

**MINUTES
BOARD MEETING
TOWN OF ANDREWS
JUNE 10, 2003
COMMUNITY BUILDING
7:00 PM**

Mayor Rhinehardt called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. This meeting was moved to the community building due to the large number of citizens planning to attend the meeting. Members present were: Alderman Jordan, Alderman Reid, Alderman Phillips and Alderman Hogsed.

Also present were Town Attorney M. Ellen Davis and Town Clerk Bill Green.

Mayor Rhinehardt asked Chief of Police Eddie Hardin to give the opening prayer.

ITEM 2

Upon motion by Alderman Hogsed and second by Alderman Phillips the Agenda was amended as follows:

Item 6F, Open Forum, was added to allow the assembled citizens to speak
With a time limit of five (5) minutes.

Item 6G, Executive Session – Pending Lawsuit discussion with Town Attorney
M. Ellen Davis.

ITEM 3

The Minutes of the May 13, 2003 meeting were approved as presented by Motion of
Alderman Phillips.

Second by Alderman Reid.

Motion carried.

ITEM 4 – REPORTS

Town Clerk Bill Green reported that after the work session on June 3, 2003, Board members discussed with Chief of Police Eddie Hardin the problems some citizens were encountering with noise after midnight and speeding vehicles in the Main Street area. Chief Hardin told the Board members that the officers would begin working to persuade noisy people and speeding automobiles to leave the town limits after midnight.

Town Clerk also reported that Sheriff Lovin had made available the services of several work-release individuals to assist in mowing the grass at the Valletown Cemetery. Workers were provided for two and one half days costing only the meals at noon for the individuals. Persons visiting the cemetery have commented about how good the area looks. Sheriff Lovin has indicated that as personnel allows, he will make available a number of workers to assist in the mowing on a regular basis.

ITEM 5 – UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Town Clerk Bill Green reminded the Board members that a method of disposing of the surplus property was not settled at the last meeting. Several methods were discussed, but no final decision was made. Alderman Reid made a motion to advertise for sale the surplus real property and identified surplus personal property. Minimum bid for the surplus real property was to be the appraised price of \$16,000. Second by Alderman Jordan.
Motion carried.

ITEM 6 – NEW BUSINESS

- A. Tax releases requested by Tax Collector David Holland were next discussed. Motion by Alderman Reid to approve the Tax Releases as presented.
Second by Alderman Phillips.
Motion carried.

- B. The Budget message and proposed budget for the 2003-2004 fiscal year was presented for consideration by the Board of Aldermen. Alderman Hogsed asked if there would be another work session for the budget before the beginning of the new fiscal year. Finance officer Bill Green stated that whatever the Aldermen decided about work sessions or budget meetings could happen. The only locked in stone issue was that the budget must be adopted by July 1, 2003 and that a special meeting would most likely be needed to accomplish this.
- C. Next was a Resolution for the Town of Andrews to continue its participation with Cherokee County in the county's Solid Waste Plan. Each county must develop a ten (10) year solid waste plan and each municipality located in the county may adopt the county's plan or develop one of their own. Since the Town of Andrews utilizes the Cherokee County Landfill, it follows that the Town should participate in the Cherokee County Solid Waste plan.
Motion by Alderman Reid to adopt Resolution.
Second by Alderman Phillips.
Motion carried.
- D. Next was a resolution of support for Officer Postell of the Murphy Police Department. Officer Postell was the local officer that arrested Eric Robert Rudolph on Saturday, May 31, 2003. This resolution requests that the appropriate law enforcement officials approve granting the \$1,000,000 for the capture and arrest of Eric Robert Rudolph to Officer Postell.
Motion by Alderman Hogsed.
Second by Alderman Reid.
Motion carried.
- E. Next was a decision on the officials authorized to sign checks and other financial documents on behalf of the Town of Andrews. Motion by Alderman Reid to have himself and Alderman Jordan authorized to sign check and financial documents and to remove Mayor Rhinehardt from check signing.
Second by Alderman Phillips.
Motion carried.

F. Next was an open forum to allow the citizens assembled to present their views and to question Mayor Rhinehardt about his decision to appoint new members to the Andrews Housing Authority Board. Many citizens expressed their displeasure with these actions and requested the Mayor to return the original board members to the board and to apologize for these actions. The board members that were replaced spoke to the situation saying that they were falsely accused of wrong doing and stating that they had retained an attorney to defend against the charges of “far reaching illegal issues”. Many of the comments were of the nature of what will happen to the families that live in the housing authority apartments and will they be thrown out or what. Other comments were of the nature of asking if the new board will hold meetings with the tenants and inform them of what is going on and how these actions may affect them.

Mr. Andrew Patterson attempted to speak to the Board of Aldermen and the assembled citizens but was told that he would not be allowed to speak by a decision of the Board of Aldermen. Mr. Patterson was told that he would be removed from the proceedings if he attempted to break in and speak again.

Comments continued for some time and it was decided that the board members appointed by Mayor Rhinehardt should be available at another meeting to answer questions concerning the operations of the housing authority. These board members should also speak as to why Mrs. Bobbi Wilson was not retained as the Executive Director of the Andrews Housing Authority and who would be in charge to pay the bills and keep the authority running.

Town Aldermen then decided to have another meeting at 7:00 PM at the same building on Thursday, June 12, 2003 to have the newly appointed board members to appear and answer questions of the citizens and the Aldermen.

- G. Next on the agenda was a motion for the Board to go into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing pending legal actions with the Town Attorney. Town Attorney M. Ellen Davis requested that the Town Clerk be excused from the room while the discussion was taking place. Town Attorney Davis would keep the minutes of the Executive Session.

Motion by Alderman Reid to enter into Executive session to discuss an existing lawsuit filed in Cherokee County Superior Court.
Second by Alderman Jordan.

Motion by Alderman Reid to return to open session.
Second by Alderman Phillips.

Results of the Executive Session: Counseled Town Clerk Bill Green not to take part in any aspect of Housing Authority business as set out by the General Statutes.

With no further business to come before the Board, Alderman Reid made a motion to adjourn at 10:40 PM.
Second by Alderman Hogsed.

Mitch Rhinehardt, Mayor

Bill Green, Clerk