on the website and possibly place signs in the Town.

TREE SERVICES: Seth Weaver made a motion to hire McAlister Tree Service to trim a total of 18 trees in the Town and to clean up the limbs and brush if they would be willing to do the job for \$3000.00 instead of \$3150.00 which is the original quote. Lynn Adams seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

PAVING CONTRACT: Mayor Nix said Stan Brown from the City of Oakwood contacted him about participating in another joint paving contract. This would be an arrangement like the one we had with them a few years ago. He explained they are getting ready to go out for bids on their paving projects which they hope to be awarded in April. He asked the Council if we would like to participate again with them on this like we did before. We have two years of LMIG money set aside to pave King Street. With all the cities going in together, this allows for a better price on the paving costs. Seth Weaver said the previous project had gone well and made a motion to participate with the City of Oakwood on the paving project. Debbie Armour seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

INSULATION QUOTE FOR CLASSROOMS AT LIBRARY: Mayor Nix said he had a quote from Keith Porter Insulation for \$1100.00 to insulate the overhead area of the classrooms at the Clermont Library with R30 insulation. There is some insulation over this area, but it is not sufficient. Scroggs and Grizzel, the contractors for the renovation project quoted us a price of \$3,172.00 to insulate the area. The power bill for the classrooms exceeded all the other utilities for the building this past month which indicates this really needs to be done. Seth Weaver made a motion to accept the bid from Porter's Insulation in the amount of \$1100.00. Kristi Crumpton seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed

GARBAGE TRUCK REPLACEMENT: Seth Weaver made a motion to remove this item off the table. John Brady seconded, and all council members present voted in favor. Motion passed. Seth Weaver said he would like to continue our trash pick-up as it is now. He said he would like to have debris removal with a vacuum to be used behind the truck. He showed the Mayor and

Council a picture of a 2007 International cab automatic with 193k miles. The price was for \$12000.00. We would need to remove the compacting bed from our present truck and have it mounted on the other truck and he estimated the expense of doing this would be approximately \$3,000.00. Lynn Adams asked if we were to privatize the garbage would the fee change for our garbage customers. The Mayor said he seriously doubted you would find trash pick-up for \$12.00 a month. He also said we are currently not meeting our expenses. John Brady agreed. Kristi Crumpton asked how many trash customers we have. Amy Lomax replied there are approximately 110. Seth Weaver made a motion to purchase the 2007 model truck and place our compacting bed on it. The Mayor asked for a second on the motion. The motion on the table dies for lack of a second.

John Brady made a motion to privatize the garbage pick-up and go out for bids. Debbie Armour seconded. Kristi Crumpton, Debbie Armour, Lynn Adams, and John Brady voted in favor. Seth Weaver voted against. Motion passed.

COUNCIL MEMBER TIME:

Kristi Crumpton: Kristi Crumpton said the hydrangea and antique rose bush had been removed from the old library and planted near the Dip Post office. She said she had previously mentioned in the last work session that she would like to purchase lighting to be placed around the Dip Post office. She went to Home Depot and gathered prices on the lighting. These lights would be placed on the ground. They would require a small transformer and would be on a timer with a photo sensor. Provided we can move the power over, the cost of the landscaping lights would be \$235.00.

Debbie Armour: Debbie Armour asked if we could possibly hang pictures in the old Dip Post Office. Seth Weaver said when they get the lighting fixed we may be able to do something like that.

Seth Weaver: Seth Weaver said he would like for the Town to purchase a side arm mower by the fall for the new tractor we are purchasing. He said that Tommy Rogers had priced a used one for \$4900.00 in Blue Ridge. The Mayor asked if could go look at the mower. Seth Weaver and Maintenance Supervisor, Tommy Rogers agreed to go Thursday of this week to Mason Tractor in Blue Ridge and look at the used one. He also mentioned that the shop needed to purchase a lawn mower jack. Tommy Rogers stated that one had already been purchased.

John Brady: For the record he said we need a motion to purchase the trailer to replace the one that was stolen. John Brady made a motion to purchase a new trailer for the Town. The cost of the trailer is \$2,105.00. Seth Weaver seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

John Brady said he had obtained a quote from Brian Parks to have a metal roof put on the stage at the gym park. The quote was for \$5218.86. He asked permission from Council to seek bids for this project. After some discussion, The Mayor and Council agreed for him to proceed.

He said he had contacted the attorney to begin working on dividing the town into wards. He said the lawyer suggested we update the Town Charter. He said this has not been done in a very long to time and would need to be changed to some degree since we are dividing the Town into wards.

Town Clerk: Town Clerk, Sandra Helton notified the Mayor and council of a recent request for annexation from William Mack Roberts. It has been determined that he does not meet the requirement for annexation. She said there would be no work session for the month of February. She also mentioned that a head count was needed for those who plan to attend the JMA meeting on February 24, 2014 to be hosted by the city of Flowery Branch.

Mayor Nix:

ADJOURN: Seth Weaver made a motion to adjourn at 9:00pm. Debbie Armour seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

Town Clerk, Sandra Helton
