

CAVE SPRING CITY COUNCIL
CALLED MEETING
FEBRUARY 14, 2017
4:30 P.M.

PRESENT	Mayor Dennis Shoaf and Councilmember Tom Lindsey, Nellie McCain, Charles Jackson, and Mike Ragland were present. Michael Phillips was absent.
CALL TO ORDER	The Mayor called the meeting to order.
ADJUSTMENTS	Discussion was held concerning the adjustments.
D.D.A. APPOINTMENTS	The Mayor informed the council that the applications for the Downtown Development Authority Board vacancies have been received. The applicants are Rip Montgomery, Russell Fleming, John Johnston, and Billy Wayne Abernathy. These are the same citizens that are currently on the board. No new applicants applied. This will be a regular meeting agenda item. Councilmember Lindsey reminded the council that an annual meeting needs to be held. He felt Ann Arnold, former D.D.A. director of Rome, should be included.
D.D.A. REQUEST FOR BACONFEST	The D.D.A. has requested selling beer and wine at the Baconfest. This does not have to be voted on by council since it can be handled by the front office.
ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE	The request has been made to dissolve the Cave Spring Activities Committee which was formed by former Mayor Lynelle Tate and voted to be under the umbrella of the city October 12, 1999. By-laws were adopted December 14, 1999. Billy Wayne Abernathy, a member of the committee, was present and addressed the council. He stated currently there are only three members on the committee and meetings are not held on a regular basis. Most of the activities held in the city are under the direction of the D.D.A. The Activities Committee still supports the youth activities. Councilmember Jackson stated he would like to know more about the committee. He would like to review the by-laws and have the committee and council confirm this is the action that needs to be taken.
STREETLIGHT REQUEST	A request has been made for the installation of a streetlight on Padlock Road. This will be a regular meeting agenda item.
RV PARK - PROCESS TO ENFORCE ORDINANCE	The Mayor reported that no department has ever been assigned to enforce the regulations at the recreational vehicle park in Cave Spring although records have been kept in the clerk's office. Mayor appointed a committee of Councilmember Jackson and Phillips to review and make a recommendation to the council.
PURCHASING POLICY	Councilmember Ragland addressed this agenda item. He stated in March, 2016, he made the motion to revise the purchasing policy allowing the Mayor to approve purchases up to \$2,000 without council approval. He stated this had been a mistake. The council needs to be more aware of the purchases being made. He recommended changing the policy back to the original form.
POLICE – DODGE CHARGER	Councilmember Ragland addressed this agenda item. He stated he has become aware that the Police Department's Dodge Charger has become the Chief's take home vehicle and has had all the markings and lights removed. He reminded the council that on several occasions, which is documented in the minutes, the council agreed the Charger would be taken out of service when the other newly purchased police vehicles arrived. He noted that the former chief and lieutenant, who is currently the chief, informed the council on these occasions that the Dodge was not safe to drive and that officers would

not be retained if the Dodge had to be driven. Ragland stated that from July through September \$1,704 has been spent on the Dodge and from October to present another \$2,105 has been spent. The council was not made aware of these expenditures or the decision that this was to be the chief's take home vehicle. He stated these expenditures in part were due to the Mayor's ability to approve purchases up to \$2,000, but the Mayor never informed the council. Ragland stated he would have never voted to purchase the second new police vehicle and have three vehicles in the fleet if he had known the Dodge was going to continue being used. He hoped the actions concerning the Dodge were in error and were not done purposely. The Mayor asked Police Chief Harbin to address the council. He stated the camera had been removed from the Dodge and installed in the newly purchased Ford Sedan. The Charger has been taken out of active patrol and used as a take-home vehicle. The Explorer is used for day shift and the Taurus is used for night shift.

HOTEL/MOTEL TAX

The Mayor stated surrounding cities and counties have levied a motel tax of 8% while Cave Spring's tax is still 5%. He recommended the city look into raising the tax to 8%. The attorney stated local legislation must be passed by the General Assembly. He stated his firm has the forms and this process needs to begin the middle of fall. The council would like to pursue this.

POCKETS OF
OF BLIGHT

The Mayor reported to the council that there are numerous properties in town that need serious attention and clean-up. The city has been put on notice and he would like to move forward with identifying these areas, seeking owners, and taking action to clean-up the areas. The attorney will begin title searches.

HOUSING
AUTHORITY

Councilmember Lindsey stated the Mayor appoints the members to the housing authority board. One vacancy comes open this July and another July 2018. Lindsey would like the council to have input and confirm these appointments.

CONFIRMATION OF
NEWLY HIRED
EMPLOYEES

Chief Harbin addressed the council. He stated Floyd Brooks and David Lloyd have been employed as full-time police officers and four part-time patrolmen are available for week-end shifts. Brooks and Lloyd will be confirmed at the regular meeting.

2018 SPLOST
COMMITTEE

Councilmember Ragland stated that at the last joint meeting with Rome, Floyd County, and Cave Spring it was recommended that each entity begin thinking about the next SPLOST. Ragland would like to see a town hall meeting held in Cave Spring for citizen input on the SPLOST projects. Rehabilitation of the sewer system is a SPLOST priority for Cave Spring. The council agreed that a town hall meeting should be held after the next regular meeting March 14. This will be advertised.

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

MOTION: Councilmember McCain made the motion to enter into executive session to discuss real estate. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion. All voted yes.

MOTION: Councilmember Lindsey made the motion to come out of executive session. Councilmember Ragland seconded the motion. All voted yes.

No action was taken

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ADJOURN The Mayor adjourned the meeting

MAYOR

CLERK

DATE