

Ennis Town commission meeting
June 10, 2021
7pm
Ennis Town Hall

Open Meeting: Mayor Leavitt opened the meeting at 7pm.

Pledge to the Flag

Commission Present: Bancroft, Hardy, Roberts, Schroeder and Ranson.

Minutes: Minutes of the May meeting were reviewed by the Commission. Bancroft made a motion to approve the minutes, Ranson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Schroeder, Ranson, Bancroft and Hardy voted yes. Motion approved.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items:

Lyndall Morgan spoke to the commission: she has lived in Ennis since 1976 and owns property. Regarding Armitage alley: Historically, kids were reported for trespassing on this property, and J. France said they were not trespassing, and the Pasley's gave the kids permission to cross. 2) She came to ask if the Town will address a hazardous and nuisance issue on 1st and E Grizzly; she has talked with Ginger and Art, she was told there is no ordinance, and only will be addressed if there is a citation issued. She first asked a neighbor to lower pressure on their water so the lawn can be mowed; trees and leaves are falling on her property, asked them to cut hazard branches. They cut one. Last fall she asked the neighbor to pick up the debris and branches. The neighbors told her they have no control over where the branches land. Lyndall would like to ask if this can be addressed by the town.

Judi Frey, 111 Shining mountains. She hasn't attended before because she is not a resident. She is a Library Trustee and an active member of the Friends of the Library. The structure next door was permitted without a bond to protect neighboring property. The library boundary property has been damaged, and the contractor was talked to about plans to address landscaping and we have made no progress. The library has had to find other venues to hold programs due to the disturbance. She had hoped the new building would add to the community, but this is not the case. No bond was considered to protect the adjacent properties.

Dino Fanelli thought he understood more zoning conversations would be on the agenda .

Trevor Lockhart: After the last meeting and the mic was left on; behavior from the commission was not professional. Regarding the Armitage Alley article in the Madisonian: he enjoyed the article, and do we have an actual plan as to whether it will be graveled, paved, etc., and asked for clarification on "The 4th of July party or Ennis tubing race" and using the alley as an access point. He expressed that there may be problems with parking, or noise.

Commissioner Roberts replied that there is no plan, just an access point.

Christian Peterson asked whether there was a permit for this party?

Attorney Greenbaum replied that the purpose of public comment is to come in and give their comment, and it is not supposed to be a question and answer session; furthermore the Commission is under no obligation to answer during public comment.

Christian Peterson replied that we (public) can ask questions and you are required to answer and will be giving the question to an attorney to challenge this stance on public comment. He also asked the question again as to whether there was a permit issued for the "4th of July Party."

Attorney Greenbaum stated he understood the request for information on a permit for the "4th of July Party" and would get Mr. Peterson an answer.

Tashina Meyer: Regarding the recording after the last meeting: it was disgraceful and unprofessional. All of you are guilty, very rude and very unacceptable.

Grant of Easement and Settlement Memorandum of Properties on W. Hugel

Attorney Greenbaum explained that neighbors have issues about access on Hugel. A party threatened to sue the town, and there is a proposed settlement agreement. The terms are that the fence will be modified so that access from one property to the other will not be interfered with. It is in the interest of the town to move forward with the settlement, as well as installing signage saying no turnaround, no through access.

Roberts moved to approve the Grant of Easement and Settlement Memorandum prepared by Attorney Greenbaum. Ranson seconded. Roll call vote: Ranson, Roberts, Hardy, Bancroft and Schroeder all voted yes. Motion approved.

Roylance Conditional Use Review and Approval. This item was tabled to August. Documents and Plans are needed the Monday prior to the meeting.

Pollinator Garden updates: A 20 by 20 plot on the N40 roundabout was planted; water is running. Monies from the tree board will be used to cut sod in the future.

Department Reports:

Library: Karen Ketchu submitted a written report.

Police: John Moore submitted a written report.

Public Works: Kelly Elser reported that public works is still short staffed, and someone is hired. Ennis has been allocated 253,000 in ARPA funding. A handout from Great West was passed out explaining the "buckets" or allocations of ARPA funding. Kelly would like to explore using some of the funding for a 3rd well per DEQ requirements.

Clerk: Ginger is working on budget, and continuing to work on year-end financials.

Mayor Report/ comments: Regarding zoning issues: The County planning board meets the last Monday of the month, and the board will be reviewing projects discussed at the last town meeting. Two public hearings are required, and the notice will be in the paper.

-A board of adjustments notice was posted. Current code dictates a need to appoint a board of adjustments; the Town has tried to find people in the past and was not successful, so the council took

on the role. We can now take on members outside of the city limits, and are currently looking for 5 members to appoint to this board.

-Blake is meeting with the County Planner tomorrow to go over annexation policy as there are two possible annexations in the near future.

Commission comments:

Roberts noted that Nora and Wayne from Cushing Terrell were in town for listening sessions and interviews with business owners. Nora is continuing to do individual meetings. She is looking for a date for a public meeting either July 7 or 14, these will be virtual at the senior center and library.

Hardy asked to be included on the planning email list is appreciative of everyone that is here tonight to give comment, and how nice it is that in a small community people keep each other in check. He also suggested Joe Willauer come over to present information on ARPA funds and resort tax information.

There was a discussion on pros/cons of resort tax, surrounding communities have them, local businesses are at a disadvantage, can customize portions of the tax, discussion of the master plan and the connections to future plans and how to fund them. Visitors asked for more information about meetings posted on the town website, where can more information be found, a request for the town master plan survey to go out again, and different meeting times so more people can attend.

-Schroeder: Regarding the budget, he would like to see it balanced and would like to see something to create more revenue or draw down spending. A resort tax could be a good thing if it's done right. The master plan is our chance that our future town turns out the way we want it.

Claims: Bancroft moved to approve, Roberts seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Roberts, Hardy, Bancroft, Schroeder and Ranson all voted yes. Motion passed.

Adjourn: Bancroft made a motion to adjourn, and Roberts seconded. Roll call vote, all commissioners voted yes.

Blake Leavitt, Mayor

Karen Ketchu

Ginger Guinn