

REGULAR COUNCIL
MEETING
February 9, 1981

Present: Mayor John P. Summey, Councilmen: Carl Rampey, James Evatt, Jr., Olin Gambrell, Troy Porter, Frank Chaka, Calvin Evatt, Administrator Joe Ellers.

Minutes of the last regular meeting of January 12, 1981 were read. Frank Chaka made the motion, seconded by Carl Rampey to accept. Vote unanimous.

Minutes of the called meeting of January 19, 1981 were read. Frank Chaka made the motion and Troy Porter seconded that the minutes be accepted. Vote unanimous.

Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 27, 1981 were read. Carl Rampey made the motion, seconded by Frank Chaka to accept as read, Vote unanimous.

Mayor Summey introduced Dr. Robert Nash with the Board of Governors of the Central Fire District. The district was given approval of a request to circulate a petition calling for a referendum on the establishment of a fire tax district, after Dr. Nash had explained the proposals to the group. Jim Waldrop, chairman of the Central Fire District Board of Governors, updated efforts in bringing about creation of such a fire district. He said March 23 has been set for a meeting of the rural population at Edward's Junior High School to explain the operation of the district. Late summer is the goal for the holding of the referendum.

Dr. Nash, county council member and chairman of the committee on creating the rural fire districts, explained the plan for the districts, explained the \$25.00 service charge and district boundaries, which must be made a part of the ordinance which will be adopted after the district is approved in a referendum. At least 15 per cent of the freeholders in the district must sign the petition calling for the referendum. He explained that the rural fire district does not affect residents inside the town limits, who pay taxes to maintain their fire department. Establishment of the Central fire district will result in approximately 1,250 homes, including Cateechée, receiving fire protection service and some \$31,000 in revenue for the fire department. This should enable firemen to improve their department facilities and result in a lower insurance rate for citizens, Dr. Nash said. He said he had learned that Title IV federal programs have some money available for rural fire protection programs.

Chief Cantrell gave the Police report, recommending a letter be sent to Sheriff Stone expressing appreciation for his effort in helping break the theft ring in town. Calvin Evatt made the motion, seconded by James Evatt to accept. vote unanimous.

Olin Gambrell discussed the financial statement with one correction on Page 6, Sewer Billings are at 34%, not 22%.

Carl Rampey made the motion to accept, seconded by Troy Porter, vote unanimous.

Calvin Evatt had no reports for the Recreation Committee. It was agreed that the utility bill for the gym be paid from the Recreation Fund.

Report from the Street and Sanitation Committee. Jimmy Evatt recommended that further study be made of the green box ordinance, for those who could not afford, but to go ahead with the pick-up for the volunteers. Former Mayor Holladay said that some businesses would not have the required quantity of waste to qualify for using a box. It was noted that roads would be repaired as soon as asphalt can be obtained, and that the state highway dept. be contacted as to the need for some repairs on their property.

Mr. Chaka of the Water and Sewer Committee reported. Acting on a request from David Boyles that he not be charged for the ~~water~~^{sewer} that went through a broken line, but not into the sewer, council agreed to this and in the future when it has been established that a line is broken, and water does not go into the sewer, that we average the last 3 months sewer to justify a payment for that month's sewer charge. We must have proof from water employee that the water did not go into sewer. Calvin Evatt made the motion, seconded by Mr. Chaka that this policy be adopted. Vote unanimous.

Troy Porter had no report for the Planning and Development Committee.

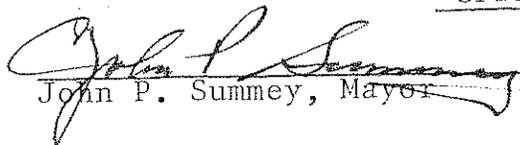
Carl Rampey reported on Public Safety. It was discussed that our police officers are bonded now at \$1,000 each, and the state law provides that all regular officers be bonded for not less than \$1500.00 each. It was noted that our insurance company had given a quote of \$1.00 more per officer for bonding of \$2,000.00. It was voted unanimously to insure each officer for \$2,000.00. Frank Cantrell discussed a proposal, giving each councilman a copy as to how a third shift officer could be acquired. It was agreed to move the budget item 1150, CAPITAL OUTLAY, VEHICLE to 1103 POLICE SALARIES to cover the salary of the third shift man after vehicle repairs are made. Olin Gambrell made the motion seconded by Jimmy Evatt to transfer this budget item. vote unanimous.

Mayor Summey presented a petition with 72 signatures seeking a referendum to change the form of government from council-mayor to mayor-council form. The mayor was asked why this item had not been placed on the agenda, Mayor Summey said he did not receive it in time. He said the County Voter Registration Board had certified 67 of the names as valid registered voters, but five were rejected because the names had been signed by someone else. He read the petition, without asking to put it on the agenda and commented on the difficulties which had arisen from the resignation of all the county election commission members. He said that a check had been made with the state attorney general's office which had advised that the referendum could be held without help from the county election commission since one had not been appointed. Because of the uncertainty of the procedure to use in holding the referendum, Council passed a motion authorizing Mr. Ellers to check into the certification of the petition and see if it is legal to proceed with preparations for calling a referendum.

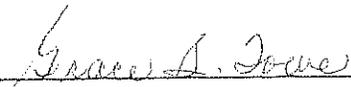
Mr. Gambrell made the motion, seconded by Mr. Rampey, vote unanimous.

No further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,


John P. Summey, Mayor

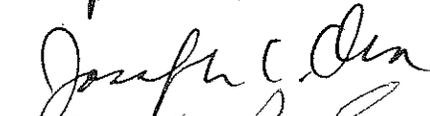
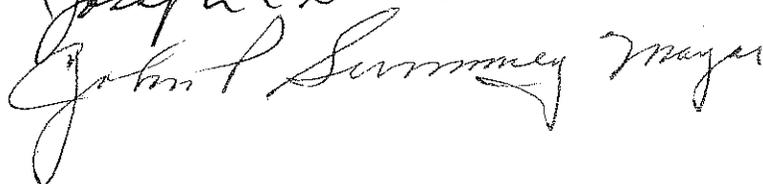
Grace S. Towe


Clerk + Treasurer

Minutes of Executive Session

The insurance bids from Lee Gamble, Nationwide; and Mr. Jim Black, USF & G, were presented to Council. Council voted unanimously to accept the bid from USF & G, the low bidder and the present insurance agent.

Respectfully submitted,


 Mayor