

MINUTES
FOXFIRE VILLAGE COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
Village Hall Meeting Room
July 28, 2022 – 4:30 PM

1. **Call to Order:** Mayor Boito called the Work Session to order at 4:30 PM.
2. **Members Present:** Councilmembers, Janice Gregorich, Janet Nauman, Don Nelson, and Gary Samuels
3. **Others Present:** Mary Gilroy- P&Z Chair, several residents of the Village ETJ

Mayor Boito asked to remove discussion of *Trash Can Regulations* and add discussion of *Improved Communications* to the agenda.

4. Items for Discussion:

- **Improved Communications**

Mayor Boito asked that council think about ways the Village can better communicate with residents. He asked council for their ideas.

Councilmember Nauman replied she had not given much thought to this and believes the many options available are sufficient. Residents can gain information through the Village website, receive information through the Town Crier, contact council and staff through email, phone or attend a monthly council meeting. We do supply quite a bit of information to residents.

Councilmember Samuels was unsure how to do anymore without increasing the workload on the limited staff.

Councilmember Nelson said he was asked about distributing a newsletter. The issues with that are someone needs to write it and it would need to be mailed at a cost. He agrees we have many ways to communicate right now and should continue doing what we have.

Mayor Pro Tem Gregorich agreed 100% with everything each councilmember said. She added that Foxfire has less than 1,700 residents and two staff members. Putting things into perspective, people can attend meetings, and receive information on the Village website, through informational emails, minutes, and attending meetings.

Nauman suggested when speaking to people, to ask if they have signed up to receive news alerts on the Village website. Nelson suggested placing that information on water bills. Gregorich responded that bills are post cards with limited space for printing. Labels would need to be placed on the cards. Samuels will speak with Sharon regarding options

- **Moore County Chamber of Commerce Resource Guide**

The Village has participated in the yearly resource guide/map for several years. The Chamber of Commerce places the guides/maps throughout Moore County. The small advertisement provides a brief introduction of Foxfire Village and points out on the map our location. The cost for renewal is \$499.00. Councilmember Nelson made a motion to renew the ad. The motion carried unanimously.

- **Status of Property Transfer for Potential Well Site**

Mayor Boito spoke with the appropriate people and the Village attorney is working with them to prepare a property transfer for the wellsite providing we can get water from it. The agreement will be that the property is given to the Village in exchange for our support of request to de-annex the remaining portion of the property. The wellsite is located on Hoffman Road, positioned on the once Stonehill Pines parcel.

- **Irrigation Meters**

Councilmember Samuels re-introduced the draft amendment to the Village Water Ordinance about separate irrigation meters that council reviewed at the last meeting. The amendment will eliminate the mandatory requirement for a separate irrigation meter and will set the standards for using the main meter for irrigation. Council discussed in detail.

Councilmember Nauman made a motion to adopt Ordinance Amendment # 2022-11. The vote was called:

Nelson – aye

Samuels – aye
Nauman – aye
Boito – aye
Gregorich – nay

The motion carried 4 to 1, and Ordinance Amendment #2022-11 was adopted.

- **Village Fee Schedule**

Mayor Pro Tem Gregorich reintroduced the Village Fee Schedule, briefly discussed at the prior meeting. Council had concerns about the cost for the Village Special Event Permit Fee. Boito asked to consider waiving the fee for the FPOA because they put on the big events at the park including the 4th of July picnic and Movie in the Park. Discussion ensued on liability, parking and security/police coverage and the rental agreement verbiage. Councilmember Nelson made a motion to change the Special Event Fee to \$250.00, waiving the fee for the FPOA and adopting the 2022 Village Fee Schedule. The motion carried unanimously.

- **Unpaid Property Taxes**

Mayor Pro Tem Gregorich reviewed a list of unpaid property taxes and noticed some properties have not been paid on since 2011. She personally feels the Village should foreclose on the property and would like to consider moving forward. Boito added the cost of foreclosure exceeds the amount of the unpaid tax. Gregorich will continue looking into this.

5. **Conflict of Interest Policy**

Council discussed the previously adopted Conflict of Interest Policy because it does not address the ramifications. Boito replied he was advised by the Village attorney that council should determine what ramification would be based on the individual case. Mayor Boito will work on verbiage to add to the existing policy.

6. **Cellphone Reimbursement**

Mayor Pro Tem Gregorich asked council to review the cellphone reimbursement for administration staff. Over the past several years, they have received \$42 per month. Council discussed what the appropriate amount to reimburse should be and decided to continue with the \$42 per month.

7. **Police Department Pay Adjustment**

Mayor Pro Tem Gregorich spoke with Chief Shue regarding adjusting Officer Judge's salary to be consistent with recent water department new hire salaries. She suggested bringing Officer Judge up to \$17.50 per hour effective August 1st. After considerable discussion, council agreed on the increase.

8. **Fence Removal Project**

Councilmember Nauman spoke with the contractor doing the split-rail fence project. The fence project should begin next week and should be complete with the first week of August.

9. **Update on PD and FD**

Councilmember Nelson gave a brief update on police department activities including the grant, hiring of a new officer and a recent incident on Bobolink. Nelson is still working on a final budget for the fire department. He plans to meet with the County Fire Commissioner to discuss.

10. **Updates for Mary Gilroy**

- **Windy Ridge**

Mary Gilroy said the Windy Ridge project will resume as soon as they receive the specially made water connection fitting. Their Covenant and Restrictions are being reviewed by their attorney and will be submitted to council for review. Gregorich asked about the performance bond. Gilroy replied she has no information. Boito will speak with Lisa.

- **Table 6.1**

Mary Gilroy reported that P&Z continues to review Table 6.1 and are also reviewing other municipalities UDO.

11. **Public Comment**

Sandy Cameron – Richmond Road said she spoke to the mayor about providing better communication. She suggested that council provide her with correct information and she and volunteers would get it out. She added many cannot attend meetings or participate in Facebook. Samuels asked what she meant about getting information. Cameron replied, at the last meeting, who were the ETJ appointees. Gregorich suggested if someone has a specific question, that they email the Village, send a message through Report a Concern, or call the Village Clerk. Gregorich added to communicate through Facebook is something the Village will not do, and the Foxfire council

operates as a body. Gregorich added that minutes are posted once they are approved. Cameron suggested if the council does not want people to spread gossip, they need to help stop it. Samuels replied it concerns him too when information is wrong. Samuel encouraged those with questions to reach out to any of the councilmembers or contact the Village Clerk if they have any questions.

Nauman added that council will not respond to posts on Facebook. Cameron asked, what about the people not on Facebook. Nauman replied, again, they have access to email. People need to take some responsibility in gaining the information for themselves.

Mary Gilroy asked if it were possible to post audio on the website. Gregorich replied it is not something we can do at this time. Nelson added the easiest way is through email or phone call.

12. Adjournment

Mayor Pro Tem Gregorich made a motion to adjourn. The vote was called, and motion arried. The Work Session adjourned at 5:37 PM.



Lisa A. Kivett, *CMC, NCCMC, CZO*
Village Clerk



Don Boito
Mayor