

**Narrows Town Council Meeting
October 12, 2020**

Mayor John Davis called the meeting to order. Council Members present were Clyde Turner, Tom Garrett, and Sarah Thwaites. Jonathan Creger and Joe Goorskey were absent.

Staff members present were Lindsey Caudill, Buddy Kast, Cindy Laws, Benji Ratcliffe, Dakota Shrader, and Debbie Thomas.

Attorney Mike Bedsaul was present.

Police Chief Ratcliffe gave the invocation.

Council and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of September 14th Meeting Minutes

Councilman Garrett said he had one correction to the minutes. In the third paragraph under the consent agenda, the second sentence should read “they did not know he had left”.

Councilman Garrett made a motion to approve the September 14th meeting minutes with one correction. Councilman Turner seconded the motion.

Ayes: Thwaites, Garrett, and Turner

Nays: None

Motion Carried 3-0

Consent Agenda

Councilman Garrett said on page five of the financial report the police line item “vehicle repair & maintenance” has a \$15,000 expense, which he is assuming was for repairing a vehicle and will be reimbursed by insurance.

Police Chief Ratcliffe said that is correct. That was the wreck involving the motorcycle. Several of the police department line items may go over this year.

Debbie Thomas said because of Covid several line items in the budget may go over this year.

Councilman Garrett said under “unemployment compensation” there is a \$2,000 expenditure this month.

Susan Kidd said this was for a former employee in the front office and a former employee at the wastewater plant.

Councilman Garrett said he went through several of the departments in the finance report and it looks like several of the fringe benefit line items are running around 33% so far but we are not 33% through the year.

Susan Kidd said someone could have been added to a department after the budget was entered. She will check on this.

Mayor Davis said he is glad to see the splash pad was installed.

Lindsey Caudill said Splash Pads USA is not going to charge the final 10% of the cost until they return in the spring to complete the concrete coating.

Mayor Davis asked Buddy Kast about the water loss for September, which was 44%.

Buddy Kast said it is down a little bit from the previous month but there were several more water breaks than the previous month.

Mike Bedsaul said he called and spoke with the manager at Mueller that serves our area and his name is Rossi Manning. He sent him the most recent invoice the town has received and asked why the town is receiving an invoice for water meters if they were supposed to be sent at no charge under the contract. He looked into and said according to Mueller's records they had not received a certain number of composite meters that should have been sent back.

Buddy Kast said the distributor picked them up but what happened to them after that he does not know.

Mike Bedsaul said these meters were given to Atlantic Utility Solutions and they were to return the meters to Mueller. A teleconference has been set up between himself, Buddy Kast, Rossi Manning, and Eric Merit to see if this can be resolved.

Councilmember Thwaites made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Councilman Garrett seconded the motion.

Ayes: Turner, Garrett, and Thwaites

Nays: None

Motion Carried 3-0

Communications, Concerns and Requests from the Public

None.

Communication from Mayor and Council

Councilman Garrett said the PSA met last week and finances are looking good. They lost two plant operators and are trying to replace them. They are trying to make sure everyone that is using the trash service is billed for it. They have sent letters out to people that owe a large solid-waste bill and let them know if they pay the outstanding balance the PSA will waive the penalty and interest.

New Business

Dakota Shrader said he is asking if it is permissible to open the community center building for use by the public.

Mayor Davis said yes.

Unfinished Business

None.

Matters for Consideration by Council

Buddy Kast said Brittany Greenlief lives on Hopkins Street and wants to install an asphalt driveway. This would have to go across part of town property so she is asking for a 10' easement from the town. She will pay all of the survey costs.

Mike Bedsaul said if the town conveys easement across its property they will have to hold a public hearing. Ms. Greenlief can be asked if she would be willing to pay the cost of advertising the public hearing.

Councilman Garrett made a motion to schedule a public hearing for the November council meeting to discuss a 10' easement from the town as long as Ms. Greenlief is willing to pay the cost of advertising. Councilmember Thwaites seconded the motion.

Ayes: Turner, Garrett, and Thwaites

Nays: None

Motion Carried 3-0

Councilman Garrett said he would like to have a sketch/drawing at the public hearing showing where the easement would be.

Councilmember Thwaites congratulated Cindy Laws on her achievements at the library.

Councilman Turner made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Thwaites seconded the motion.

Ayes: Thwaites, Garrett, and Turner

Nays: None

Motion Carried 3-0

Clerk, Debbie Thomas

Mayor, John G. Davis