**Lee Town Council**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**October 1, 2024**

Mayor: James Ruzicka

Council President: Ronnie Bass

Council: Lloyd Burke & Ken Szostek

Town Manager/Clerk: Sona Hayslett

Attorney: Rhett Bullard

County Commissioner: Brian Williams

Absent: Edwin McMullen, Joyce Bethea, Rhett Bullard, & Brian Williams

Mayor Ruzicka called the meeting to order.

**Amend or Update Agenda**

Council reviewed the agenda. Mayor Ruzicka asked that Item #1 under New Business be changed to Forgotten Coast K-9 and add Item #13 Grant Hearing.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to amend the agenda to change Item #1 and to add Item #13 under New Business, was made by Councilman Szostek. Council President Bass seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

The Minutes for the January 30, 2024 CATF Meeting were reviewed by the Council.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to accept the minutes as printed for the January 30, 2024 CATF Meeting was made by Councilman Szostek. Councilman Burke seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

The Minutes for the September 3, 2024 Regular Council Meeting were reviewed by the Council.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to accept the minutes as printed for the September 3, 2024 Regular Council Meeting was made by Councilman Burke. Council President Bass seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

The Minutes for the September 10, 2024 Budget – First Public Hearing were reviewed by the Council.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to accept the minutes as printed for the September 10, 2024 Budget – First Public Hearing was made by Councilman Szostek. Councilman Burke seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

The Minutes for the September 17, 2024 Budget – Second and Final Public Hearing were reviewed by the Council.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to accept the minutes as printed for the September 1072024 Budget – Second and Final Public Hearing was made by Council President Bass. Councilman Szostek seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Public Comments:**

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

1. Chris O’Brien, of Forgotten Coast K-9, explained how he does fundraising for his business and gives a portion back. One of his fundraisers is a Chili and Brew Fest. He would like to give a portion of proceeds to help fund next year’s Lee Day. Since this year’s Lee Day was cancelled due to the hurricane, they can have an event at the beginning of the year with Lee Day. We will need to talk to the lawyer to see what permits or exceptions are needed.

**2. Hearing for the CDBG 2nd Public Hearing seeking funding for the Town’s water system to include rehabilitation to the Town’s elevated water tank and extension of water main to Corinth Church Road.**

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to open the CDBG 2nd Public Hearing was made by Council President Bass. Councilman Szostek seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Public Comments:**

None

Andy Easton of Andy Easton & Associates had discussion on the Unity Development Block Grant application. This is for the Neighborhood Revitalization Water Systems and to run water lines to the interchange for the new development. The deadline is 10/31/2024.

3. Discussion was made on the reading and possible adoption of Resolution 2024-04.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to accept Resolution 2024-04 was made by Council President Bass. Councilman Burke seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

4. Discussion was made on the reading and possible adoption or Resolution 2024-05.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to accept Resolution 2024-05 was made by Councilman Burke. Councilman Szosteck seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

There being no further business the CDBG 2nd Public Hearing was adjourned

5. Chasity Reid with U.S. Small Business Administration is a Public Affairs Specialist that works with the Disaster Recovery side of SBA. She gave an overview of the operation process of the program.

6. Alan Hart, SEH Engineer, gave an update on the water grant and Safe Streets for All grant applications.

**Hearing for the 2nd and Final reading and possible adoption of Noise Ordianace 2024-04.**

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to open the Hearing for the 2nd and final reading of Noise Ordinance 2024-04 was made by Council President Bass. Councilman Szostek seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Public Comments:**

None

7. Discussion was made on the 2nd and final readingof Noise Ordinance 2024-04.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to accept Noise Ordinance 2024-04 was made by Councilman Burke. Councilman Szostek seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

The Public Hearing for the 2nd and final reading of the Noise Ordinance 2024-04 was concluded.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to close the Public Hearing for Noise Ordinance 2024-04 was made by Councilman Szostek. Council President Bass seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Hearing for the 2nd and Final reading and possible adoption of Event Ordianace 2024-05.**

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to open the Hearing for the 2nd and final reading of Event Ordinance 2024-05 was made by Council President Bass. Councilman Szostek seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Public Comments:**

None

The Public Hearing for the 2nd and final reading of the Event Ordinance 2024-05 was concluded.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to close the Public Hearing for Noise Ordinance 2024-04 was made by Council President Bass. Councilman Szostek seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

8. Discussion was made on the 2nd and final Reading of Event Ordinance 2024-05.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to accept Event Ordinance 2024-05 was made by Councilman Burke. Councilman Szostek seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

9. Discussion was made on the changes to be made to the Town’s inventory list.

10. Discussion was made on the Christmas lighting contest. The Council President and mayor will give $20 and the rest of the council members will give $15 for the winning prizes.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to keep the Christmas Lighting prizes the same as last year was made by Council President Bass. A second to the motion was given and the motion was approved unanimously.

11. Discussion was made on raising the cost of business license.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to raise the cost of the business license to $50 was made by Councilman Burke. Councilman Szostek seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a majority vote. Councilman Bass opposed due to the cost being too low.

12. There was discussion on the proposals given to clean up pines at Ben Blair Park. The council granted Town Manager, Hayslett, authority to go with the highest bidder on clearing out the trees. Councilman Burke stated that we should get what we can get out of the trees now and decide what to do with the property later.

**Fire Department:**

None

**Town Manager:**

None

Bills:

Utility: **#3655 - 3701; ACH #679 - 688; EFT #0701U – 0901U**

Utility Deposit Account: **#1657 - 1659**

Debt Service Account: **EFT 17**

General: **#9841 - 9893; ACH #1759 - 1794; EFT#0701 - 0906**

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to pay the bills was made by Councilman Szostek. Council President Bass seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Attorney Rhett Bullard:** Absent

**County Commissioner Brian Williams:** Absent

**Council Member Comments**:

Council President Bass: Would like to see that the town is cleaned up.

Councilman Burke: None

Councilman Szostek: None

Councilwoman Bethea: Absent

Councilman McMullen: Absent

Mayor James Ruzicka: None

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

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James Ruzicka, Mayor

Attested: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Trisha Burke, Deputy Clerk