**Lee Town Council**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**September 1, 2020**

Mayor: James E. Bell

Council President: Dianne Beck

Council: Ronnie Bass, Joyce Bethea, Erika Robinson

Town Manager/Clerk: John Anderson, Sona Hayslett

Attorney: Chuck Collins

County Commissioner: Rick Davis - Absent

Absent: Edwin McMullen

Mayor Bell called the meeting to order.

**Amend or Update Agenda**

Council reviewed the agenda.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to amend the agenda to add “compensation for John” as he continues to work with new town manager under new business was made by Councilwoman Robinson. Council President Beck seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

The Minutes for the August 4, 2020 Regular Council Meeting were reviewed by the Council.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to accept the minutes as printed for the August 4, 2020, Regular Council Meeting was made by Councilwoman Robinson. Councilwoman Bethea seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Public Comments: None**

**Old Business:**

1. A list of inventory was handed out to Council for their review. Discussion was made on items that were added to the inventory and items that did not work or was no longer being used.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to dispose of the items that did not work or was not in use was made by Councilman Bass. Council President Beck seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

2. A list of the current past due accounts were handed out to Council for their review. After some discussion a request was made to add when the last contact date was, the last payment date, and how old the past due account is to the report.

There was also a list of old past due accounts to review. There was discussion that we were written up for old accounts that we still had on the books with a balance. Town Manager, Anderson explained that these accounts are inactive and the balances consisted mainly of penalties and base charges that we are not able to collect.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to write off the old accounts was made by Councilman Bass. Councilwoman Beck seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

**New Business:**

1. The Town Manager, John Anderson will be retiring in September. Discussion was made about Anderson being compensated for continuing to help the new Town Manager, Sona Hayslett for training and be on an as needed basis as some duties are only once a year.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to pay Anderson $25.00 an hour as a contractor on an as needed basis was made by Councilman Bass. Councilwoman Bethea seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Fire Department:**

Lori Dowdy was present to speak to Council. There was only one call out in August for the Lee Volunteer Fire Dept. The hay baler at the Agner Farm caught fire. There was no water used.

 **Town Manager notes:**

1. Our new employees are Trisha Burke, the new Deputy Clerk and Dakota Williams, the new

 Public Works Technician. Chuck Collins is the new attorney for the Town of Lee.

2. We are renewing our insurance with FLC.

3. The company installing the new cell tower has selected a general contractor so the building

 permit can be reviewed and will hopefully have the permit in a week. They will order steel

 and hope to start construction in October and have the tower up mid December.

4. The water tower inspection was moved up from the end of September to September 24 -

 September 25, 2020.

5. Dennis installed 2 aerators in Lake Brittany Monday, August 18, 2020. Estate Management

 put in the blue dye and placed a block that helps to reduce algae on the bottom of the

 lake. The lake is looking good now.

6. Duke Energy will install new LED’s in the street lights around September 18, 2020.

7. Penalties have not been applied to utility bills due to Covid. The Town Council agreed

 unanimously to continue to not apply the late charges at this time.

8 The first public hearing for the Budget and Ad valorem taxes will be held September 8, 2020

 at 7:00 p.m.

9. We will discuss the date for the second public Budget Hearing at the first Budget Hearing

 held on September 8, 2020.

10. There is an Ethics class that will be held virtually on October 14, 2020 starting at 10:00 a.m.

 This class is in 2 sessions that will be held in one day ending at 3:30 p.m. Please let the

 Town Mayor know if you need this class so that we can get you registered.

11. The Madison Youth Soccer received a grant and is going to be using Ben Blair Park. They

 are looking to install lights. We need to look into re-wording the sign to say “closes at dark

 unless there is a scheduled function”.

Bills:

 Utility: **#2943-2958; ACH #466-469**

 Utility Deposit Account: **CH #1569**

 Debt Service Account: **No Activity**

General: **#8913-8928; ACH #1166-1178 EFT #0712 & 0801 - 0811**

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to pay the bills was made by Council President Beck. Councilwoman Bethea seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Attorney Chuck Collins:** Glad to be here and will observe. Let him know if we need him for anything.

**County Commissioner Rick Davis:** Absent

**Council Member Comments**:

Councilman Bass: None

Council President Beck: None

Councilwoman Robinson: None

Councilwoman Bethea: There will be a reception held for Town Manager, John Anderson for his retirement on September 17, 2020 from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Councilman McMullen: Absent

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

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James Bell, Mayor

Attested: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Trisha Burke, Deputy Clerk