

Morocco Town Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 7, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:00p.m. Attending the meeting were Board Members Bob Gonczy, Jason Cornell and Nikki Kimbrell. Clerk Treasurer Sherri Rainford, and Town Employees, Dustin Gary, Brian Vanderwall was in attendance.

Town Council

- ❖ President Bob Gonczy opened the meeting with the group reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Former Morocco Town Council Member Duke Gagnon was recognized for his fifteen years of service. Bob presented him with a plaque and an engraved baseball bat. Duke said a few words and thanked everyone for his gifts.
- ❖ Peerless pulled the pump this week. They think we have a meter issue. This will be a lot cheaper fix than what was expected.
- ❖ Jason made a motion to appoint Bob as Board president for 2023. Nikki seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Nikki made a motion to appoint Jason as Vice President. Bob seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Bob made a motion to appoint Nikki as Trustee. Jason seconded. Motion passed 3-0.
- ❖ Bob made a motion to appoint Nikki as our 2023 KIRPC representative. Jason seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Nikki has already attended one meeting by zoom. She is also on the executive board for KIRPC. Becky is looking into a stipend for Nikki to attend the meetings.
- ❖ Economic Development Director Tim Myers has a \$10,000 match for town beautification. There is also a KIRPC grant for \$10,000. We are going to get estimates for a new pavilion in Recher Park. Bob asked FBI for a quote and Brian will see about getting some as well.
- ❖ The liaisons for 2023 are as follows: Bob-Employees and Utilities, and Nikki will be police.
- ❖ Bob provided the board with a list of goals for 2023. They are being made a part of these minutes.
- ❖ The employee handbook has been updated. The board will make time to go over it with town employees soon. There were questions about comp time. Becky asked the board if she could look into some things and report back to the board before meeting with employees.
- ❖ Nikki would like to see Vicki Carson at Trumpet Vine and her garden club be in charge of the adopt a spots and the town parks.
- ❖ The board would like to start working on an asset inventory.
- ❖ Nikki would like to be more aggressive on Tim Storey and all his properties in town. We have had issues with several properties over the years. They are not being taken care of and need to be brought up to code.

Clerk Treasurer

- ❖ Nikki made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 3, 2023, meeting. Jason seconded. Motion passed 3-0.
- ❖ Jason made a motion to approve the claims from January 3, 2023, meeting. Nikki seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

- ❖ A large leak was discovered at the Newton County Government Center. The used 400,000 gallons of water this month. Something was stuck open. It was fixed. Jason made a motion to approve the leak adjustment and Bob seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Street Superintendent (Brian Vanderwall)

Brian presented the board with a work log. It is being made a part of these minutes.

Brian asked the board about getting a new mower. The board asked him to get some quotes and report back next meeting.

Brian met with Jr Yoder about hooking up new water and sewer to the new house on Beaver St. Brian said that he and Randy Decker have a plan. Brian will find out the cost of this project and send out a email to the board.

Town Marshal (Dustin Gary)

Report submitted. Dustin is still trying to get a monthly schedule together for the board. He is still having trouble finding people to work.

Dustin was offered a new job, working for Newton County Sherriff's Office. Currently, the town does not offer insurance for employees. Sherri has contacted IPEP and Aim and they are working on getting insurance quotes. If we can get Dustin insurance and more money to be comparable to other area towns, he will continue to be the town marshal.

Town Attorney (Becky Goddard)

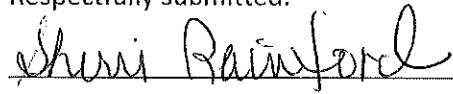
- ❖ Becky talked about establishing a Redevelopment Board. This board will consist of a five-member board. Three will be appointed by the town board president, and two members the town council will appoint. There is also a non-voting school board member. Members must live in town or the two-mile buffer. They must also be bonded for \$15,000.
- ❖ Becky gave the board direction on how to proceed with the redevelopment board. We will vote on these at the March 7, 2023 meeting.
- ❖ Sherri will advertise for a redevelopment meeting.
- ❖ Bob made a motion to appoint Nikki to the redevelopment commission. Jason seconded. Motion passed. 3-0. Nikki made a motion to appoint Jason to the redevelopment commission. Bob seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Donation Requests:

1. **Lifewise Academy-** They are wanting to purchase a van for transportation for the grade school to the church. Jane Cowan attended the meeting and the board said they would take the donation request under advisement.
2. **North Newton Archery Club-** Jason made a motion to approve the donation request for \$350 for archery equipment. Bob seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

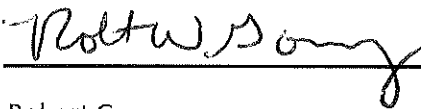
Meeting adjourned at 7:30p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

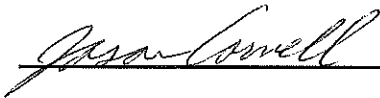


Sherri Rainford

Approved:



Robert Gonczy



Jason Cornell

Nicole Kimbrell