

Town Council Meeting
October 14th, 2024
Westport Community Building

The Westport Town Council met in regular session at the Westport Community Building, with the following present, Bryan Gatewood, Russell Wilson, Glenn Black, Jennifer Hryb, Dolores Honeycutt, and Clerk Treasurer, Gloria Alumbaugh. Bryan Gatewood called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, followed by the Pledge to the Flag.

Approval of the Minutes from the September 9th, 2024 Council Meetings:

Russell motioned to approve the September minutes, seconded by Glenn. Vote 5:0

Approval of Cemetery Deeds, Adjustments, Payroll Vouchers, and Monthly Bills:

Jennifer motioned to approve adjustments, payroll vouchers, and monthly bills, seconded by Dolores. Vote 5:0

Commonwealth Update:

Rachel Runge presented an October 14th Memorandum and an anticipated work schedule from Striegel Design & Construction Inc. Rachel reported that construction for the Wastewater Project will start in November and continue for approximately one year.

2025 Budget Public Adoption Hearing:

Bryan opened and closed the Public Adoption Hearing at 6:39PM due to no public comments. Glenn made a motion to approve the 2025 Budget, seconded by Russell. Vote 5:0

Griffin Schermer: New Water Accounts @410 N Range St.:

Griffin Schermer explained to the council that he has bought 10 water meters but needs 38 total to install meters at every mobile home on his property. Griffin asked the council to consider purchasing the water meters since he is doing the work to install each one. Griffin explained that he is trying to make the transition to individual water meters easier on the tenants since they will have to pay deposits and open new accounts. Bryan stated that the council would take the request under review.

Andy Scholle – Drainage Study: No Show

Mulberry St. Apartments – Jeff Moore (4 Seasons Reality):

Jeff Moore explained that he wears two hats, one being pastor of the Westport Wesleyan and the other being owner of 4 Seasons Reality. Jeff explained that he is speaking on behalf of 4 Seasons Reality and is working on two housing development projects. Jeff asked if the council had decided to accept his bid for 209 E Mulberry and if they would consider selling a portion of the old Town Square farther east on Mulberry. Jeff explained that he is working with Roy Saylor to purchase the property at the block of 215 E Mulberry and N Poplar St. to build a 10-family housing addition. Bryan stated that they are still reviewing the logistics with the Town Attorney and have not made a decision.

ARP Funds (\$53,813.78 left):

Mike Gasper submitted a new bid from Globe Asphalt for \$31, 200 to repair the existing Tennis Court and add pickleball court markings so the court could be dual use. Mike stated that the Kiwanis received a \$10,000 grant from Decatur Co. Community Foundation and asked if the town could match the grant with another \$10,000 for the pickleball court. The council stated that they would tentatively approve

using ARP funds to match the \$10,000 but recommended that three estimates be reviewed before making a final decision.

Superintendent of Public Works Report:

Damon reported that paving Main Street will start this week and will be completed next week depending on the weather.

Westport Police Dept. – Lease Agreement:

Luke presented a quote for 2 tasers from Axon Enterprise, Inc. for \$9,748.80. After discussion with the council, Bryan recommended Luke get an updated quote and the council will take a vote at the next council meeting. Luke asked the council to consider the speed limit on Main St. and Bryan asked him to make a formal recommendation in writing for the council to consider.

From the Floor:

Becky Creech asked the council who is responsible for the sidewalks in front of the Post Office and throughout town since her client, Diane Powers, fell in front of the Post Office during the CCMG construction of the sidewalks on Wednesday, October 9th. Diane Powers also spoke about what happened when she fell. The Council listened to their remarks and Bryan stated that the town would seek advice as to who is responsible for the sidewalks in town.

Sandy Lowe asked the Clerk-Treasurer how much ARP funding was left and the clerk directed her to the agenda where \$53,813.78 is estimated to be left.

Russell motioned to close the October monthly meeting, seconded by Jennifer. Vote 5:0



Council President



Vice President



Council Member



Council Member

Council Member



Attest: Clerk-Treasurer