

April 4th, 2011

At 7:00pm., on Monday, April 4th, 2011, in the Board Room of the Landis Municipal Building, Mayor Dennis Brown called to order the Town of Landis Board of Aldermen Regular Meeting. Those present along with the Mayor were Aldermen James Furr, Roger Safrit, Tony Hilton and Craig Sloop, Public Works Director Steve Rowland, Police Chief Brian McCoy, Deputy Town Administrator Debbie Goodman, Recreation Director Andrew Morgan, Administrative Assistant Heather Wood and Town Attorney Rick Locklear.

A quorum was met.

Mayor Dennis Brown opened the meeting and welcomed all those in attendance.

The invocation was led by Alderman James Furr.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mayor Dennis Brown.

Alderman Sloop motioned, seconded by Alderman Furr, to adopt the agenda as written. All voted aye.

Alderman Furr motioned, seconded by Alderman Sloop, to adopt the minutes from the March, 7th, 2011 Regular Meeting as written. All voted aye.

Mayor Dennis Brown then opened the public hearing regarding the proposed Low Speed Vehicle Ordinance.

Sam Deadmon stated that he did not understand why the Town would seek to put additional vehicles on the road, especially if they weren't insured. He commented that he had spoken to the Board, the Police Department and Manager Linn about problems he was having in his neighborhood with the racing of four wheelers and motorcycles, as well as problems with children driving the vehicles. He did not understand why the Town would allow vehicles on the road that go below the speed limit. He concluded that he and others in his neighborhood were against the ordinance for safety reasons.

Mayor Brown then closed the public hearing.

Mayor Brown recommended tabling the proposed ordinance until a later date and told Mr. Deadmon that he appreciated his comments. The Board agreed to table the Low Speed Vehicle Ordinance until a later date.

Public Works Director Steve Rowland then presented the Board with the four finalist bids for the Town's mowing contract. Mayor Brown stated that they would simply receive the information and act on it in May. Director Rowland stated that he had "thrown out the ones" that did not meet the requirements of the specification sheet and the bids that were extremely high. The current contract for mowing expires on June 30th, 2011 and was held by ProGreen.

The next order of business concerned setting dates for the 2011-2012 budget workshops. Mayor Brown indicated that they needed to start the process soon.

After discussion, it was decided that the first workshop would be held on Monday, April 11th, 2011 at 6:00pm.

Department Head Comments

Recreation Director Andrew Morgan: stated that last month they had discussed the pavilion and he had bids for redoing the roof, which included metal roofing. There was discussion about the bids and the price differences, with metal being significantly higher. Alderman Hilton inquired if there was money in the budget for redoing the roof at the pavilion; Director Morgan confirmed that there was. Mayor Brown inquired if there was enough money in the budget to pay for metal roofing. Director Morgan stated that there was money for metal roofing, but it would take away from other things that could need doing. Alderman Furr stated that before they acted, he wanted to look at the bids more closely, as he felt the bids seemed rather expensive. Mayor Brown instructed Director Morgan to get everything together and make copies for them and when they met on April 11th, 2011 for the budget workshop they would discuss it further at that time.

Director Morgan then discussed the lake, stating that the piers were starting to come down today as they had been safety hazards. They had also gotten the trees that were safety hazards cleared away as well. It was his hope to open the lake to fishing by permit only next week. There was discussion of rate packages for the fishing, and it was decided it would be looked at more closely at the budget workshop as well.

Director Morgan stated that the volunteer day at the lake had happened this past Saturday and they had 60-65 volunteers show up to help. They worked all day long and inquired when the next volunteer day would be. They had filled over forty bags with trash and scrap wood, etc.

Director Morgan also brought concerns he had regarding House Bill 111 to the Board, which dealt with handguns in parks. Alderman Hilton stated that he and Alderman Furr were both on record supporting the bill in question. Director Morgan provided the Board with information, stating that he would like to have a day to discuss the matter with them because he had some concerns and wanted to see what direction the Board would like him to go in.

Public Works Director Steve Rowland: stated that they were currently in the process of switching the southeast part of town from 4kv to 12kv. The power would go off several times during the process, and they were knocking on doors in the affected areas to alert people.

Board Comments

Mayor Dennis Brown: informed the Board that they had been given a copy of the proposed General Fund Budget for 2011-2012 as well as an updated financial statement, and requested that they review the material.

Citizens Comments

Michael Toler: asked for an update on the (passive) park. Mayor Brown stated that they had applied for the PARTIF grant and they would have to wait for word on that before they could get underway. As of that night, they had not received word, but Director Morgan was confident that they would receive the grant. Director Morgan stated that the next step (if the Town received the PARTIF grant) would be to have the land moved from the trust fund into Landis' name and at that point they would start fundraising. He stated that he had already spoken to several people about fundraising.

Sam Deadmon: stated that “not all metal roofs are created equal”. He then commented that he had gone to the China Grove website when researching the Low Speed Vehicle Ordinance and had noticed that on their website there was a way to contact the Board via email. He requested that the same be possible for Landis. Mayor Brown stated that they would “take care of it”.

Alderman Furr motioned, seconded by Alderman Sloop, to go into Executive Session for Legal matters. All voted aye.

Alderman Furr motioned, seconded by Alderman Hilton, to come out of Executive Session and to adjourn the meeting. All voted aye.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45pm on Monday, April 4th, 2011.

Heather Wood
Administrative Assistant