

Fries Town Council
November 1, 2016
Minutes

Members Present: Cynthia Grant, JoAnn Gunter, Nancy Hawks, Marie Isom, Dawn Patton and Gary Sumner.

Others Present: Richard Farmer, Mayor; Junior Anderson, Fries Lions Club; John Fant, Grayson County Board of Supervisors; Gene Adkins, Fries Community Center; Kim Mallory and several citizens.

The Mayor called the meeting to order and Dawn Patton gave the Invocation.

Minutes & Bills: Dawn Patton moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes and to approve the minutes and bills as presented. Marie Isom provided the second to the motion. All present voted Aye and the minutes and bills were approved.

Police Report: Officer Cody McGrady reviewed the October Police Report. He reported: 1 larceny, 1 traffic and 1 other arrest; the investigation of 4 misdemeanors, 1 felony, 1 follow up, 1 closed, 1 juvenile and 1 information only. Routine activities included: 259 closed business checks, 39 service calls, 43 church checks, 57 directive patrols, 20 open business checks, 29 forestry checks, 3 warrant services, 5 open bank checks, 5 motorist assists, 3 backup officers, 1 prisoner, 1 transport order, 1 first responder, 2 prisoner transports, 2 special events, 1 house check, 1 open building and 2 ACO calls for a total of 143.60 hours. There was also an additional 26 hours credited to Halloween. The Mayor thanked Officer McGrady for his report and for everything the department did for the Town of Fries. He also reported that there had been some recent vandalism reported throughout town, including in the town park. He reported that he and Sheriff Vaughan had discussed installing cameras throughout town that the PD could log into on the internet from anywhere.

Organization Updates:

1. Fries Volunteer Fire Department Update: Chad Stanley was unable to attend, but sent his report. He reported that in October the department had answered 5 fire calls which included 4 motor vehicle accidents and 1 false alarm. They also responded to 32 EMS calls. He reported that upcoming events included the Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 3rd at 4pm, and a gospel singing at Fries School immediately after the parade. Chad also sent the following resolution for council consideration:

“RESOLUTION”

WHEREAS, the Fries Volunteer Fire Department has requested support and assistance in requesting funds through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program and;

WHEREAS, the Fries Volunteer Fire Department provides emergency services to the Town of Fries and portions of Grayson and Carroll Counties; and;

WHEREAS, the Fries Volunteer Fire Department's Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus has surpassed its' recommended years of service; and;

WHEREAS, the Fries Volunteer Fire Department does not have adequate equipment to wash and dry soiled turnout gear; and;

WHEREAS, The Town and the FVFD have partnered in projects such as this one in the past with great success; and;

WHEREAS, The Town and the FVFD do not have the available funds to purchase this needed equipment; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town of Fries' Council hereby votes to give full support and assistance to the Fries Volunteer Fire Department in their efforts in preparing Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program Application

After some discussion, Gary Sumner moved to approve the resolution. Marie Isom provided the second. All present voted Aye and the resolution was approved.

2. Fries Community Center Report: Gene Adkins reported that On October 30th a Celebration of Life for Nell Herring was held in the Theatre. Donations of \$1,090.00 were collected to go towards a hvac system for the theatre. These donations brought the total for the hvac fund to \$4,939.00. Raffle tickets were also being sold to benefit the fund. Gene also reported that the dining room floor had been completed and painting had begun. The Mayor thanked Gene for reporting.
3. Tourism Report: Marie Isom gave the following report:
 - Marie reported that she had been working on the new website and asked that anyone that needed to update their information bring it to her or to town hall.
 - She reported that she had attended several workshops including the Main Street Seminar and Big Business for Small Towns.
 - The 25k/50k for 2017 will be held on October 14th. There were 135 registered runners in 2016 and organizers hoped that by starting registrations in December this year they would boost the 2017 enrollment.
 - The Love Sign had been completed. She planned to submit the paperwork to Virginia Tourism by the end of November.
 - The Cruise In's that had been held in the town park during the summer were successful. The committee had already started making plans for next summer and planned to announce the 2017 schedule soon.
 - The old garage buildings in the park were in the process of being torn down. All materials from the garages were being repurposed instead of thrown away.

The Mayor thanked Marie for her report.

Old Business:

1. Y Repair Project Update: The Mayor reported that the balance on the renovation account was \$11,296.91. He also reported that construction on the front side of the building was almost complete, and more donations were needed to be able to move

on to the town hall side. Two fundraisers had been scheduled to benefit the Y Renovation Fund. On November 18th a Dinner Theatre was scheduled for the Fries Theatre and Dining Room. Grace Baptist Church would be performing Cricket County Colorado Christmas. Admission for the show and dinner was \$10.00. The menu was to be soup, salad, baked potato, desert and a drink. The second fundraiser scheduled was a concert in the Fries Theatre by Jeff Whittington on February 11, 2017. More details were to be announced closer to concert date.

2. Depot Project Update: Dawn Patton reported that Lane Group had finished the revisions to the drawings covered in the contract amendment and submitted had submitted the changes to VDOT for approval. The Mayor thanked Dawn for her efforts.
3. Water Committee: Dawn Patton reported that the water ordinance was ready to begin the public hearing process. The date for the public hearing was set for November 15th @ 7pm.
4. Park Project: Kim Mallory reported that upcoming fundraisers for the park project included:
 - 5k race to be held on November 12th @ 8am. Entry fee would be \$25.00. Children's races and obstacle course would begin @ 10am. Entry fee for children's events would be \$10.00.
 - Helicopter Golf Ball Drop would be held on December 3rd. Golf balls were \$100.00 each.

She also reported that she had applied for the Robert Wood Johnson grant of \$25,000 and would be notified in December is the grant is successful. John Brewer had agreed to donate his time to installing the new playground equipment when purchased, and Gatorade would be donating drinks for the 5k race on November 12th. The Mayor thanked Kim for taking on the project and for her report.

New Business:

1. Grayson County Supervisor John Fant: Mr. Fant gave the following update:
 - The county in conjunction with the Fries Volunteer Fire Department and the Grayson County Sheriff's Department were working on getting all the 911 signs in the town and the county replaced where needed.
 - The county was working with the Wired Road Authority to bring broadband to the area. Surveys would be distributed soon to help identify the needs of the town.
 - County Administrator, Jonathan Sweet resigned to move to Pulaski County. The Board of Supervisors had started advertising for a suitable replacement and were accepting resumes. Mr. Fant warned that it could possibly take up to six months before someone is actually hired to fill the vacancy.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Fant for his update and support of the town.

2. Lions Club Resolution: The Mayor read the following resolution in honor of the Fries Lions Club:

WHEREAS, the Fries Lyons Club was established on December 9, 1941, and had been in continues service to the community for the past 75 years.

WHEREAS, The Fries Lions Club has provided many public service activities in our community through activities such as providing affordable eye care, eye screenings for students, collecting and reusing used eye glasses and participating community events.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Fries Town Council hereby votes to honor the members of the Fries Lions Club by declaring December 9, 2016 as Fries Lions Club Day.

Dawn Patton moved to approve the resolution. JoAnn Gunter provided the second. All present voted Aye and the resolution was approved. The Mayor thanked the Lions Club for their service to the citizens of the community.

With no further business to discuss, Dawn Patton moved to adjourn, JoAnn Gunter provided the second and the meeting was adjourned.

Signed: _____

Attest: _____