

NITRO CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2011

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Rusty Casto called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers. Attending the meeting were Mayor Casto, Recorder Rita Cox, Ward 1 Councilman A. A. "Joe" Savilla, Ward 2 Councilman Bill Racer, Ward 3 Councilman Craig Matthews, Ward 4 Councilman Bill Javins, Councilman at Large Bob Fields, Councilman at Large Jim McKay, Councilman at Large Dave Casebolt, City Attorney Richie Robb and City Treasurer John Young.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Invocation was given by Councilman Jim McKay and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Boy Scout Jason Bailey.

FUTURE DATES OF COUNCIL: Mayor Rusty Casto announced the future dates of Council are March 1 and 15 and April 5 and 19.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES: RECORDER COX MOVED THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 1, 2011 BE APPROVED WITH A SECOND BY COUNCILMAN MCKAY. Recorder Rita Cox said that there were two correction to be made in the minutes, one indicating that Councilman Bob Fields appointed Mike Oldham to the City Hall Committee and the other being that Councilman Dave Casebolt appointed Kim Painter to the City Hall Committee. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES.

OLD BUSINESS

NITRO-ST. ALBANS BRIDGE: Mayor Casto announced there will be two public meetings to prepare for the closing of the Nitro-St. Albans Bridge. On March 7 there is to be a meeting at St. Albans High School and on March 8 there is to be a meeting at Nitro High School. Both meetings will from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm with an overview given at 5:30 pm. COUNCILMAN MCKAY MOVED THAT \$60.00 BE APPROVED FOR REFRESHMENTS FOR THE MARCH 8 MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MATTHEWS. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION.

AFGHANISTAN ORPHANAGE: Mayor Casto said the orphanage that Council had agreed to mail supplies to had been written about in the Charleston Daily Mail recently. He said the soldier he had been in contact with would attend Council when he returned from Afghanistan. Mayor Casto said that approximately 25 boxes of supplies had been sent from the City.

CITY HALL COMMITTEE: Mayor Casto said the City Hall Committee would meet next week and he would welcome more names from Council to be on the Committee.

BIDS POLICE DEPARTMENT PRINTER/COPIER/SCANNER: Recorder Cox said that she had received five bids. RECORDER COX MOVED A COMMITTEE CONSISTING OF RECORDER COX, MAYOR CASTO, TREASURER JOHN YOUNG, ROBIN SMITH AND NITRO POLICEMAN BRIAN OXLEY MEET THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17 AT 11:00 AM IN MAYOR CASTO'S OFFICE TO SELECT THE BID FOR THE COPIER. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MATTHEWS. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION.

NEW BUSINESS

FIRST READING AN ORDINANCE REDUCING B & O FOR ANNEXED BUSINESSES: Richie Robb read the Ordinance by title: An Ordinance to Amend and Reenact Section 711.33, Article 71 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Nitro, West Virginia, all Relating to Business and Occupation Tax Credits, and Authorizing a Five-Year One Hundred Percent Tax Credit for Annexation of a Qualified Business Facility. COUNCILMAN JIM MCKAY MOVED THE ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A FIVE-YEAR ONE HUNDRED PERCENT B & O TAX CREDIT FOR ANNEXATION OF A QUALIFIED BUSINESS BE PASSED ON FIRST READING WITH THE REMOVAL OF THE WORD "VOLUNTARILY" FROM THE ORDINANCE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN

A. A. "JOE" SAVILLA. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION.

ATTORNEY REPORT: Richie Robb said he had no formal report for Council but would answer questions from Council.

TREASURER REPORT: John Young said revenue was up over the previous year by \$111,000.00. He said he is working on budget packets for each Council member. He indicated that the financial report supplied to Council reflected what the WV Auditor representative said was the accepted format. He said he had received billing from Baker Engineering for Streetscape and Pedestrian Master Plan and Streetscape Design and he needed direction on how to pay it. He said he was told it could be paid from Hotel Motel tax revenue. Recorder Cox asked who had told him. Councilman Matthews said that some was to come out of the original \$60,000.00 committed from Streetscape but would not be used during the current budget.

John Young said that 61 liens had been filled on unpaid municipal service fees.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Mayor Rusty Casto said that the last day of public school will be June 6. He said that Amtrak will use a photo taken by Chase Gunnoe on the homepage.

Councilman Bill Javins thanked John Young for keeping the city in the black.

Councilman Craig Matthews said the Valentine Dance was a big success. He said he had applied for a grant for improvements at Ridenour Lake and thanked Robin Smith, A. J. Hill and Debra Jordan for help in writing the grant. He introduced Bruce Crowder who asked Council's cooperation in putting on the Antique Fair, street dance and Starry, Starry Night Car Show. He said the date would be June 11, with proceeds going to the Make A Wish Foundation. They would like to have 21st blocked off for concessions and a band. COUNCILMAN MATTHEWS MOVED THE ANTIQUE FESTIVAL/CAR SHOW BE PERMITTED ON JUNE 11, 2011. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY RECORDER COX. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION.

COUNCILMAN MCKAY MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE CURRENT NDA MEETING AND NDA FINANCIAL REPORT BE MADE A PART OF THE COUNCIL MINUTES WITH A SECOND BY COUNCILMAN RACER. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION.

Councilman McKay said he wanted to speak up on behalf of Bayer Crop Science and their place in the community. Councilman Racer, Councilman Savilla, and Councilman Matthews said they agree.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Schamber said he supports Bayer. He said a \$20,000.00 grant was awarded to Seniors for exercise equipment and a \$34,000.00 grant awarded for a new van. There is a Valentine Dance February 19 and a dinner February 26.

John Montgomery said the Ordinance Committee will meet on Thursday, 7 pm, NDA Boardroom.

Leonard Womble urged Council to support local businesses.

ADJOURNMENT

COUNCILMAN MATTHEWS MOVED THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED WITH A SECOND BY COUNCILMAN MCKAY. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION.

RUSTY CASTO, MAYOR

RITA COX, RECORDER