

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2018
TOWN OF SAWMILLS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
6:00 PM**

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Johnnie Greene
Clay Wilson
Rebecca Johnson
Keith Warren
Joe Norman

STAFF PRESENT

Christopher Todd
Terry Taylor
Julie A Good

COUNCIL ABSENT

Jeff Wilson

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Johnnie Greene called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Reverend Frank Denny gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Brandy Higginbotham and Michael Walsh from Sawmills Elementary School led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA: Mayor Johnnie Greene asked for a motion to adopt the December 18, 2018 Agenda, with an amendment, switching Item 8. Financial Matters and Item 9. Discussion.

Clay Wilson made a motion, and Joe Norman seconded, to adopt the amended December 18, 2018 Agenda. All were in favor.

APPROVE NOVEMBER 20, 2018 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Mayor Johnnie Greene asked for a motion to approve the November 20, 2018 regular meeting minutes.

Rebecca Johnson made a motion, and Keith Warren seconded, to approve the November 20, 2018 regular meeting minutes. All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Johnnie Greene asked if anyone had any questions or comments at this time.

No one wished to speak

RECOGNITIONS:

RECYCLE REWARDS WINNER: Mayor Johnnie Greene announced Mrs. Marcie Brown as the December Recycle Rewards winner. A credit of thirty-two dollars (\$32.00) will be added to her sanitation bill.

No Council action was required.

DISCUSSION:

NUISANCE ABATEMENT UPDATE: Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated that during the August Town Council meeting the Sawmills Town Council voted to allow Town Administrator Christopher Todd, to approve agreements for demolition, not to exceed the budgeted funding level of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00). Additionally, any agreements would be reviewed and approved by the Town Attorney. Due to the cost of demolition and the cost of asbestos removal, the ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) will not be sufficient to remove the structure. The current estimate for the total work is nineteen thousand nine hundred fifty dollars (\$19,950.00). This work would be accomplished by DH Griffin and its subsidiaries (for asbestos removal).

For safety and ability reasons, staff recommends that all asbestos removal and demolition be completed by the same company. This should decrease the time to finish the project and allow for a more streamlined process.

Staff has examined the budget and should be able to fund the project within the Community Development department. If the department as a whole is to go more than ten percent (10%) over budget, staff would recommend a budget amendment for the department at that time.

Joe Norman made a motion, and Keith Warren seconded, to increase the total project limit from ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) to twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00). All were in favor.

TIMBERLINE LUMBER COMPANY, LLC PROPERTY: Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated that staff wished to provide Town Council with an update regarding the Timberline property, commonly known as Kohler and Campbell. The Town Council voted during the November Council meeting to postpone the foreclosure process of the Timberline property in order to allow for the property to be auctioned on December 13, 2018. The investment company, Summit Bridge National Investments, is currently moving the auction date to January. The investment company has requested for the Town to continue its postponement of the foreclosure process until the auction is held.

Keith Warren made a motion, and Joe Norman seconded, to postpone the foreclosure until January. All were in favor.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

FY 2017-2018 AUDIT PRESENTATION: James Lowdermilk and Rick Hammer, with Lowdermilk, Church & Co., L.L.P., presented the Towns FY 2017-2018 audit to Council.

Mr. Lowdermilk and Mr. Hammer stated that the Town received an unqualified audit and commended staff and Council on their efforts to maintain a strong fund balance.

No Council action was required.

ADOPT BUDGET WORKSHOP SCHEDULE: Mayor Johnnie Greene asked for a motion to adopt the proposed FY 2019-2020 budget workshop schedule.

Keith Warren made a motion, and Rebecca Johnson seconded, to adopt the proposed FY 2019-2020 budget workshop schedule. All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one wished to speak.

DECEMBER CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: There are six (6) code enforcement cases open:

- Teresa Annas Compton is the owner of a dilapidated house located at 4476 Sawmills School Road. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated that the asbestos study has been conducted and asbestos was found on the property. A firm is currently being spoken to with regards to asbestos removal;
- Carolyn Bray/Robyn Brittan, owner of abandoned mobile home located at 2570 Baker Circle. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated that an Attorney has been appointed to the estate and Terry Taylor with work with attorney;
- Jose Montes, owner 4321 Cherokee Court. High grass/junk vehicles. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated that she spot checked property on June 14, 2018. Still no proper driveway has ever been installed. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated that a letter was sent giving the owner thirty (30) days to install a driveway. The thirty (30) days are up on July 14, 2018, and homeowner will start to accrue fines if not compliant from that date. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated that another letter was sent on August 28, 2018, giving the home owner ten (10) more days. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated that she spot checked the property on September 11 and the homeowner was not in compliance. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated that she spoke with homeowner on September 18, 2018 and homeowner stated that he would have the driveway completed on September 22, 2018. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated that the driveway was not completed until October 4, 2018. Four hundred fifty dollars

- (\$450.00) have been incurred. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated that Town Attorney Terry Taylor will send a letter and a lien will be filed if fines not paid upon receipt of letter;
- Chaney Carter, owner of 4361 Sawmills School Rd. Overgrown vegetation. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated that a letter was sent on July 19, 2018, with a deadline of August 3, 2018. Town Planner stated that the nuisance was abated by the Town on August 10, 2018. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated that a lien will be placed on the property for the cost of the mowing. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated that a hearing was held on September 6, 2018. The homeowner did not show so the Town can proceed to demolish house;
 - Timberline Lumber Company, Inc., owner of 4219 US Highway 321A. Overgrown vegetation. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated that a NOV letter was sent on July 19, 2018, with a deadline of August 3, 2018. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated that an additional letter was sent by Town Attorney Terry Taylor on August 2, 2018, with a deadline of August 17, 2018. Owner has not complied with either NOV letter. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated she was working with Town Attorney Terry Taylor to determine the next steps.
 - Alexander Estates. Trash. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated that a complaint was filed on November 21, 2018, and she spot checked on November 22, 2018. No nuisance was spotted. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated that she will continue to monitor.

No Council action was required.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES: Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated that Council has a copy of the closing and disconnect dates for 2019. There is a question about the Christmas schedule for 2019. Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated that Council would discuss Christmas 2019 at a later date.

Town Administrator Christopher Todd wanted to thank Council and the public for working with Sawmills Public Works with the snow removal and trash schedule due to the eighteen (18) inches of snow that fell on December 9 and 10, 2018.

COUNCIL COMMENT: Mayor Johnnie Greene asked if anyone on the Council had any questions or comments at this time.

Mayor Johnnie Greene stated that he appreciated everyone coming out and the students from Sawmills Elementary School for doing the pledge. Mayor Johnnie Greene also wanted to thank Deputy Jon Hawn for all the work he does for Sawmills Elementary School and for the Town of Sawmills.

Keith Warren wanted to thank everyone for coming out and hoped everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

COUNCIL ADJOURN: Mayor Johnnie Greene asked for a motion to adjourn.

Keith Warren made a motion, and Rebecca Johnson seconded, to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

Johnnie Greene, Mayor

Julie A. Good, Town Clerk