

Town of Savanna

Council Meeting Minutes

June 13, 2022 at 7pm

Savanna Public Works Authority

Meeting called to Order by Nathan

Roll Call: Coy - Absent, Chad, Nathan, and Robbye

Attendances: Fire Chief Jeff Jones, Asst. Police Chief Matt Hines, City Attorney Pat Layden and City Public Accountant George M Kerns.

1. Motion by Chad to Approve Minutes of May 9, 2022 Council Meeting, 2nd by Nathan;
Votes: Coy - Absent Chad – Yes Nathan - Yes
2. Motion by Nathan to Approve Current Claims, 2nd by Chad; Votes: Coy - Absent Chad – Yes Nathan - Yes
3. Financial Report; George Kerns C.P.A. presented Council with the Financial Report stating Expenses is below what town budget for the year so will be closing out the year good. Council discussed water clerk Ebony's salary for next year, Robbye shared Mayor Coy's suggestion of 5% increase starting July 1, George stated that percentage was fine, and council agreed it was fair. Robbye shared the letter from Republic Services that was received in the mail recently stating they are increasing the rates by 3% which equals to \$1.25 per polycart starting July 1, 2022. Due to that increase along with other increases to SPWA expenses George suggested a 5% increase to water usage 5,000 or more and 3% for 5,000 below. Town Clerk will add water, sewer, and trash rate increases to next month's agenda. Motion by Nathan to Approve Financial Report, Ebony's Salary Increase of 5%, and adding rate increase along with SPWA Fiscal Budget to next month's agenda, 2nd by Chad; Votes: Coy - Absent Chad – Yes Nathan – Yes
4. Holiday Schedule- Town Clerk present council with an example/suggestion for this year's remaining Holiday Schedule along with next year's schedule. Federal Holiday and two other holiday schedules were presents as guides. Council with the assist of the guests present at meeting shared their thoughts and opinions on which holidays should be added, remained, and/or removed from the current holiday schedule. Most agreed to add Juneteenth but keep the other holidays currently listed on Holiday Schedule. Clerk will add 2023 Holiday to Next month's Agenda for further discussion and/or

action. Motion by Chad to Approve the New Remaining Holiday Schedule, 2nd by Chad;
Votes: Coy – Ascent Chad – Yes Nathan - Yes

5. Water Adjustments; None
6. New Business; None.
7. Public Discussion; None.

Motion to Adjourn by Nathan, 2nd by Chad; Votes: Coy - Absent Chad – Yes Nathan – Yes

Town Clerk

Katie Argent

Council Members

Coy Hall
Nathan Dero

Town of Savanna

Meeting called to Order by Nathan

Roll Call: Coy joined meeting later, Chad, Nathan and Robbye

Attendances: Fire Chief Jeff Jones, Asst. Police Chief Matt Hines, Don Capps, City Attorney Pat Layden and City Public Accountant George M Kerns.

1. Motion by Chad to Approve Minutes of May 9, 2022 Council Meeting, 2nd by Nathan; Votes: Coy - Absent Chad – Yes Nathan - Yes
2. Motion by Nathan to Approve Current Claims, 2nd by Chad; Votes: Coy - Absent Chad – Yes Nathan - Yes
3. Financial Report; George Kerns C.P.A. presented Council with the Financial stating the fine budget extended this year's budget but the town will not change the amount for next year since the town does not want residents thinking the police dept. has a quota. George Kerns does suggest an overall budget 3% increase to next year's budget due to rising costs. Police and Fire Departments gave George their budgets for next year to be reviewed and added to next month's agenda. George is still waiting for Water Manager Coty Dedman's budget. George will have the official 2023 Fiscal Year's Budget next month at the next council meeting for final vote/approval. Robbye shared with council the mayor's suggestion for the new Police Chief Matthew Hines and Asst. Police Chief Orrin Gragert which have already started their new duties due to the current Police Chief David Spears officially retiring July 31 but using vacation and sick time in his last two months leading him to only being present for short periods of time throughout the month and next month, the amount suggested is a raise of \$1.25 per hour equaling \$100.00 per paycheck, \$200.00 more per month, and \$2400.00 per year plus a 5% raise if council agrees to an overall 5% raise for all employees. Matthew Hines shared with council he plans to step down as a K9 officer so he will lose the addition \$300.00 K9 fee he currently receives each month. Chad recommends the council approve Matthew Hines keeps his K9 fee since he will still be assisting the K9 officers in training etc. Council agreed that was fair. Robbye asked council to approve the increase to go into effect on July 1 since the officers are already taking on their new duties. Council discussed a 5% raise for all city employees that would also go into effect in July 1. George Kern will have the official Budget at next month's meeting but said the 5% raise is fine. Motion by Nathan to Approve Financial Report, New Police Salaries, and 5%

Raises for all City Employees effected July 1,2022, 2nd by Chad; Votes: Coy - Absent Chad – Yes Nathan - Yes

4. The Bank N.A. Account Signors- Since David Spears is retiring the council discussed removing David from the Town of Savanna Park Fund Account along with any other signors besides Mayor Coy Holt, Treasurer Robbye Watts, and Town Clerk Katie Gragert. David is currently on Park account since he opened the account few years ago but is no longer needed on the account. Motion by Chad to removing all signors except Mayor Coy Holt, Treasurer Robbye Watts, and Town Clerk Katie Gragert, 2nd by Nathan; Votes: Coy- Absent Chad- Yes Nathan- Yes
5. Holiday Schedule- Council agreed same as SPWA schedule, add Juneteenth but keep the rest of schedule the same for the year 2022. Add 2023 Holiday Schedule to next month's Agenda. Motion for Approval by Nathan, 2nd Chad; Votes: Coy- Absent Chad- Yes Nathan- Yes
6. Celebrate Savanna Day; Discussed at meeting – Streets will be blocked off at 3pm, Food served 5-6, Drinks will be served while supplies last, Dunk Tank is reserved and will be picked up on Thursday, Police will host cornhole, Fire will host Horseshoe, need a signup person for tournaments, Robbye said she can sell shirts and do the sign ups, Katie Gragert will do the races and games, Ebony is handling Vendors, and council agreed a final planning meeting will be Thursday June 23 at 6pm to finalize details. Motion by Chad to approve Savanna Day Meeting for June 23 at 6pm, 2nd by Nathan; Votes: Coy-Absent Chad- Yes Nathan- Yes
7. Life Insurance Carrier- Tabled by Nathan
8. Adjusting Fine Schedule- New Police Chief Matthew Hines shared with council that subject was added in case the town had to start paying a fingerprint fee etc. but that deal looks to fall through so an adjustment won't be needed. No Action Needed.
9. Clearing Tree Line on H and Monroe Streets- Matthew Hines shared the town plans to clear the area mention with the help of Choctaw Nation. Don and Matthew agreed it won't hurt to have the area surveyed to make sure what is town property for legal reasons. Flooding has caused many issues for the residents in the area along with the town's senior center, so problem need to be fixed. Motion by Chad to clear the area, 2nd by Nathan; votes: Coy- Asbent Chad- yes Nathan- yes
10. Betsy Phifer's Property- Due to Betsy's passing James Andrews has legal rights to sell the property once Probate is complete, he has offered to sell the lot to Town for \$5,000. The property is next to the lagoon and has troubles with people coming and

going from the property, so the town would benefit from the purchase of the lot.
Motion by Nathan to Purchase the lot for \$5,000 once it has a cleared title, 2nd by Chad;
Votes: Coy-Absent Chad- Yes Nathan- Yes

11. Town Property on Highway- It appears the current lease owner has decided to not purchase the property so it has been listed for sale. No Action Needed.
12. Police Department Business; New Police Chief Matthew Hines shared the dept. has a gentleman they can contacted about one of the police jobs open, but due to the man still being in cleet program and having other options nothing has been decided yet. Nathan read the rest of the Police Monthly Statement which is attached. No Action Needed.
13. Fire Business Department; Jeff Jones shared with council the siren is supposed to be finished Friday as long as they receive the parts Thursday. If the siren is completed as agreed then town will pay the remaining amount owed. Coy asked Jeff if he has contact for Jeff Thomason, Jeff stated he did and he will call him. Coy reminded the council what was discussed at last council meeting Jeff is a retired paramedic who has purchased new ambulances and is now looking for location(s) for houses them. Coy hopes the town can provide free housing in return for them providing these services to Savanna and surrounding towns. If they ask for a monthly fee then the town will have the town vote yes or no. Coy is still waiting for a call for Jeff to discuss details, but wants Police and Fire Dept. involved in the process. No Action Needed
14. New Business; Coy discussed budgets with council and that Coty will be creating a street budget with the help of other supervisors, since Coty is the town water manager the town would like to see more involvement from him like attending Town Meetings. Coy asked that Matthew works hard on getting two officers and new court clerk hired in the coming weeks and stated he is Police Chief but due to savanna being a small town he also acts as town manager as well. Town plans to use equipment to clean out the ditches in the area around Jay and Monroe streets. Choctaw Nation has agreed to put in 3 larger Tin Horns in on J St to help with the flooding issues. No Action Needed.
15. Public Discussions; None

Motion to Adjourn by Coy, 2nd by Nathan; Votes: Coy - Yes Chad – Yes Nathan – Yes.

Town Clerk

Kate August

Council Members

*Coy Chad
Nathan*