

**Regular Meeting
Town of Preston
December 1, 2008**

The regular meeting was called to order by Commissioner Ellery Adams at 7:00 p.m. Also present were Commissioner Bill Mills, Commissioner Robert Stacey, and Mimi Willis.

Attendance: Harold Moxley, Bill Willis, Michelle Barry, Kathleen Barry, Attorney Walter Palmer, Abby Schmidt from the Times-Record, and Chief Robert Reed.

- The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as submitted.
- The minutes of the meeting of the October 27th special session were approved as submitted.
- The minutes of the meeting of the November 3, 2008 special session, going into executive session to discuss personnel matters were approved as submitted.
- The minutes of the special session called to discuss personnel matters on November 24, 2008 were approved as submitted.

Police Dept. Report: Chief Reed gave his report for November including:

- 10 calls for service
- 18 warnings
- 4 traffic citations
- 1 Equipment repair order inspection
- 3 arrests
- 3 assists for other agencies
- The new officer is in training pending polygraph, which should be done this week.

Public Works Report: Robert Stacey gave the Public Works report submitted by Dale Whitley, who said he:

- met with Mickey McCrea behind Shore Stop and used his tractor to drill 13 post holes along the forestation line at Tidewater Farms and installed posts every 6' to discourage people from driving through.
- had a crew remove 2 old boilers from the basement at Town Hall, free of charge, in exchange for keeping the metal and selling it for scrap.
- relocated a phone line in Town Hall and removed about 50' of wire.
- cleaned up a water leak in the shop that left about 1" or 2" of water.
- had the truck repaired and also repaired a flat tire on the boat trailer.
- used the boat to aerate the lagoon for several hours.
- replaced a timer on one of the aerators at the lagoon
- enclosed the back and sides of the bin in the corral at the shop and had concrete barriers put in the middle.
- enclosed the sides of the lean-to at the shop to offer more protection for the equipment stored there.
- hooked up a light in each of the 3 bays
- put the box grader on the tractor and graded Railroad Avenue
- opened up a sewer blockage at the lagoon

Unfinished Business:

- Ellery asked Mimi if there is anything to be read. She advised the Ordinances for repaying the loan on the new building; going from 3 to 5 commissioners; and the terms of 5 commissioners were on hold.
- Ellery asked Mimi about where to get the money for future expenses. She said regarding water and sewer, she was advised it would cost between \$250,000. and \$600,000. to dredge the main lagoon. Synagro did the other lagoon. She said the sludge would be checked, but it does not look like it needs to be done now, since it is only 2-1/2 feet at one point. Ellery asked if there is a time requirement. Mimi said usually it is 20 years but it is not a requirement, just part of the maintenance of the lagoon. Someone told her it should be 5' before it is required. Mimi said she will have Dale write up a report on his findings.
- Ellery then said they need to determine where to draw the money from for the down payment on the new building to T. J. Farms, and at the next work session the figures need to be determined.
- Mimi said she also asked Dale to get figures for Fooks Ditch which would come out of highway fund.

- Ellery asked if the other Commissioners were in agreement for taking the down payment for the new building out of the general fund. They were both in agreement.
- Ellery said 4 concrete barriers have been purchased for Public Works building for storing salt, etc.
- Ellery turned the next item over to Bill Mills. Bill said he and Robert reviewed the lease agreement for the Polie Department with Jensenstead and didn't see anything out of order. The two of them then signed the lease agreement.
- Public Works is working on a list for street repairs, especially Fooks Ave. ditch.
- We are waiting for a letter from the railroad regarding weed removal and road repairs. Ellery said it looks like we are going to take care of the maintenance and they will pay for it, but we have not received the letter as yet.
- Mr. Chris Whitley has received his Temporary License to perform water and wastewater testing.
- Mimi asked if she could pay the Provident State Bank loan for the furnace and archiving equipment in the amount of \$15,000. plus interest. Bill Mills made a motion to take \$15,705. out of the general fund cash on hand reserve and pay off the archiving equipment loan, to be distributed across the other departments depending on what the auditor says. Motion seconded by Robert Stacey and unanimously carried.
- Bill Mills asked Mimi about investing a portion of the reserves. Mimi said 13 month C.D.'s are an option. Bill asked her to come back with other options, except for the stock market. He also explained that Mimi has suggested we reserve 6 months expenses instead of a year and pay off our debts, as much as possible. He said they would like to pay cash for the new building instead of taking out a loan, however, the lagoon may need to be dredged which would be a large expense, so we will have to wait.

New Business:

- The November bills were approved for payment unanimously. Preston Volunteer Fire Company donation was changed to \$7,000.00 which the Commissioners had previously agreed on.
- Ellery said the Board of Appeals does not have an alternate and the Commissioners need to pick one.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Fran Johnson

On November 24, 2008, at 8:20 p.m., Commissioners Ellery Adams, Bill Mills and Robert Stacey voted to hold a Special Meeting to consider a motion to go into an executive or closed meeting, under OMA Article 10-508(a)(1)(i)(ii) , to discuss personnel matters. All three Commissioners voted for closure.

A closed meeting was held November 24, 2008 at the Preston Town Hall, from 8:21 p.m. to 9:10 p.m. Commissioners Ellery Adams, Bill Mills and Robert Stacey, and Chief Reed were present, . The meeting was closed under OMA Article 10.508(a)(1)(i)(ii) to discuss personnel issues The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

On November 24, 2008, at 9:10 p.m., the Special meeting was reopened by Commissioners Ellery Adams, Bill Mills and Robert Stacey. Ellery advised that the closed session was to deal with improving the performance of and the public perception of the Preston Police Department. Also, guidelines were established for hiring practices for police department personnel. The Special Meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.