

The regular meeting of the Amherst Town Council was called to order on January 13, 2010 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, Haney Mottley, Harold Swisher and Richard Wydner were present. Town Manager Jack Hobbs, Police Chief Kenneth Watts, Director of Public Utilities Tom Fore, Office Manager Colan Davis and Town Attorney Tom Berry were also present.

The Rev. Dr. Tim Hazlett from Emmanuel United Methodist Church gave an invocation.

Tom Shrader, Blake Robertson and Steve Layne from the Amherst Fire Department came forward to discuss the status of their operation.

Mr. Mottley made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Swisher to approve the minutes for the December 9, 2009 meeting as previously submitted. The motion passed 5-0. Messrs. Bondurant, Kilgore, Mottley, Swisher and Wydner voted "Aye".

Mr. Mottley reported that the Finance Committee has been working on procurement, "stale check," and customer work billing policies per the "management letter" associated with the 2009 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

Mr. Wydner reported that a proposal for sewer work in the Rutledge Lane area has been prepared by the Director of Public Utilities. Mr. Wydner made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Mottley to approve the project as proposed. The motion passed 5-0. Messrs. Bondurant, Kilgore, Mottley, Swisher and Wydner voted "Aye".

Mr. Wydner reported on the current draft of a proposed street light policy and the status of a proposal to extend the sewer main on Ridge Drive.

The Town Manager reported that the bypass sewer crossing below the ACHS football stadium is in need of repair per a proposal for the work prepared by the Director of Public Utilities. Mr. Wydner made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Bondurant to approve the project as proposed. The motion passed 5-0. Messrs. Bondurant, Kilgore, Mottley, Swisher and Wydner voted "Aye".

Mayor Bailey reported that, to prepare for a tremendous capital improvement effort, a financial planning study proposal was requested from Springsted. The goal is to review all of the Town's policies, ordinances and procedures to identify areas for improvement and work through how much the Town can afford to build and when before programming utility rate increases. Mr. Mottley made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Wydner to approve of the study at a cost of \$9,900 plus as much as \$750 in reimbursable expenses as proposed. The motion passed 5-0. Messrs. Bondurant, Kilgore, Mottley, Swisher and Wydner voted "Aye".

The timetable for the development of the FY11 budget was discussed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Jacob P. Bailey
Mayor

Attest:

Clerk of Council