

**TOWN OF MORNINGSIDE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2022**

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Bennard Cann. This meeting was held on ZOOM due to the Governor declaring a pandemic emergency once again.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Cann – Present
Vice Mayor Wade – Present
Council Member Anthony –Present
Council Member Williams – Present
Council Member Mullins – Present
Police Dept – Chief Wesley Stevenson – Present
Town Admin – Karen Rooker – Present
Public Works – Mike Johnson
Code Enforcement – Regina Foster - Present
MVFD – Capt. McKlveen -present

INTRODUCTIONS

Mayor Cann read a proclamation for Kenneth Hedrick, a MVFD firefighter who lost his life in the line of duty on January 12, 1992. This proclamation was presented to his parents on the 30th anniversary of his passing.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Wade, seconded by Council Member Mullins to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 21, 2021 and Work Session and Grant Meeting on January 11, 2022. No further discussion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS/OPEN FORUM

- There was no one to speak.

INTRODUCTION/ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Resolution 2022-001 – Hazard Pay for Town Employees During the COVID Pandemic

This resolution will give all Town employees (Police, Public Works, And Admin) an additional \$2 hourly pay for hours working in-person with the public from December 16, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and again January 4, 2022 until this emergency is declared over by the Governor.

Motion by Council Member Mullins, second by Vice Mayor Wade to approve this resolution. No further discussion. Roll Call: Mullins – aye, Anthony – aye, Williams – aye, Wade – aye. Motion carried.

REPORT OF OFFICERS/BOARDS/COMMITTEES

- Police Department – Chief Wesley Stevenson gave an oral report.
- Code Enforcement – Regina Foster gave an oral report.
- Public Works – Mike Johnson gave a written report through the chat function.
- MVFD – Chief McKlveen had no updates, just warned everyone to be ready for the inclement weather that is on the way.
- Admin – Karen Rooker gave an oral report.
- Council Member Williams - no report.
- Council Member Mullins – gave an oral report.
- Council Member Anthony – gave an oral report.
- Vice Mayor Wade – gave an oral report.
- Mayor Cann – gave an oral report.
- Mr. Pitts from Larkspur Rd. spoke. He is a possible candidate for the upcoming election.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COVID Update

- Mayor Cann gave an update.
- The Town has requested 3,500 free testing kits from the County. We should hear back regarding this request soon.
- Clerk-Treasurer Rooker provided the Council with 2 bids on electronic signage that can be purchased with ARPA Grant monies. The Mayor will send contact info about another possible sign company.
- The Final Summary from the Federal Government on spending of the ARPA Grant money was provided to the Council from Thomas | Michael.

Motion by Vice Mayor Wade, second by Council Member Anthony to participate in the purchase of 500 rapid test kits. These kits are \$22 per kit (containing 2 tests each). We are part of 5 Towns who went in together to get a discount on the test kits. They will be delivered to North Brentwood very soon. No further discussion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Newsletter

- The current newsletter was sent out on 1/14/22 to the entire Town including businesses.
- There was a notice that if they still want the print copy in the future, to call the Admin Office, otherwise it will be available on our website.

Recreation Committee

Motion by Council Member Williams, second by Council Member Mullins for a \$150 budget for the Senior We Care Program to be delivered on January 30, 2022 and a \$150 budget for the Valentines Day Craft Event to be held on February 13, 2022. No further discussion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Owl Labs

- No movement of this topic
- Tabled until the February meeting

New Police Cruisers

Motion by Council Member Mullins, second by Council Member Williams to sell 2 cruisers and purchase 2 new cruisers from Chapman for a total of \$68,482. Discussion ensued. Roll Call vote: Mullins – aye, Williams – aye, Wade – nay, Anthony – nay. Since there was a tie, Mayor Cann got to break the tie and he voted nay. Motion failed.

- A meeting to discuss police cruisers is needed ASAP.

Building Security

- The municipal center has no smoke or carbon monoxide detectors.
- Council Member Anthony has researched some and proposed getting the combination ones.
- MVFD Chief McKlveen stated that all detectors whether battery operated or hard wired need to be replaced at 10 years because they wear out.

Motion by Council Member Anthony, second by Vice Mayor Wade for up to \$500 to purchase the battery-operated combination detectors from Amazon. No further discussion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Communication Calendar

- Calendar was reviewed.
- Need to add the PGCMA meeting dates.

UBS Statement

- Statement was reviewed.

NEW BUSINESS

Dual Wheel Exemption

- Mr. Hercules from 6608 Woodland Rd has applied for an exemption for his work truck.
- He had a previous exemption for another truck, but can only have 1 dual-wheeled truck parked at his residence.

Motion by Council Member Mullins, second by Vice Mayor Wade to issue this exemption. No further discussion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

2022 Elections

- Clerk-Treasurer gave an update on the dates for each of the items associated with the Town Election of 2022.

PGC American Job Center

- The Mayor suggested we join this organization as a tier 3 member.
- It will not cost the Town any money.
- Full disclosure – this is the Mayor’s full-time job.

Motion by Vice Mayor Wade, second by Council Member Williams to join PGC American Job Center. No further discussion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Speeding Throughout Town & On Suitland Rd.

- Council Member Mullins gave feedback regarding the speeding being done throughout Town and on Suitland Rd.
- The Mayor will check on the timeline for the speed cameras on Suitland Rd.

Pay the Bills

Motion by Council Member Mullins, seconded by Vice Mayor Wade to pay the bills for the month of January 2022 in the amount of \$60,185.59. No further discussion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Open Forum

The meetings for the month of February will most likely be remote on Zoom.
The next ARPA meeting will be at 6pm, February 8, 2022.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen D Rooker
Clerk-Treasurer