

## HURRICANE CITY COUNCIL

February 2, 2009

The Hurricane City Council met in regular session on February 2, 2009, with the following members present:

Mayor: Scott Edwards  
Recorder: Linda Gibson  
Council: Reggie Billups  
Lana Call  
Don Chaney  
Brian Ellis - absent  
Patty Hager

Meeting called to order.

Pledge Allegiance was led by Tiger Cub Scout Troop #36.

Motion was made by Reggie Billups and seconded by Patty Hager to approve minutes of the January 5, 2009 regular session. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Don Chaney and seconded by Reggie Billups to approve paying the bills from the General Fund. Motion carried. Call opposed.

Motion was made by Reggie Billups and seconded by Don Chaney to approve paying the bills from the Coal Severance Fund. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Reggie Billups and seconded by Don Chaney to approve the General Fund Budget Revision and submit to the State Tax Auditor. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Don Chaney and seconded Lana Call to have the second reading and adoption of an AMENDMENT TO SECTION 115.02 MEETINGS; REGULAR, SPECIAL AND EXECUTIVE. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Don Chaney and seconded by Reggie Billups to have the first reading of an AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE 529.04 POSSESSION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PROHIBITED 529.04 (c) AND 529.99 PENALTY. Motion carried.

Hurricane Volunteer Fire Chief Frank Stover gave a presentation showing the need for full time paid Fire Fighters. The Mayor read a Resolution from the Fire Department supporting the paid positions. Councilman Chaney ask if the city could afford paying two firefighters? Councilwoman Call ask if people within the department could apply? The Mayor informed council that the money for the firemen had been approved in the

2009 budget. The Fire Chief stated that people within the department could apply for the positions. Motion was made by Don Chaney and seconded by Reggie Billups to begin the process for hiring two full-time firefighters for the City of Hurricane. Motion carried. Call opposed.

### **Hurricane Fire Department Report**

Fire Chief Stover reported that the Fire Department responded to 71 calls the month of January. Spent three days cutting trees off of streets and roads in and around Hurricane area due to the winter storms.

### **City Manager's Report**

Ben Newhouse reported that Walgreens building slowed because of weather. The Street Department employees have been busy with snow removal and spreading salt. Utility drop boxes have been installed on Main Street and Municipal Building for customer convenience. The Dam report was very good on the spillway improvements. The city is working with the Board of Education installing lights on the track at the High School. This will allow citizens to walk at night on the track. Applied for a grant to establish sidewalks at Hurricane Town Elementary. Working on a Sprayground Water Park and upgrading shelters for City Park. Shelter rental fees are \$50.00. Stormwater Coordinator found tires in creek line on Tanner Street. The City worked with DOT and WV Tire for the removal of the tires. Have received 60 REACH Workshop applications. New Animal Warden part-time Dave Myers for evenings and weekends and Danny Brickles for day. The Mayor commended Ben Newhouse for the amount of money he has obtained for the City.

### **Police Chief's Report**

Police Chief Mullins stated that 571 calls of service had been answered. Drug ICE Unit has removed \$22,770 worth of drugs from the streets. Made arrest and closed one meth lab. Made 231 arrest in 2008 and answered 400 complaints. Councilwoman Call wanted to know where our PRO Officer was when the fight happened at Hurricane High. Chief Mullins informed her that Officer Moore was in the school and the fight was in the parking lot.

### **Persons to Appear**

Leona Casto – 333 Rhoda Street complained about kids playing basketball in the street, making too much noise and leaving trash in the street and yard. She stated that if something is not done she will be forced to put her house for sale. Bob Elliot and Thelma Wood were there in support of Ms. Casto. Chief Mullins advised that he would have the basketball hoop removed.

Mark Halburn - Stated that there was excessive noise at Walmart. He and his wife couldn't enjoy the Super Bowl because of the noise. Mr. Halburn suggested shutting down the road, installing stop signs and that late night delivery be stopped.

John Clay – Grace Drive – Stated that a stop sign is needed on Progress Way. Direct TV employees are parking on the road blocking Grace Dr. and Halanan Drive. The Mayor informed Mr. Clay that the city had that section surveyed and thought the problem had stopped. He will have the police to patrol that are again. Mr. Clay stated that the guard rail needed removed. Ben Newhouse stated that Cleveland Construction installed the guardrail on their right-of-way. Mr. Clay said that he was going to remove it.

Chip Bayliss – complained about the parking at the Middle School during after school activities. People park on the corner blocking the view of those pulling out from 5<sup>th</sup> Street. It is a safety hazard. He commended the Street Department for their good job with snow removal.

Randy Short – Great Teays Soccer – informed the Mayor and Council the need for additional soccer fields in Hurricane. He stated that he would like to work with City to establish more fields. The Mayor advised that we are interested in creating more parks in the city and that Tim Meeks agreed to lease the city a field beside of city park.

**Old Business**

Lynn Street/Putnam Avenue – The City mailed signed resolutions to the state and the tubular marker poles were removed. A stop sign was placed at the corner of Conner Street and Virginia Avenue. Al Arnold, Mary Fisher, Mike & Rene Johnson thanked the Mayor and Council for working with the businesses and residents on this situation. Al stated that he is working on a petition for the right-turn-on red lane on Rt. 34.

**Announcements**

The Mayor informed council that plans for 2009 July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration have started as well as fund raising for the event.

Motion was made by Patty Hager and seconded by Don Chaney to have an Executive Session.

Motion was made by Don Chaney and seconded by Lana Call that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

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Submitted

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Date

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Approved

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Date

