

The regular meeting of the Amherst Town Council was called to order on October 14, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall at 186 S. Main Street with Mayor Jacob P. Bailey presiding. Council members Bobby J. Bondurant, J. Paul Kilgore, Harold Swisher and Richard Wydner were present. Councilor Haney Mottley was absent. Town Manager Jack Hobbs, Police Chief Kenneth Watts, Director of Public Utilities Tom Fore, Office Manager Colan Davis were also present.

Tom Fore gave an invocation.

Joy Martin, from the accounting firm Davidson, Doyle & Hilton, presented her company's audit of the Town's July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009 financial statements. The Town Manager provided information on the changes in cash position fund balances over that period.

Mayor Bailey led a discussion on employing a consulting firm to review the Town's financial processes and procedures and to make recommendations on utility rates.

Mr. Bondurant made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Wydner to approve the minutes for the September 9, 2009 meeting as previously submitted. The motion passed 4-0. Messrs. Bondurant, Kilgore, Swisher and Wydner voted "Aye". Mr. Mottley was absent.

The Council continued its discussion on the Comprehensive Plan document that was recommended by the Planning Commission on September 2. The Council agreed to hold a public hearing on this at the November 10 meeting.

The Council discussed the previously approved installation of a plaque recognizing the Village Garden Club's donation of the fountain at the traffic circle.

The Town Manager reported that the federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 legislation (Public Law 106-390) which promotes planning for natural disasters before they occur, and to satisfy local planning requirements imposed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Region 2000 All Hazards Mitigation Plan / Flood Mitigation Assistance Plan was adopted by the Town Council on May 10, 2006. By consensus, Council agreed to support the Region 2000 Local Government Council's efforts to update this plan and to authorize the Town's participation in such a project.

The Town Manager reported that the Town has been approached to participate in a study project whereby LED lights, sensors and energy monitors would be installed in street lights. By consensus, the Council agreed that the Town would be interested in supporting such a project provided it does not cost the Town any "out of pocket" monies.

After the Councilors were reminded that the next meeting will be held on November 10 at 7:00 P.M. due to the Veterans Day Holiday, and there being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:04 P.M.

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Jacob P. Bailey  
Mayor

Attest:

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Clerk of Council