I. COUNCIL MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jenkins called the meeting to order at 8:20 PM.

II. ROLL CALL – Deputy Town Clerk Judy Guinn

PRESENT: Mayor, Mark Jenkins
Vice-Mayor, Rita Tipton
Council Member, Cindy Coates
Council Member, Ashley Jenkins
Council Member, Frances Perry

ABSENT: Council Member, Tommy Herron

Others Present: Town Attorney, Mike Carrico; Town Manager, Steve Templeton; Jeff Brickey; Jamie Lawson; Benny Reed

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consider Appropriation to Gate City Volunteer Fire Department

Jeff Brickey from the Gate City Volunteer Fire Department – Thank you for letting me speak to you. Trucks are considerably more expensive than they were when we bought our last ones. We know the Town is struggling to do things with these older buildings. We want to be able to get above the buildings or on top. Rescue is a priority and this will help us from the third floors. We can use the ladder truck for that. We know we should not go buy a truck and then ask for money. We applied for federal grants and were turned down. We are paying $26,226 per year. We felt strongly about it. We appreciate support of the Town. We are proud of the department and of the Town. Any help you can give us, we would appreciate. We can cover payment this year and not lose the engine. We are concerned about the future of the department. In the next 5-8 years, we must replace the frontline equipment. This will take some strain off other equipment. Our calls are up a little. We have had wrecks and accidents. We would appreciate any help. Thanks for the opportunity to talk to you.

Mayor Jenkins – We appreciate you. Do we have money?

Town Manager Templeton - Line item on page 8 - $30,000 to do building purchase not spent, $25,000 town hall improvement loan not received, for a total of $55,000 not spent. Council could reappropriate that.
Mayor Jenkins – In the new budget on Page 8 Account 001 440 7307 and Account 001 440 7308 the building purchase down payment and the Town Hall improvement loan – we were looking to purchase and to remodel. We can rollover to a CD.

Council Member Coates – Are you budgeting that amount again for next year?

Town Manager Templeton – Yes

Vice Mayor Tipton – I look at this like revitalization. We are investing money in apartments on upper floors and I shudder to think what would happen if a family is in there and there was a fire.

Mayor Jenkins – The Fire Department and you personally have come out and kept us from losing water and had a backup supply. You are an asset to the town. We can put no dollar amount on that. Are there any numbers we want to entertain?

Vice Mayor Tipton – What was the payment due?

Jeff Brickey - $26,226

Mayor Jenkins – Is the county helping?

Jeff Brickey – The balance of funds is used to pay insurance. In the current year, we are prorating money – about 25,000 on insurance.

Council Member Coates – At one of the meetings, Roger Cassell said the Fire Department had CDs.

Jeff Brickey – $90,000 in CD. We not only lose money if we take it out, but we need to have money laid back. We could blow it tomorrow, today or two years from now. I am not trying to sandbag.

Vice Mayor Tipton – I don’t know how we cannot do this. Look at the old houses and we do not want to lose a life. I had a figure in mind $15,000 as a donation to the department for that truck and it leaves 40,000 in CD.

Mayor Jenkins - Do you want to make a motion?

Motion to give Fire Department $15,000
Motion by: Vice Mayor Tipton 2nd by: Council Member Perry

Mayor Jenkins – Any other discussion? Do we need a motion to reallocate the funds to this?

Town Manager Templeton nodded “yes”.

Amended Motion to reallocate funds of $15,000 to Gate City Volunteer Fire Department and $40,000 to a CD.
Motion by: Vice Mayor Tipton 2nd by: Council Member Perry
VOTE: Yeas, 3
Nays, 1 (Council Member Coates)
Absent 1 (Council Member Herron)

IV. ADJOURN

2
Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion by: Vice Mayor Tipton
2nd by: Council Member Jenkins

VOTE:

Yeas, 4
Nays, 0
Absent 1 (Council Member Herron)

*Mayor Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 8:32 PM

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Mayor Mark Jenkins

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Deputy Town Clerk Judy Guinn