

## FELSENTHAL TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

MARCH 8, 2011

Mayor Newbury called the meeting to order. At roll call the following members were present: Mr. Holland, Mr. Clawson, Mrs. Neal, Mr. Newbury, and Mrs. Harris. Mrs. Harris moved and Mr. Newbury seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as received. At roll call, all members voted "Yes." The motion passed.

Mayor Newbury introduced Old Business with reference to the two proposed ordinances discussed at the previous meeting. Copies of the proposed ordinances were read by the council members. Mayor Newbury told the council that these ordinances were the amended ones by the attorney. The first ordinance concerns dogs running at large within the community. In addition to the provisions of the ordinance to capture and turn over the animals to Union County Animal Protective Services (UCAPS), the attorney told the mayor that she or her designee had the authority to destroy animals deemed too sick or wild or aggressive to capture and included that provision in the ordinance. The mayor also discussed a contract the city would have to enter with UCAPS, who would take any captured animals, provide all veterinary services, and have them adopted out. For all these services, they would charge \$30.00 per animal.

The other proposed ordinance discussed was the one concerning property which has been abandoned or neglected within the town limits. The mayor stated that the attorney added a provision to the proposed ordinance which deals with property where a clear title of ownership cannot be determined. The mayor was concerned that wooded property within the town should not be included in "neglected" property because she believes the wilderness aspect of these properties adds to the charm and attractiveness of the community. The attorney assured the mayor that she or her designee has the authority to determine the difference between a "nuisance" property and a "wilderness or wooded" property.

The mayor then suggested that these ordinances be published in the minutes and on the new website so that the community can have an opportunity to know about them and have their input into the new ordinances. Mr. Holland reminded the council that legally, we had to "read" the ordinances at three consecutive meetings in order to vote them into law. So, Mr. Holland moved and Mr. Newbury seconded that the council will have the first reading of these ordinances next month, at the April 12, 2011 meeting, and subsequent readings will take place in May and June, when the ordinances will be voted on. At roll call all council members voted "Yes." The motion passed.

The mayor reported on the advancements in the new website. There are many links on the site to various organizations and places of interest. She encouraged the members to visit the site and told of how the forms for water/sewer management have already been used by the public to save time and travel.

The mayor told the council that the signature cards at First Financial Bank are complete and that the accounts are now fully transferred.

The mayor announced that the Bream Fest information, forms, and dates are all on the website now and ready for use.

## NEW BUSINESS

The mayor instructed Mrs. Harris to make a survey of the street lights in town and report the ones that are out, so that Entergy can come out and replace them.

The mayor reported on the Agreed Upon Procedures conducted recently by the state on all of our budgets except the water budget. Only one finding was listed and that has been corrected and reported as such to the proper authorities. The finding stated that the general fund budget for 2009 was under-appropriated. The other budgets had been amended to reflect actual expenditures, but this one had not. Provisions are also in place to insure that future oversights such as this are not repeated.

Mayor Newbury told the council that she was going to attend a floodplain management certification program in Magnolia in April and the Rural Development Conference in May. In addition, the County Judge, Mike Loftin, is holding a solid waste management meeting concerning Class IV landfills on Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> and the mayor will attend that as well.

Several Council members expressed concern about the number of garbage cans we have to pay for monthly versus the number of full-time residents. In addition, they discussed disposal of large items such as televisions and couches, etc.

The mayor also asked the council members to think about purchasing a 4-wheel drive vehicle, such as a Mule or Rhino, or a golf cart type vehicle for use around town. The mayor stated that rising price of gas, the cost of repairing and maintaining the large diesel truck, and the potential damage done to a large diesel engine running at idle for hours are all factors to consider in this decision.

The mayor asked the council if they wanted her to apply for a card to be used at the Arkansas Agency for Federal Surplus Property in Little Rock. She stated that as a municipality, the town is entitled to such a card, which would give the town access to a wide variety of Federal surplus property at greatly reduced prices. Mr. Clawson moved and Mrs. Harris seconded the motion that the mayor apply for this card. At the roll call, all members voted "Yes." The motion passed.

The council requested the mayor to contact the Arkansas Game and Fish about the proposed trails in Beryl Anthony Wildlife Management Area, which they requested permission to improve several months ago.

The financial statements were then reviewed. Mrs. Harris moved and Mr. Clawson seconded that the financial report be accepted as presented. At roll call, the vote was unanimous. The motion passed.

Mrs. Harris then moved to adjourn. Mr. Newbury seconded. The motion passed.