

Town of Fowler – Organizational Meeting Minutes – January 5, 2016 at 7PM

The Regular Organizational Meeting for the Town of Fowler was held on the above date with all board members present. Also present were Town Clerk Kelly Harmer, Highway Superintendent Randy Durham, Justice Paul Lamson, Code Enforcement Officer Rick Whitford, Deputy Town Clerk Tami Gale, Assessor Sherry Geer, Bookkeepers Gary Higgins and Barbie Fuller, Michael Macaulay, Herbert Fuller, Lisa Durham, Debbie Tupper, Michelle Durham, Barbara Sullivan, Andy Miller, and Wanda Fayette.

Supervisor Cappellino called the meeting to order at 7:01PM and then proceeded with the opening prayer and pledge of allegiance.

After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Newvine to approve the December 1, 2015 Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Simmons. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED. A motion was then made by Councilperson Newvine to approve the December 29, 2015 Transfer Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Bishop. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Elected positions were sworn in by Justice Paul Lamson. Taking their Oath of Office were Assessor Sherry Geer, Town Clerk Kelly Harmer, Supervisor Mike Cappellino, Councilperson Dustin

Fayette, Highway Superintendent Randy Durham, and Councilperson Karen Simmons.

Supervisor Cappellino reported on the 2016 Recommended Appointments and the 2016 Salary Schedule. All board meetings in 2016 will be held on the first Tuesday of the month except for November. It was decided that the mileage would remain at .50 cents per mile. After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Simmons to approve the 2016 appointments, 2016 salary schedule, mileage to remain at .50 cents per mile, and the 2016 board meeting dates. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Newvine. All in Favor.
MOTION CARRIED.

Supervisor Cappellino stated that Resolution #1 of 2016 to authorize the payment in advance of audit of claims of public utility services, postage, freight, express charges, and health insurance premiums, needed to be addressed by the board. After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Newvine and seconded by Councilperson Simmons to approve Resolution #1 of 2016. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Supervisor Cappellino read Randy Durham's letter of resignation from the Ethic Committee effective 1/5/2016. Councilperson Simmons made a motion to accept the resignation. Councilperson Newvine seconded the motion. All in Favor.
MOTION CARRIED.

Councilperson Newvine asked if anyone has been appointed to the vacant Assessment Review Board position. Supervisor Cappellino replied not yet.

Michelle Durham from CDBG gave an update on the Town of Fowler grants. All town paper work is in and good to go, she had not been able to speak with Albany in regards to the release of funds as of meeting time. Michelle announced that the Town of Fowler did receive the 2nd round of funding for \$500,000, bringing the grand total to \$900,000 for the Town. Michelle addressed a question that was asked by Highway Superintendent Durham in regards to the town having more of a say, based on need, in determining who gets the grants. Michelle explained that they are in the process of creating a point system to aid in the process selection, once it is finalized, it will make selections more objective. At present the applications are reviewed by the Board of Directors of the Programming Committee. Supervisor Cappellino thanked Michelle for coming.

Supervisor Cappellino introduced Barbie Finnie as the new Town of Fowler Bookkeeper.

Deputy Town Clerk Tami Gale reported for Town Clerk Kelly Harmer, that she started collecting taxes on January 4th, and had collected just over \$17,000 at meeting time with all going well.

There were 86 building permits, 11 deaths, and 9 marriages recorded in 2015 in the town.

Dog Control Officer Dan Moyer reported that it has been quiet. He has turned the heat up in the kennel, there have been very few complaints, and there are 0 dogs in the kennel at this time.

Historian Karen Simmons reported that it has been quiet at the historian's office.

Councilperson Simmons reported for Beaver Control Officer Paul Cappellino that he has been cleaning grates and cleaning debris.

Councilperson Simmons suggested that the Town needed to place an ad for Beaver Control Bids for 2016. Councilperson Newvine addressed Councilperson Bishop's suggestion of having it done in sights. Councilperson Fayette asked if the town should give it back to the highway department.

Councilperson Bishop expressed concern with the highway department taking over beaver control. Councilperson Fayette would like to address treating problem areas as opposed to having a monthly beaver control contract. Councilperson Simmons suggested paying the person per diem and per fix. After discussion, Councilperson Newvine made a motion to leave the decision of problem areas and beavers to Highway Superintendent Randy Durham, and that the bid would be per

beaver. Councilperson Fayette seconded the motion. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Supervisor Cappellino asked Highway Superintendent Durham if he was prepared to take over the beaver control if no bids are received. Highway Superintendent Durham stated that he was.

Councilperson Newvine made a motion that Highway Superintendent Durham will let the winning bid know that cleaning the culvert and killing the beaver will be paid on a per time basis. Councilperson Simmons will get together with Highway Superintendent Durham to write the bid.

Councilperson Fayette seconded the motion. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Supervisor Cappellino stated that the board will open the Beaver Control bids at February's regular board meeting.

Code Enforcement Officer Rick Whitford reported that the renovations to the Town Hall and Town Barn are 40% completed. The windows are all in, the attic is insulated, and much of the siding is completed.

The quote for the new fire escape to be built at the rear of the Town Hall is \$6,250, and was prepared by Dave Blevins. Code Enforcement Officer Rick Whitford reminded the board that the old stairs are worth money. Supervisor Cappellino suggested placing an ad on Craigslist. Debbie Tupper expressed an interest

in the stairs. A motion was made by Councilperson Newvine and seconded by Councilperson Simmons to accept the bid for the fire escape. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Supervisor Cappellino reported that we are still waiting on a third bid for the keyless lock system, and asked for the board's permission to accept the lowest bid when all are received. A motion was made by Councilperson Newvine, and seconded by Councilperson Bishop to accept the lowest bid. All in Favor.

MOTION CARRIED.

Highway Superintendent Randy Durham addressed that trash cans being left in the road by townspeople are making it difficult for the highway department to plow around. He also reported that he has prepared a list of surplus equipment. He stated that he has been busy gathering information regarding the back hoe. It had an evaluation done last year by Leberge and Curtis totaling \$9,000 to make it usable. Nelson Bice added that the evaluation was done on site, and that the total may be more or less when it actually gets taken apart to be fixed.

Highway Superintendent Durham further reported that the service manager at Leberge and Curtis stated the back hoe could be repaired in sections. The 1993 truck needs repair, as well as the loader and the back hoe.

Highway Superintendent Durham stated that he would like to set in place a Maintenance Program on the highway vehicles.

The cost would be \$100.00 a truck, per washing to get the salt and the sand off and give them a good cleaning to prevent corrosion and save money on repairs. He stated he had received the price from Spilman's Garage, which has the capability of fitting the trucks in their bays. He is interested in trying one for now to see how it works out, with the goal of getting a maintenance plan on all of the Town's trucks.

Supervisor Cappellino stated that maybe it is time that the Town looks into creating a facility of our own to wash the vehicles. Highway Superintendent Durham stated that the Town has 5 plow trucks including the plow truck with the cracked frame.

Councilperson Bishop asked Highway Superintendent Durham about painting the grader. The grader can't be painted unless it is stripped first due to the CARK paint.

Councilperson Bishop reported that the street light by the Gulf Rd. is not working properly.

Councilperson Fayette thanked everyone for his election.

Councilperson Simmons reported that there are some positions open: one is for the Assessment Review Board, and one is for the Ethics Board.

Councilperson Newvine reported that he has met with 2 of the Town's Assessors, and is still not satisfied with their request of

being paid for Data Collection -he stated that he, Supervisor Cappellino, and Councilperson Simmons, will have to look into the request further.

Councilperson Newvine reported that he would like to have another “Fowler Home Days”. He stated that he has set July 16,2016 as a possibility. He is planning on tours of the Town Hall with its new renovations, horse rides, and much more and encourages the Town of Fowler Businesses to participate.

Supervisor Cappellino reported that the Town needed to talk with MX Fuels regarding securing a Heating Contract. Supervisor Cappellino will make a call to MX Fuels.

COUNCILPERSON APPOINTMENTS

Councilperson Newvine - Sylvia Lake Beach & BallParks

Councilperson Fayette - Highway Department

Councilperson Simmons - Animal Control & Town Hall Use

By Fowler Residents

Councilperson Bishop - Cemeteries & Solar Panels

Audit Committee - Supervisor Cappellino

- Councilperson Newvine

- Councilperson Bishop

Andrew Miller asked the board members if they had ever looked into Solar Panels. Councilperson Bishop reported that he is going to do research on it.

Kathy Moses thanked the board and Town of Fowler residents for their continued support of the Back Pack Program.

Laurina Greenhill addressed the Board concerning an Ethics matter, that was reported in 2015. She then gave the Board her resignation from the Ethics Committee, and asked not to be reappointed to the position. A motion was made by Councilperson Newvine, and seconded with regret by Councilperson Bishop to accept the resignation. All in Favor.

MOTION CARRIED.

Kathy Moses asked the Board if they have considered adapting or changing the matter in which they would handle a situation such as this, with the Ethics Committee in the future.

Supervisor Cappellino reported that Councilperson Newvine had checked with Mr. Freeman and it was under Mr. Freeman's direction that the board acted on the matter.

Justice Paul Lamson reported that the Town of Fowler Court will receive another grant in the amount of \$2400 for Court improvements. He reported that the town is 1 in 343, out of 1200 to receive the grant.

The next regular scheduled board meeting will be held on February 2, 2016, at 7PM.

The bills audited for the General and Highway Fund were #471-#491 and # 1 - #26, and the total amount was \$ 48,987.67.

A motion was made by Councilperson Newvine and seconded by Councilperson Bishop to adjourn the meeting at 8:35PM. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Councilperson Newvine and Seconded by Councilperson Fayette to open the meeting back up at 8:50PM, for the Board to go into Executive Session for negotiations on the union contract. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 10:28PM. A motion was made by Councilperson Newvine and seconded by Councilperson Simmons to accept the union contract as revised. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Councilperson Bishop and seconded by Councilperson Fayette to adjourn the meeting at 10:30PM. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Michael Cappellino; Supervisor Tami Gale; Deputy Town Clerk

Rick Newvine; Councilperson Karen Simmons; Councilperson

Dustin Fayette; Councilperson Lynn Bishop; Councilperson