

**MINUTES  
BOARD MEETING  
TOWN OF ANDREWS  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2003  
COMMUNITY SERVICES BUILDING  
7:00 PM**

Mayor Rhinehardt called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM. Members present were: Alderman Reid, Alderman Jordan, Alderman Phillips and Alderman Hogsed.

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

**ITEM 2**

Upon Motion by by Alderman Reid and Seconded by Alderman Jordan, the Agenda was amended to include Item E as Tennis Court Lights and Item F as employment of a new water treatment plant operator. Motion carried.

**ITEM 3**

Upon Motion by Alderman Reid and second by Alderman Phillips, the Minutes of the August 12, 2003 meeting were approved as presented.

**ITEM 4 - REPORTS**

Reports were received describing the progress of the sale of surplus property and the establishment of a minimum bid on the 1981 Internation truck as \$7,500.00. It was also reported that the purchase order for the new patrol car has been issued. Discussion ensued as to the reallocation of the funds from the sale of the surplus patrol car to Cherokee County Schools and using the funds to purchase video equipment for the new vehicle. The 2003-2004 Budget was prepared allocating receipts from the sale of surplus property to fund improvements at the playgrounds operated by the Town. The Board decided that they would reallocate the receipts from the surplus patrol car sale to fund the purchase of the requested video equipment.

## **ITEM 5 – UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Under Unfinished Business, the Mayor executed a deed to release an easement granted by the Brooks family in 1964 to the Town of Andrews for the installation of an eight inch water supply line through the Brooks property located on the east side of Locust Street. This water line has been abandoned and is no longer needed or used. The new supply line now runs along the the shoulder of Locust Street. The Town had voted at an earlier meeting to release the easement back to the Brooks family.

## **ITEM 6 – NEW BUSINESS**

- A. The first item of new business was consideration of a project to assist the Andrews Beautification group with their project near the Andrews school campus. This request was for a new drainage culvert to be placed along Third Street at the bottom of the School House steps. The construction of a concrete sidewalk at the intersection of the School House steps and Third Street. It is estimated that the cost to install the culvert and sidewalk is in the \$400 to \$500 range.

Motion by Alderman Jordan and second by Alderman Phillips to approve this project and begin work as soon as it can be scheduled with Town employees.

Motion carried.

- B. Next was a request to approve the purchase and financing of an excavator to be used in Water/Sewer Maintenance and Streets to allow disturbing smaller areas when repairing lines and reworking drainage ditches. Sufficient price quotes were not received as of this meeting date and the item was tabled until next meeting when it is hoped sufficient price quotes could be assembled.
- C. Next was consideration of a request from Chautauga AVE for a contribution of \$500.00 for the 2003 Chautauga AVE event and the use of the Andrews Community Building at the Recreation Park on October 11, 2003 without charge for the Crafts portion of the event.

Motion by Alderman Reid and second by Alderman Hogsed to provide the contribution and the free use of the Community center on October 11, 2003.

Motion carried.

- D. Next was approval of Budget Amendments for the 2003-2004 Fiscal Year. The sale of the surplus property at Patton Homesites returned \$16,000. Since the budget provided for \$12,000, the addition funds are being budgeted in the Recreation Department for playground equipment. Motion by Alderman Reid to approve the Budget Amendment for the 2003-2004 fiscal year. Second by Alderman Jordan.

Motion carried.

- E. Next was consideration of renting equipment to allow Town Employees to repair and replace the lights at the tennis courts located at the Recreation park. Alderman Hogsed had found a sissors lift that could be used by town workers that rents at the rate of \$100.00 per day. It was pointed out that town employees using this equipment could make the necessary repairs to the lights.

Motion by Alderman Reid to rent the equipment and begin work on the tennis court lights. Second by Alderman Phillips.

Motion carried.

- F. Next was the hiring of Mr. Robert Witter as a water treatment plant Operator for the Town of Andrews. Mr. Witter holds a "B" operator's certificate and has seven years of experience as a plant operator with Monroe, North Carolina.

Motion to hire Mr. Witter at the rate of \$11.00 per hour by Alderman Reid. Second by Alderman Phillips.

Motion carried.

Next was an opportunity for citizens to address the Town. Ms. Elaine Jones addressed the Board concerning what she described as "police harassment" by a member of the Andrews Police Department. Ms. Jones reported that Officer Orr had stopped her for no reason, placed her under arrest and took her to the Cherokee County Jail. Ms. Jones reported that this was the third time she had been stopped by Officer Orr. One incident happened in Graham county where Officer Orr was employed by the Graham County Sheriff's Department.

Ms. Jones reported that she had been stopped only the weekend before by Officer Orr, again for no reason, but was not cited for any violation at that time. Ms. Jones reported that she would retain an attorney to further her complaint if it were not resolved to her satisfaction.

Board members took the information under advisement and reported that they would review the situation with Police Chief Hardin and that Chief Hardin would contact Ms. Jones in the near future concerning the actions of Officer Orr. Board members also were to review any video tapes that might have been recorded during this traffic stop. Not all Andrews police vehicles are equipped with video equipment and it will need to be determined if Officer Orr was driving the patrol vehicle with a video recorder.

With no further business to come before the Board and upon Motion by Alderman Reid, the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 PM.

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Mitch Rhinehardt, Mayor

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Bill Green, Clerk