

GRAYSVILLE BOARD OF MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS
THURSDAY, February 12, 2009
6:00 P.M.

Called to Order

Mayor Ted Doss called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Mayor Ted Doss	Present
Vice Mayor Jimmy Massengill	Present
Commissioner Andy Beene	Present
Commissioner Robbie Davenport	Present
Commissioner Charles Dennis	Present
Commissioner Mel Green	Present
Commissioner Charles Kaylor	Present

Approval of minutes

A motion to approve the January 8, 2008 minutes as presented was made by Vice Mayor Massengill. Commissioner Kaylor 2nd the motion. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Communications from Mayor and Commissioners

Mayor Doss has been attending classes for newly elected officials in Cleveland. The classes are very educational and Mayor Doss has many new ideals due to the information he has learned. Commissioner Beene, Commissioner Kaylor and Town Recorder Michelle Horton have completed the program in the past.

Consent Agenda

A motion to accept the consent agenda was made by Commissioner Kaylor. Commissioner Beene 2nd the motion. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Mayor Doss Recognizes Mr. Dennis C Lee

During Mayor Doss's research it was discovered Graysville has only 1 POW. Mr. Dennis Lee who served in World War II was held in a conversation camp for 18 months and 3 days. Mr. Bill Meets and Mrs. Susan Kinney from the Rhea County Veterans Office were present and said they were proud of Mr. Lee. Mayor Doss presented Mr. Lee with a key to the city.

Old Business

Street Lights

Town Recorder Horton explained EPB said the cost for installing street lights at locations with an available pole would run \$67.00 per year per light. If a pole was not available the cost would increase. The locations that have been recommended for a street light are mid way on Miller Street (at the branch), at the end of Pope Street (dead end), in front of 351 Harrison Ave and on Dayton Ave in front of the Seventh Day Adventist Church. A motion to have the four recommended lights installed was made by Mayor Doss. Commissioner Kaylor 2nd the motion. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Guard Rail at 863 Long Street

Town Recorder Horton has contacted several businesses on the pricing of guard rail. Only 1 submitted a quote, Cumberland Guardrail, Inc. The cost is \$16.00 per foot for used rail, post and hardware installed and \$20.00 per foot for new rail, post and hardware installed. During the 20 years that Mr. Jeff Rodgers has owned the property at least 5 people have ran thru his fence. Vice Mayor Massengill said this was a safety issue and needed addressed regardless of price. A motion to purchase 35 feet of guard rail and have installed at 863 Long Street was made by Vice Mayor Massengill. Commissioner Beene 2nd the motion. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Contract with City Attorney Carol Ann Barron

Mayor Doss has questioned what fee the city pays and why Mrs. Barron is not at the meetings, he feels we need to be represented. Mayor Doss has attended other city meetings and they have their attorney present at the meetings. Mrs. Barron has been the city attorney for 14 years Mayor Doss stated the city is not looking to replace her but is looking for representation. Mrs. Barron is very pleased to serve as the Town's attorney the fees are \$100.00 per month for a retainer and \$100.00 per hour for extra meetings, litigation or contract work, she would be glad to attend city meetings if that is what the board wants. Mayor Doss asked if we needed to have something in a form of a contract, Vice Mayor Massengill asked if we have ever had a written contract. Mrs. Barron explained she bills the Town every 3 to 4 months. Mayor Doss stated it was to the Towns benefit to have Mrs. Barron at the Town meetings. A motion to leave things as they are in regards to a contract and if Mrs. Barron was available to attend the Town meetings she be present was made by Commissioner Kaylor. Commissioner Beene 2nd the motion. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Business property on Highway 27 and Hickman Lane

Mayor Doss said it was approximately a year ago, there were two RV's that were on the location that Mrs. Barron helped get removed. Mayor Doss asked what the Town could do legally to enforce the rule. Mrs. Barron said

the Town's ordinances provide for very precise control of the property within the city limits. She asked if the general compliant was abandon vehicles, overgrown, rat infested. Mayor Doss said our city ordinance stated no junk yards are allowed and the property owner states since there's no money that exchanges hands at the property they are exempted. Mrs. Barron said that did not exempt the property owner and ask if the board wants her to send a letter. Mayor Doss has heard he will be relocating his business that is currently located in Dayton in April. Mrs. Barron asked how much time she should give him. Mayor Doss said what the ordinances states Vice Mayor Massengill said if it was deemed a junk yard the property owner would have to get rid of it. Mrs. Barron said if he was to ignore her letter the Town could site him into city court and have him answer why he is ignoring the Towns demands on clearing up his property and could pay someone to clean the property up and place a lean on the property. Mayor Doss stated it was not grown up that he pays a gentleman to mow it; it's just an eyesore of 50 wrecked vehicles. Mrs. Barron said she would consider 50 wrecked vehicles a junk yard and asked if the property owner had been given a copy of the city ordinance and told him he was in violation. Town Recorder Horton explained he had been given a copy, at which time he came to city hall stating he had spoken with his attorney and throwing out legal issues which is why she contacted Mrs. Barron. Mayor Doss asked Mrs. Barron to address that as soon as she could and get back with Town Recorder Horton. Mrs. Barron advised she would send the property owner a letter, copying the city informing him what his chooses are and what the Town may do if he doesn't comply.

Any properly presented old business

No presented old business

New Business

Commissioner Dennis presented Assistant Librarian Amanda Sulcer a bible that had records of deaths all from Graysville. Mayor Doss stated that would be a good addition to the Historical Committee.

Parks and Recreation Events

Town Recorder Horton explained one of the goals the Town wanted to achieve in the next 4 years was more activities for the Citizens.

Commissioner Davenport had coordinated a Health Day at City Hall on March 11, 2009 from 8:00am – 10:00am, offering services such as Facial Screen which detects skin cancer at discounted prices. Town Recorder Horton encouraged everyone to get the word out.

Representative Jim Cobb stated if anyone has been watching the news they know the issues surrounding Mr. Williams serving as Speaker of the House, he wants to go on record as saying we need to move forward.

Representative Cobb is currently working on a bill moving mandating school systems to purchase a new bus every 15 years to every 20 years this would save a lot of money. To ensure it would not compromise the safety of the children there would be increased inspections on the buses. The vendors of the buses oppose the bill their stand is no money will be saved due to the increased cost of additional inspections. This bill has meet more resistance than he expected but he will continue to fight for this due to the current state of the economy and the lack of funding the school system and the county has.

He is also working on elected verse appointed School Superintendent. He has asked the school board if they want to continue appointing the School Superintendent to present a resolution stating so and he will oppose a bill that is in Nashville that will allow the county commissioners to move to an elected School Superintendent based on 2/3 vote. He feels it's appropriate to take the stand of the school board since they are elected; he would like to see the resolution pass with 100% vote on the issue.

Another bill will allow for golf carts. Representative Cobb needs feed back from the board; he feels it will be passed if it is limited to populations less than 2,000. Mayor Doss said our Neighborhood Watch members are activity daily on their golf carts, as long as they maintain the laws, with drivers license, have a tag, maintain at least 20 mph, only operate on streets posted 35 mph or less, carts can cross highways, but cannot operate on them, from talking with the citizens as long as they can use their golf carts they would like to. Affidavit from the state did not mention Liability insurance as a requirement. Chief Mahoney stated that he had been in contact with the court clerk who issued the tags and stated she was receiving favorable feedback about them being issued as a low speed vehicle. Chief Mahoney has not heard anything else on this matter. Mayor Doss stated that he would be in favor of insurance for the golf carts. Representative Cobb asked the board if he could use Chief Mahoney as a point of contact to continue to work through the details on this matter. Representative Cobb stated that he would like to repeal Chapter 322, Private Act of 1978 which states that a person cannot run for a commission seat and hold themselves out to be in any party Republic or Democrat. This topic struck a lengthy conversation between Representative Cobb and Town Attorney Carol Ann Barron.

Spay Day USA Proclamation

On February 2, 2009 Dayton Mayor, Bob Vincent proclaimed February 24 as Spay Day USA, on February 5, 2009 Spring City Mayor Marry Garrison proclaimed February 24 Spay Day USA, today Mayor Doss also proclaims February 24 as Spay Day USA.

Mayor Doss stated he grew up watching Bob Barker and at the end he always stated, have your pets spayed or neuter. Mr. Barker has kept true to his word. He is still active in putting millions into this cause every year. Doris Day started this 15 years ago. By working together with other cities and County Executive Billy Ray Patten, within the next 4 years, we will see a reduction of strays. If the community would just work with us we will see these results.

Chief Mike Miles vehicle request

Chief Miles states that the First Responder Truck "is on its last legs" repairs are being done every month on the vehicle. He stated that they have found a 2003 Chevrolet Tahoe for \$1500.00, in excellent condition. Chief Miles states that a mechanic has looked it over. Specialty Collision donated body repair which fixed 2 minor dents. Chief Miles took an approximated guess on wiring at \$1100.00. \$1478.00 was raised for the purchase of this vehicle; Chief Miles is asking the board for the remaining balance to purchase the vehicle. Chief Miles also stated that he would like to donate their current First Responder Vehicle to another department, stating that Lewis Chapel is in need of one. Mayor Doss stated that in the past that we have accepted donations, he feels it is now our time to do the donating and would like to pass the vehicle on. A Motion was made, by Commissioner Charles Kaylor, to purchase the 2003 Tahoe and to donate the current vehicle to Lewis Chapel. The Motion was 2nd by Vice Mayor Jimmy Massengill. Motion carried 7 - 0. Commissioner Kaylor recognized Commissioner Davenport for his efforts to help the Town of Graysville and also the community, to raise needed monies, by having the wrestling fund raisers. Commissioner Davenport has held four events to date.

Chief Thomas Mahoney

Chief Mahoney approached the board on hiring Jason Fillyaw full time. Chief Mahoney states that Officer Fillyaw has almost completed his 90 day review and would like to go ahead and hire him as a full time officer; when 90 days are completed an adjustment can be made to his pay. Officer Fillyaw has high marks on his evaluation and during the last 90 days he has worked several hard core drug cases and continues to work them. He is excellent with children, easy to approach, and has served as a law enforcement officer for approximately 3 ½ years. Officer Fillyaw comes to us from Red Bank Police Department. Commissioner Davenport stated that while having the wrestling/ fund raisers, that he has nothing but compliments about Officer

Fillyaw. A motion was made to hire Officer Fillyaw, full time with a pay raise to \$10.25, effective immediately by Commissioner Kaylor. Commissioner Davenport 2nd the motion. Motion carried 7 - 0.

Chief Mahoney brought before the board the resignation of Officer Ben Clayton. Officer Clayton resigned on January 16, 2009; he did a good job for the Graysville Police Department in which he started when he was 18 years old. He is moving his employment to Rhea County Fire Department, where he will serve as a full time fire fighter. Officer Jason Erik Redden will be the replacement officer for Officer Clayton. Officer Redden comes to us from Chattanooga Police Department where he has 3 years, full time police experience. Officer Redden is very well mannered, clean cut, and is currently working his 90 days review period with us. Officer Redden states that he is looking forward to working with our small community.

Chief Mahoney brought up the issue of a police dog. Commissioner Kaylor asked what about the cost. Chief Mahoney stated that he would have to research and get the hard figures. The animal itself will be donated to the department. This animal will not be an attack dog, it will be trained for drugs and tracking. These animals are now trained passive so as not to destroy property being searched, such as vehicles or homes. We do currently have a certified dog handler in our department, Officer Greg Higgins. A private business from Dunlap will donate \$2000.00 for the equipment for this K-9, and free certification. Chief states anything we can do to get drugs off the streets and out of the hands of children. This animal will pay for itself with drugs and cash, from drug busts. Food will not be an issue as Wal-mart takes very good care of the town in that area. Mayor Doss had several questions for the Chief Mahoney such as follows, we have a contact with Dr. Nix, Rhea Co. Vet, maybe he would give a discount on treatments for the animal? What will this cause our insurance rate to rise to? Will the animal be a one man animal and if so what happens if the Officer leaves? Would there have to be another vehicle purchased to house this animal? Chief Mahoney stated that it would be ideal to purchase a K-9 unit vehicle, as to not interfere with the transportation of prisoners. Commission Green stated that he would like to have more information "hard figures" before making a decision on this animal. Commissioner Kaylor stated that he would like for Chief Mahoney to get the figures so that they could move forward on a decision. Chief also brought forth animal control Officer issues. Our animal control officer is a commissioned police officer, he has been through the training, he has been riding for several years as an auxiliary therefore I feel comfortable with his knowledge of the job. His primary duties are animal control, and I have explained this to him. His weapon is to protect him from vicious animals and possibly angry or upset animal owners. Chief Mahoney opens the floor to any questions or concerns that the board may have,

stating that it is their animal control and their department. Mayor Doss asked if he (Animal Control Officer) is off the clock is it customary for him to drive? Chief Mahoney stated no, but if he is volunteering his own time he may ride with an officer, not drive. Chief Mahoney also stated that two police vehicles may be seen out at the same time due to overlapping of shifts and possibly working on drug busts. Chief Mahoney asked the board if they had any questions or complaints to please come and see him do not let them fester. Mayor Doss stated that he tried to explain to the citizens, when they come to complain to him, that there is a chain of command that has to be followed. I tell them that you have always had an open door policy since day one. Chief Mahoney stated that he always would as long as the board decided to keep him here as chief. Vice Mayor Jimmy Massengill asked Chief Mahoney if he was satisfied that the animal control job is getting done? Chief Mahoney stated yes. Chief Mahoney stated that he is catching more dogs than ever, and not only that, but that he is getting the code violations, that the some of the board stated that they would like to see done to get the town cleaned up. He is cleaning the kennel, feeding and watering the animals housed in the kennels. Recorder Horton can get you the hard numbers on the animal control as far as the animals he is catching and so forth. Mayor Doss stated that he had been speaking with County Executive Billy Ray Patton about an advisory board, to possibly give advice, etc, so that we stay up to code. Also to possibly get Kenny certified to a level 1 or possibly a level 2, so that he can do the euthanasia here.

Any properly presented new business

Purchasing software for the property taxes. Mayor Doss stated that he knew last month Recorder Horton had mentioned waiting on more information on this issue. Recorder Horton stated we already pay local government a support fee for the provision of our other software, such as our water department. Recorder Horton stated she would prefer to use them for the taxes also. Town citizen Linda Miller commented that several times, with the way the taxes are being done now, that she has had to prove that she has paid her prior year taxes on several occasions. Mrs. Miller stated that as a tax payer this is very frustrating, especially when your name is in the paper. She hopes that the board will purchase this software to decrease the chance of this possibly happening again. Recorder Horton stated this would also be a convenience for the town as far as training. The town has had a large turnover of city recorders, not that she is planning to go anywhere, but that the board would not have to worry about the training if the software was purchased. Commissioner Kaylor asked would this software pay for it self. Mrs. Horton stated that it would, and the software would not affect this years budget because it would not be purchased until next years budget. A motion to purchase the needed software was made by Vice Mayor Massengill. Commissioner Davenport 2nd the motion. Motion passed 7 - 0.

The property of Pat Green on Miller Street, was questioned by Commissioner Green, wanting to know if it had been cleaned up. There is old furniture, etc. out on the curb. Gary Doss, Public Works Director stated that he had personally spoken with Mr. Green and had a promise that Mr. Green would get the property cleaned. Commissioner Green asked if he had been sited, Mr. Doss stated that he doesn't know. Commissioner Green made a motion to get something moving on the issue, Commissioner Kaylor 2nd the Motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Citizen Input

None at this time

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Kaylor. Commissioner Green 2nd the motion. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Mayor Ted Doss

Recorder Michelle Horton

Date