

Meeting Notes for Town Hall Meeting

The Town Hall Meeting was announced for 7:00 PM, Tuesday, September 11, 2007, at the new Ranch House. Mayor Pro-Tem Ron Cox was the moderator. Other council members were present: Mayor Robert Englund, and Aldermen Donna Clarke, Kevin Carlson, and Jack Randorff. James Overby was absent. This was not a called council meeting, but because a quorum of council members was in attendance, a meeting notice was posted.

About 115 people were there. Dr. Cox tried to make sure that everyone who wanted to speak had the opportunity to do so. The meeting adjourned around 9:00 PM.

The subjects of concern included the following:

Police health and safety issues. All facets of this subject were discussed, and the council explained all of the measures that have been taken in an effort to respond to these issues. Chief Wayne Rawls was also present, and he also responded to questions.

The lake level.

Complaints about seeming inconsistency in building construction enforcement and requirements.

Suggestion for a citizens committee for long term planning.

Request for zoning issue enforcement.

Concerns that street lights had been rumored to be installed at intersections, and a position statement against this action.

Concerns about building permit processes. One individual had a personal permit issue and Dr. Cox explained that this town meeting was for general issues, not individual complaints.

The RV fee increase was of concern.

There were several questions about the new parking ordinance, and how it would be applied to RV's and trailers that were being parked on the grass next to homes. There were questions about what surface would be approved, and the council said it would need to be either asphalt or concrete. The council explained the reason for passing this ordinance was to prevent random vehicle parking in front and back yards.

Mayor Englund commented that the council passed this ordinance because of the many complaints about deteriorating neighborhood conditions due to homes where people parked cars in the yards. He said the council was trying to pass laws that would keep some older neighborhoods from getting run down.

Some people complained about not having 24 hour police coverage. The council explained that the tax rate went up 2 cents, which raised only enough money to pay for one half time policeman.

The council also explained that 2 new fire trucks were needed. The reserves were being drawn on, but were not being depleted because of good financial management practices in the past and long term planning in the Capital Improvement Plan.

The meeting adjourned. No action was taken by the council.
Melissa Verett