

**Town of Felton
Town Council Meeting
June 8, 2020
6:15 pm**

Mayor Clendaniel called the Town Council Meeting of Felton to order at 6:15 pm on Monday, June 8, 2020. Present at the meeting were:

Council Members: Mayor Joanne Clendaniel, Vice-Mayor Joe Yapsuga, Anthony Carroll (via zoom teleconference), Diana Dolan-Beulah and Bill Brittingham.

Staff: Chief Levi Brown, Town Manager, Rebecca Greene, Incoming Town Manager, Amy Thomas and Town Clerk, Tracey Thompson.

Public: Via Zoom teleconference: Resident- Brian Johnson and Bruce Hartig, Michael Swank- Representative for 568 Walnut Street and four unnamed callers.

Citizens Concerns:

Brian Johnson expressed his concerns with our trash company, and stated the trucks are leaving behind oil like residue on streets, and trash left behind when dumping cans. Rebecca noted that she will contact the company tomorrow with expressed concerns. Bruce Hartig asked Chief Brown about the incident on April 13th on Ryan Court. Chief Brown stated it was a medical assist that escalated, therefore a distress call was sent out, which is why there were extra officers on site.

Police Report:

Chief Brown presented the March, April, and May reports. Rebecca stated that Officer Thomas's Tahoe was hit while responding to a call and his vehicle has been repaired.

Motion: Councilmember Yapsuga made a motion to approve the March, April and May 2020 Police Reports. Councilmember Dolan-Beulah seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Budget Report:

Rebecca presented the March, April, and May 2020 budget reports. Councilmember Yapsuga questioned how many delinquent utility accounts at this time and did we see a rise due to COVID. Rebecca stated we have 15 delinquent utility accounts at this time, which is average.

Motion: Councilmember Yapsuga made a motion to accept the March, April, and May 2020 Budget Reports. Councilmember Carroll seconded the motion via Zoom conference. The motion was passed unanimously.

Town Council Meeting Minutes:

Rebecca presented the March 9, 2020 Council Meeting Minutes. Councilmember Yapsuga questioned if there was any issues with the Census, which Rebecca confirmed there has been no issues.

Motion: Councilmember Dolan-Beulah made a motion to accept the Town Council Meeting Minutes. Councilmember Yapsuga seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Discussion / Vote on Property Tax Increase:

Rebecca opened the discussion and asked if anyone had questions. Mayor Clendaniel asked when the last time property was assessed, Rebecca replied since the 1980's, and stated there shouldn't be a noticeable increase when they do new assessments. Our auditor confirmed that we will continue to be in the negative if we keep the current tax rate. Rebecca stated our Citizens are very happy to hear that we are continuing to keep the senior discount.

Resolution 20-R-01 FY21 Property Tax Rate:

Rebecca stated Resolution 20-R-01 brings the new tax rate to \$1.06, and that the senior citizens discount still applies.

Motion: Councilmember Yapsuga made a motion to accept Resolution 20-R-01 FY21 Property Tax Rate. Councilmember Carroll seconded the motion via Zoom teleconference. Roll Call: Mayor Clendaniel- yes, Councilmember Yapsuga- yes, Councilmember Dolan- Beulah- yes, Councilmember Brittingham- no, Councilmember Carroll- yes via Zoom teleconference.

Presentation of FY21 Budget for approval:

Rebecca presented the current budget and discussed employee raises for the next fiscal year. Three options on the table for raises 0%, 2%, or a 3%. Rebecca highlighted that the Admin budget does not increase due to the new wages being less than the current wages for the new Town Manager and the new Town Clerk. The 2% increase will cost the town \$5,000.00 vs. the 3% increase which will cost the town \$8,800. Rebecca recommended the 2% because it will be more cost effective at this time since next year we have a possible promotion and hourly wage increase for an employee. Rebecca stated that we also added money in the budget to include a new computer for Amy, a dehumidifier for public works and a new line in the budget for tree removal.

Motion: Councilmember Yapsuga made a motion for the 2% budget raise. Councilmember Brittingham seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mayor Clendaniel – yes, Councilmember Dolan-Beulah- yes, Councilmember Brittingham- no, Councilmember Yapsuga- yes, Councilmember Carroll, via Zoom teleconference – yes.

Resolution 20-R-02 Property Tax Rates for Fiscal Year FY22 and FY23:

Rebecca stated this resolution states the increase in property taxes for FY22 and FY23.

Motion: Councilmember Carroll made a motion to accept Resolution 20-R-02 Property Tax Rates for Fiscal Year FY22 and FY23, via Zoom Teleconference. Councilmember Yapsuga seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mayor Clendaniel – yes, Councilmember Dolan- Beulah- yes, Councilmember Brittingham- no, Councilmember Yapsuga- yes, Councilmember Carroll, via Zoom teleconference – yes.

Annexation Request- 568 Walnut Street:

Rebecca introduced Mr. Swank stating he is representing the property owner of 568 Walnut Street regarding an annexation of this property into town. Mr. Swank spoke of the intention to build townhomes on the property, and therefore wants to annex these three acres into town. Rebecca explained in detail the process of annexation, and that Councilmember’s need to vote in order for the Town Manager to go forward with the process of annexation.

Motion: Councilmember Yapsuga made a motion to accept the annexation request. Councilmember Brittingham seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59pm.

Motion: Councilmember Yapsuga made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Dolan-Beulah seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

These minutes were prepared by Tracey Thompson, Town Clerk.

Tracey Thompson, Town Clerk

Date