



Shirley Town Council Minutes  
April 12, 2021

**Open Public Hearing:**

- David Messer opened the Public Hearing
- Alley Closure
- Clerk Treasurer reported that the Tompkins to the west of the alley are in favor of alley closure
- No one had any discussion

**Close Public Hearing:**

- David Messer closed the Public Hearing.

**Open Council Meeting:**

**Call to Order:**

David Messer – Council President, Becky Perkins – Council V President, Robin Rinehart – Council,

**Others Present:**

Teresa Hester – Clerk Treasurer, Brian Vaughn – Maintenance, Brian Pryor – Police Chief, Andy Ebbert – Fire Chief, Attorney – Tracy Newhouse

**Minutes** – Approve Minutes from March 8 and March 22, 2021 council meetings. David Messer moved Becky Perkins second. Motion carried 3-0.

**Guests:**

- Dr. Tennant, Insurance Representative Chris Zender, Smith Building. Requesting that the Town send a letter to the owner of the other part of the building so they can move forward with the demolition resulting from the fire. Town Attorney will send a letter to the other owner requesting the removal of the building. David Messer moved to have Tracy send a letter, Robin Boucher second, motion carried 3-0.
- Treasa Beavers – Asking if they have to pay a wastewater bill on a house they are using for storage (turning into a garage.) David Messer stated that if it is capped at the main then there are no wastewater charges. They would be responsible for capping the line at the main. Second question: Currently have 2 addresses for the property they are purchasing. Stated they would need to take the tax paperwork to the Surveyor's office and ask them what the address should be.
- Wendell Hester – County overlay, reviewed ordinance that was presented to the Hancock County Planning Commission. David Messer moved to accept wording in ordinance as is. David Messer moved to approve the county overlay proposal.

**Department Head Reports:** David Messer requested the Department Heads give only highlights.

Utilities – Nicole Alexander – Teresa Hester reported for Utilities, We had 13 tags which is down considerably. Paying online is going well with over \$5,000 per month. Has reduced the number of tags and late payments.

Fire – Andy Ebbert Fire Chief

- Dave Messer approved repair for the pump on E412. Robin Boucher second, motion carried 3-0.

Maintenance – Brian Vaughn

- Request to bring Park P/T grounds keeper back for mowing. Council all agreed.

- Request to add barrier around the water fountain area including it into the playground area. Purchasing pipe and gravel to do so. David Messer moved to approve. Second Becky Perkins motion carried 3-0.
- Street Sweeping – Have two quotes. Sweeping Corp. is the better of the two. David Messer moved to have a portion of Railroad and all of Main street swept by Sweeping Corp. two times per year (Spring/Fall) Second Becky Perkins motion carried 3-0.
- Doing storm drain work at the park and on Pennsylvania Street.
- Dump truck tire quote of \$1,839.24 Riley Park, \$1806.24 Greens Fork in New Castle. David Messer stated to wait until the truck is returned before thinking about purchasing tires.
- Permanent repair is needed at 1004 Lee Street. Boring crew hit the water line it has a band aid repair.
- Repairs needed on the concession stand restrooms. David Messer suggested to see what repairs are needed first then present to council.

Police – Brian Pryor Police Chief

- Charger is in the shop again, same issue, hope to have some of the cost refunded due to not being repaired correctly before.
- Have reserve officers resign, request to add to the reserves if they pass the interviews. David Messer would like the names be brought to the council before adding.
- Received a grant to purchase traffic cones to set up driving course for training.
- Approval to purchase ammo that was requested through text message, cost was \$1700. David Messer moved to approve. Becky Perkins second, motion carried, 3-0.

Town Clerk/Treasurer – Teresa Hester

- Fund Report
- Accountability
- Suggestion: that all reports be sent to the Council and Clerk Treasurer by the Wednesday before each Council meeting. This will give Council time to review the reports and will allow meetings to move along. David Messer stated for the Departments to send reports to Clerk Treasurer by the Wednesday before the meeting and she will forward to the council.

**Old Business:**

- Update on park annexation – This is a work in progress, main issue is the property at 103 South Street cannot be land locked and is a part of the county.
- Update on Shirley Wilkinson Ambulance Service – Andy Ebbert reported; according to the Town of Wilkinson’s Council President they have approved the agreement. Town of Shirley Attorney has a signed copy of the agreement.
- Ordinance # 4122021 to vacate/close alley South of South Street between Main Street and First Street. David Messer moved to approve. Second Robin Boucher, motion carried 3-0.
- Policies for Employee Handbook – Clerk Treasurer has worked on after talking with attorney there are adjustments that need made.
- CARES ACT – Per Council \$6000 given to employees and \$2195.96 for lighted stop signs totaling \$8195.96. Balance of Cares Act is \$19,673.04. David Messer moved to use remainder of Cares Act funds to be used by the Park Committee (Visionary Group) for play ground equipment and other park improvements. Becky Perkins second, motion carried 3-0.
- Approve and sign Crim contract for Community Crossings Grant and extra work. David Messer moved to approve Crim and Sons to do the work for Community Crossings Grant and the additional work. Robin Boucher second, motion carried 3-0.
- IDEM Update - Brian Vaughn reviewed/approved Triad’s suggestions. Town Attorney to forward to IDEM for approval.



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- Approve bonuses for p/t seasonal help \$500 each. David Messer moved to approve, second Becky Perkins, motion carried 3-0.
- Approval for changing the vehicle insurance deductible. From \$250 to \$1000. David Messer moved to approve, Robin Boucher second, motion carried 3-0.

**New Business:**

- Sign Greensboro Twp. Fire Contract. David Messer moved to approve, second Robin Boucher, motion carried 3-0.
- APR (American Rescue Plan) Information for Council: Through this Plan the town will be receiving a large sum of funds that the council will need a plan w/ordinance that states how we are going to spend these funds. This is information for the council to be aware of.
- Vacant Properties – Becky Perkins requesting guidance on how to approach the vacant properties. Reviewed ordinance with council. Council would like letters to be sent to those needed to be.
- Street Signs – Teresa Hester presented quote to replace street signs on main street. David Messer moved to approve the black/white design and the purchase of 10 new square poles with hardware to mount signs. Second Robin Boucher, motion carried 3-0
- Clerk/Treasurer along with one council member to meet with each department head individually for budget purposes.
- Short discussion on the trash cans/toters on main street. Town Attorney stated we could do an ordinance for trash cans/toters.
- Discussion on half street one-way signs. No decision was made.

**Claims:**

- Approve Payroll Allowance Dockets – David Messer moved to approve,
- Approve Claims to be paid – David Messer moved to approve.

**Adjourn:**

- David Messer adjourned the meeting

**David Messer (Council President)**

**Teresa Hester (Clerk/Treasurer)**