

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor James Bratcher called to order the regular meeting of the Rutledge city council on the above date. Council members Brenda Thompson, Chad Cook, Tim Smith and Bruce Altnauer were present as were members of the public.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chad Cook made motion to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2015 meeting as submitted. Brenda Thompson seconded, all voted in favor and motion carried.

## **UPDATE WEST MAIN STREET**

Mayor Bratcher stated that as soon as weather dries out and the trailer can be repaired we will get started on the repairs of West Main Street.

## **RUTLEDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT APRON**

Andy Ainsley addressed the council and said the county would be paving the apron at the fire department on Fairplay. He said he had talked to Molly Lesnikowski about it. He advised that if the work had not been done by April 1

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we needed to call him.

## **REQUEST TO PLACE ANTENNA ON FEARS RD TOWER FOR 911 RADIO SYSTEM**

Morgan County fire Chief Mark Melvin addressed the city council and said that the county had approved a new radio system through SPLOST for phase II. He stated that a consultant said the Fears road tank would be perfect for the antenna.

He said a box would be placed inside the fence and they would like to come off our power box

and they would pay the difference.

Debbie Kilgore asked would this interfere with our SCADA system once our tank was on line.

Fire Chief Melvin said that it would be on a different frequency.

Chad Cook made motion to approve the placement of the 911 system antenna on the Fears Road water tower.

Tim Smith seconded, all voted in favor and motion carried.

## **ALLEY BETWEEN WAREHOUSE AND VACANT LOT – FRED FRANKLIN**

Fred Franklin addressed the council and stated he had owned property in Rutledge since 1997. He said he owned the warehouse at 120 E. Main Street. He stated that he was going to be buying the vacant lot next door owned by Mrs. Nunn. He said that long ago the alley was opened up by Mayor Hollis but it used to be private property. He said his plan is to build a loft but the outside of the structure would not change.

He stated that he would like to close the alley and it would be his private drive. Chad Cook asked if he had the property surveyed.

Fred Franklin said he had not had it surveyed but would do that and bring it back before them. The council agreed once the survey was done and the paperwork was in order it should not be a problem closing it off.

## **MERCHANTS SIGN**

Adrienne Lachappelle addressed the council and stated that Kris Bray was looking into the signs. She said they did not have enough business to meet criteria for the sign on I-20. She said that they do still want to put a sign at Rutledge Crossing on highway 278. She stated that the sign needs to be repainted and they need to talk to Danny Bruce.

## **CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – BOB HUGHES**

Bob Hughes addressed the council and stated that normal chamber dues are \$200.00 per person. He said for \$1000.00 Rutledge gets ten memberships. He said we worked with Joellen Artz on the July 4<sup>th</sup> festival. He stated we try to keep everyone informed. He said you were in the Southern Living and the Farmers and Ranchers magazine and we are now getting ready to do the quality of life magazine.

He advised they could do a special on Rutledge. We also do ribbon cuttings for new business.

Joellen Artz addressed the council and stated that the chamber promotes economic development, existing businesses and promotes tourism.

She stated that you have to ask the chamber for help and you will get it.

You only get what you ask for.

Even if it is just a sale they will promote it for you.

Bob Hughes advised that anything they can do to help we need to just ask.

## **BLEACHERS IN THE PARK**

Debbie Kilgore advised the council that she had found some bleachers at BSN Sports for \$1449.00. She said they consist of three rows and seat 30 people and the ball field needed two sets. She stated that if they approved them she would be able to find the money in the budget in some line items that have come in under budget. Tim Smith made motion to purchase the preferred size bleachers of three rows seating 30 people from BSN Sports at \$1449.00 each. Brenda Thompson seconded, all voted in favor and motion carried.

## **ELECTRICITY FOR BBQ SHED AND BANDSTAND**

Debbie Kilgore advised the council that a request had been made to restore electricity to the BBQ shed and the bandstand. She stated that Sonny Bray had met with Georgia Power and if it is overhead the power box would be mounted on the bandstand. He said the cost would be \$2975.00. She said that if it is run underground it will cost an additional \$3000.00. Chad Cook made motion to approve the \$2975.00 for electrical at the shed and bandstand. Tim Smith seconded, all voted in favor and motion carried.

## **FALLS SUBDIVISION – BOND / LETTER OF CREDIT**

Debbie Kilgore advised the council that our ordinance does allow for a letter of credit in lieu of a cash bond. She stated that attorney John Nix said if it is a reputable bank it would be okay. The city attorney would need to look over it and give his approval. Council member Bruce Alznauer made motion to accept the letter of credit in lieu of the cash bond for the Falls Subdivision subject to the attorney's approval. Tim Smith seconded, all voted in favor and motion carried.

## **PLANNING RETREAT**

Debbie Kilgore advised the council that the planning retreat work session with Chuck Jarrell and Tara Cooner was set for April 9, 2015.

Brenda Thompson made motion to adjourn at 7:35 pm. Tim Smith seconded, all voted in favor and motion carried.

**ADJOURN**