Work Session Meeting minutes of the Town Council

Work Session on April 20, 2021

As reviewed, approved and accepted by the Town Council on May 4, 2021

Mayor Ruspi opened the Work Session at 7:33 p.m. The meeting was held using video conferencing. Council Members Charles Bradsher, Tom Burke, James O’Hair, and Amy Koval were present. The Clerk, Assistant Clerk and Treasurer were also present. One citizen was present.

Mayor Ruspi began the Work Session by stating the members of the Council have received a resolution and an ordinance that will be considered at the May Council meeting.  He explained the ordinance regards the budget and tax rates and the resolution contains recommendations for staff salaries.

Mayor Ruspi stated the work session is being held to discuss trash and recycling services.

Clerk Dillingham provided an overview of the services currently provided to Town residents which are paid for through property tax collections and an explanation of how the churches and rental units pay for services.

Mayor Ruspi stated he believes the trash collection services are going well and does not see a need to make changes at this time. Council Member Burke inquired about the current cost per resident. The Council Members discussed the potential cost savings of reducing trash pick-up services to one day per week and the reasons for services remaining at two days per week.

Mayor Ruspi said recycling items are increasing as are the requests from residents for recycle bins. In the recent past the contractor did not have the capability of lifting the large bins on wheels. The contractor now has this ability and there are many requests from residents for these larger containers.

Clerk Dillingham said the Town currently provides two small bins when residents make a request but there is no policy on how many or how often bins will be provided.

Mayor Ruspi said the contractor provides the recycle bins at no cost to the Town and when requested by the Clerk they will provide several bins which the residents pick up from the Town Hall at their convenience. The number of bins, types of bins and how often they will be provided is not specified in the current contract.

Council Member Bradsher said he thinks the Town should provide two small bins per year and if a resident wants a large bin, they purchase it at their expense.

Council Member Koval stated residents that have already purchased large bins may be irritated if the Town were to start providing them and residents should be asked prior to changes being made to the service.

Council Member O’Hair said he and other neighbors purchased their own recycle bins, but he thinks it would be good if two were available to residents each year.

Council Member Burke said the increased demand is likely due to the number of new homes in the Town. He stated the contractor should be responsible for storing and distributing the bins upon request directly to the residents.

The Council discussed the benefits of the contractor storing and providing recycle bins to the residents upon request. Mayor Ruspi asked if there was a council member that would like to speak with the contractor. There being no response, Mayor Ruspi said he would follow up with the contractor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joy Jackson

Assistant Clerk

April 20, 2021