

TOWN of WOOLSEY

Regular Meeting

April 20, 2023

Mayor Laggis opened the public hearing for a variance request at 242 Hampton Rd at 7:00 p.m. Councilman Frank Carden was absent. Zoning Administrator Maurice Ungaro told the Council that Friends of Historic Woolsey was requesting a variance from the Zoning Ordinance requirements of an event center, located in the TC District, having to be on at least 10 acres, have a minimum setback of 100 feet and cannot have more than 4000 square feet heated. Councilman Smith asked how big the facility is and was told that it is approximately 4500-4800 square feet, but Mayor Laggis commented that it would be very unlikely that the entire facility (split into three sections) would be rented at the same time. Mr. Ungaro noted that, in modern times, an event center is typically used for car shows, rodeos...but churches have events too, although on a smaller scale, but are not called event centers. Councilman Wright commented that we have talked for years about preserving the historical feel of the town and this group is doing exactly that. Mayor Laggis said that the group's plan for this facility is to be used as a Community and Cultural Center. Councilman Smith asked if businesses would be allowed to operate out of it and was told that was not the intent. Can be rented for group meetings, small classes...Mayor Laggis asked if Mr. Ungaro was recommending approving the variance and Mr. Ungaro replied that he is recommending the approval of this variance based on reasons discussed. The public was then asked if they had any opposition and with none, the Mayor closed the hearing.

Agenda Changes

None

Minutes of Meeting

Councilman Smith made a motion to approve the minutes from the March meeting as written. Councilman Wright seconded him. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report

Councilman Wright made a motion to approve the Financial Report as submitted. Councilman Smith seconded him. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

1. Friends of Historic Woolsey Update – Jamie Lovett reported that, just today, using ground penetrating radar, approximately several dozen unmarked graves were discovered and marked, both outside the fence and within the cemetery. Mayor Laggis added that a number of graves were also found between the lodge and the fence. Councilman Smith asked if they intended to identify who was buried there and Ms. Lovett said that might be difficult, but that there will be some type of notation for these unknown souls. Ms. Lovett reported that they had been awarded two foundation grants and there is the ability to donate to this project on the website. Mayor Laggis and other members of Friends of Historic Woolsey met with people from Hopeful Church located in Fayetteville, who had undertaken a very similar project and were told that the process comes down to the passion to get things done. Reagan Moscon mentioned that there is the ability to link a Kroger Card to the non-profit. They have received the first quarterly payment from Kroger which totaled \$0.41.

2. Transportation Committee Update – Caitlyn Storck told the Council that, as a result of a discussion with Phil Mallon, there are speed awareness signs on Hampton Road. Also, Hampton Road is due for resurfacing and when that happens, they may make the lanes slightly narrower and make the shoulders wider. At the same time, the crosswalk can be striped between Anna Lane and Woolsey

Park. Mr. Ungaro mentioned that the Federal DOT will provide a hawk signal for free. After SPLOST passed, the Mayor spoke to Mr. Mallon about the sidewalks he indicated that the sidewalks will be one of the first projects.

3. Resolution #2023-14 Adoption of CIE Impact Fee Annual Update and STWP – Councilman Smith made the motion to approve the adoption of the resolution as presented and he was seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion passed unanimously. ne

4. Other - None

New Business

1. Variance Decision – Councilman Wright made a motion to approve the variance for 242 Hampton Road as presented. He was seconded by Councilman Smith and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Other- None

With no more business to come in front of the Council, Councilman Wright made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. He was seconded by Councilman Smith. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacey Collins, Town Clerk