

City of Greenbrier
Regular Board Minutes
June 1, 2009

Public Hearings

- Ordinance 09-06, Ordinance to amend the Greenbrier Zoning Ordinance by amending Article IV, Section 4.087, Temporary Sign Provision – *No one spoke for or against.*
- Ordinance 09-08, Ordinance for fixing the tax levy for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 - *No one spoke for or against.*
- Ordinance 09-07, Ordinance for Budget for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010 - *No one spoke for or against.*
- Ordinance 09-09, Ordinance for Parking on Highway - *No one spoke for or against.*

Public Hearings Closed

Citizen Comments

There were no citizen comments.

1. Call to Order by the Mayor 7:02 PM
2. Roll Call

PRESENT:	Alderman Bonnette Dawson Alderman Jeff DeLong Alderman Wayne Dugger Alderman Carol Fagg Alderman Bill Vernich Mayor Billy Wilson.
ABSENT:	Alderman Joshua Evans – Arrived Late*
STAFF:	City Attorney Christina Bartee Police Chief Rich Hatfield City Superintendent Tommy Maitland Building and Codes Official Chuck Weaver City Recorder Rachel Slusser

3. Prayer/Pledge to flag

Wayne Dugger said the prayer followed by the pledge.

4. Adoption of Agenda

It was moved by Dawson, seconded by Dugger.

<u>Vote:</u>	6-0
Yes:	Dawson, DeLong, Dugger, Fagg, Vernich and Wilson
No:	None
Absent:	Evans

Motion Passed.

5. Approval of Minutes of the May 4, 2009 meeting

It was moved by Vernich, seconded by Dugger, to approve.

<u>Vote:</u>	6-0
Yes:	Dawson, DeLong, Dugger, Fagg, Vernich and Wilson
No:	None
Absent:	Evans

Motion Passed.

6. Presentations/Memorials

There were no presentations or memorials

7. Communications from the Mayor and Aldermen

Alderman Dugger wanted to thank the Mayor and City staff for help and support for the Memorial Day Ceremony. Dugger said that the turnout was better than the VA/organizers thought it would be. Mayor Wilson added that he counted about 100 people in attendance.

*7:05 PM Joshua Evans arrives.

8. Reports from Committees and Department Heads

9. Old Business

- a. Ordinance 09-06, Ordinance to amend the Greenbrier Zoning Ordinance by amending Article IV, Section 4.087, Temporary Sign Provision

It was moved by Vernich, seconded by Dawson, to adopt Ordinance No.09-06, temporary sign ordinance.

Discussion: Alderman Evans wanted to know what the major change was in this ordinance. Mayor Wilson explained that this ordinance was about the banner signs that are put up around town. It is hard to regulate temporary signs the way the current ordinance reads. This ordinance would allow banner or temporary signs up every 45 days for 10 days each time. They would have to get a permit for the banner sign and would be charged \$15.00 each time. He also explained that this did not apply to yard sale, election, or real estate signs. Alderman Fagg wanted to know if the City could enforce this ordinance. Mayor Wilson assured her the Codes Department will be able to monitor and enforce this. Codes Department is currently enforcing the yard sale sign ordinance.

Vote: 7-0
Yes: Dawson, DeLong, Dugger, Evans, Fagg, Vernich and Wilson
No: None

Motion Passed.

- b. Ordinance 09-08, Ordinance for fixing the tax levy for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009

It was moved by Dugger, seconded by Evans, to Approve Ordinance No.09-08, fixing the tax levy at \$1.03.

Vote: 7-0
Yes: Dawson, DeLong, Dugger, Evans, Fagg, Vernich and Wilson
No: None

Motion Passed.

- c. Ordinance 09-07, Ordinance for Budget for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010

It was moved by Vernich, seconded by Dugger, to adopt Ordinance No.09-07, budget for June 09 to July 10.

Discussion: Alderman Evans asked the following questions:

The Water & Sewer Fund is using \$520,000 from fund balance, what was the capital outlay for? Superintendent Maitland explained to Evans that the \$520,000 was cash on hand not fund balance. That money has been saved to pay for capital outlay projects. The \$250,000 capital outlay is for the upgrade of pump stations at Hygeia Road and Oliphant Street. Evans said that the project

listed was for Apple Valley Estate. Maitland said that the original plan was to put a gravity flow line in Apple Valley Estate. However, additional funds are needed from the General Fund for the drainage issue that Apple Valley has. That project has been put on hold. Evans asked about the life of the sewer plant filter cloth. Maitland said that the cloth currently in use is from 2000 and has rips and tears in it.

Did the employee insurance go up 25-30% across the board? City Recorder Rachel Slusser told Evans that insurance did go up, and the City is not paying anything over the \$1,100 cap that the Board previously established. Evans asked if Slusser planned on asking for increase in the cap. Slusser told Evans "No". Alderman Dugger stated that insurance has increased more then the cost of living. Slusser added that last year it was an 18% increase.

Did the City lose or move someone in the police budget to court budget? Chief Rich Hatfield said Lisa White is going to be paid out of Court. Evans asked if any vehicles were in the budget this year. Hatfield said "No".

In the parks budget, does the City have two part-time positions that are funded? Mayor Wilson replied that we have two part-time people which is the same as last year. Evans said that people have been asking him questions of who worked at the park. He said that they are doing a good job.

What does the new item in the sanitation budget for recycling cover? Superintendent Maitland said this it covers the weekly pick up fee of the recycling dumpsters. Evans thought it was a free service. Maitland said that additional sites for recycling bins are being discussed. Alderman Dugger added that this program is only going to get better. We have taken so much out of the solid waste amount that we should be able, in the future, to renegotiate the current contract for the disposal service. Mayor Wilson said that it made a big difference in the bid this year. Hudgins has seen a difference in the amount of trashed picked up. Dugger said that it might look like a little bit of money now but will be able to make that back by cutting disposal cost. Evan's constituents have asked him for years about a recycling program.

Evans had concerns that property tax, water sales, and sewer sales show a budget decrease. Evans doesn't plan on a lot of growth in the next year, but he doesn't see what he would call a decrease in water and sewer sales. Maitland added that we plan for the worse but hope for the best. Evans inquired as why the budgeted property tax revenue has decreased. Slusser pointed out that the budgeted amount is exactly the same as the previous year's budget. The reason why we didn't increase the budgeted amount was because of an increased amount of property taxes that are becoming delinquent. Also, the County's Assessor only increased the assessed amount for property in such a small amount that it didn't warrant an increase in budgeted tax revenue.

Evans announced to the Board, that last year he felt there was discontent when he voted against the budget. He was going to abstain from the vote this year because he felt the Board had no say on what was put in the budget. He knows that it has been extended to him many times to sit down and talk with the Mayor about the budget. He said that the other cities he works with has a board that will sit down together and ask where does the City want to be in 5 or 10 years and setting the budget to achieve those goals. He feels that as a group (Board of Mayor and Alderman) they haven't done a good job of goal setting. Evans' second concern is to use more fund balance from the General Fund. Slusser explained that fund balance is not cash on hand but everything the City owns, for example City Hall. Fund balance is primarily used to balance a budget not for spending. This year fund balance was not used to balance budget. Evans stated that this year's budget is using a CD to balance. He thanked the Mayor for presenting a budget that does not have a tax increase.

Mayor Wilson responded to Evans so the minutes would reflect that packets are sent out so the aldermen know what they are voting on. They are encouraged to ask questions prior to the meeting. Many of the aldermen had either called or came to City Hall to discuss the budget. Board members have spent many hours going over the budget with him and Department Heads.

Department Heads and I were very perceptive with the changes and suggestions that were made. Everyone on this Board has done their part with the budget except for Evans. Mayor Wilson told Evans that he was the only alderman that doesn't respond to the packets to come and talk to us. He added that he realizes that Evans is busy with two jobs but don't turn this on the Board stating they didn't do their part with this budget.

Alderman Fagg stated that she had trust in the Department Heads, and they were doing the job they were hired to do. She said that when things are done wrong in their department, there will be questions asked at that point. If department heads are doing their part, then I am behind them.

Mayor Wilson added that countless hours have been spent on preparing the budget. A lot of cuts were made. We also sent drafts of the budget in the agenda packet for two months (April and May) prior to this. He then asked Fagg when she called with her questions, did she get the answers. Fagg said yes and added that she feels that can call the Department Heads at anytime and ask any question.

Evans said that he has called before and asked questions, and they have been answered. The concern now is not whether or not the Department Heads doing their job, it is about the members of the Board not doing the job they were elected to do. He said that if he came to talk to the Mayor, it is a violation of the Sunshine Laws of the State. The proper way to discuss the budget was in a workshop or public meeting. This is about coming together in public and deciding what the City's priorities are with budget. Evans then said if he was to come and sit down with the Mayor it would be breaking the law.

Mayor Wilson said in the past year Evans hasn't said one word or expressed concern regarding any agenda packet not just the budget. Evans replied that he has spoke with some of the Department Heads.

Vote: 6-0
Yes: Dawson, DeLong, Dugger, Fagg, Vernich and Wilson
No: None
Abstained: Evans

Motion Passed.

d. Ordinance 09-09, Ordinance for Parking on Highway

It was moved by DeLong, seconded by Dugger.

Discussion: Alderman Dugger asked how far up from the intersections was 1000 feet. Mayor Wilson said that he wasn't sure but this ordinance does allow the City to enforce this ordinance to up 1000 feet from the intersection.

Vote: 7-0
Yes: Dawson, DeLong, Dugger, Evans, Fagg, Vernich and Wilson
No: None

Motion Passed.

10. New Business

a. Resolution 09-04, Resolution ratifying the revised Robertson County Growth Plan

It was moved by Evans, seconded by Dugger.

Vote: 7-0
Yes: Dawson, DeLong, Dugger, Evans, Fagg, Vernich and Wilson

No: None

Motion Passed.

b. Finance

1. Approve emergency purchase in the Water & Sewer Department for a Limitorque Actuator - \$4713.13

It was moved by DeLong, seconded by Dawson.

Vote: 7-0
Yes: Dawson, DeLong, Dugger, Evans, Fagg, Vernich and Wilson
No: None

Motion Passed.

2. Adjustments to the water and sewer account - \$1175.96

It was moved by Evans, seconded by Vernich, to accept adjustments for \$1175.96.

Vote: 7-0
Yes: Dawson, DeLong, Dugger, Evans, Fagg, Vernich and Wilson
No: None

Motion Passed.

11. Adjournment

It was moved by Evans, seconded by Dawson, to adjourn.

Vote: 7-0
Yes: Dawson, DeLong, Dugger, Evans, Fagg, Vernich and Wilson
No: None

Motion Passed.

MEETING ADJOURN 7:27 PM



Mayor Billy Wilson

Attest: 

City Recorder