

**City of Salem  
Regular Council Meeting  
October 11, 2005**

**Present:** Grady Lamb, Councilman  
Fredette Leda, Councilwoman  
James Plaughner, Councilman  
Phyllis Plaughner, Councilwoman  
Derika Sutton, Councilwoman  
Eric Wolford, Mayor  
Dave Fisher, Councilman  
Frank Robinette, City Manager  
Jackie Ritter, City Recorder

**Absent:** None

The Salem City Council met on Tuesday October 11, 2005 for its regularly scheduled meeting. Mayor Wolford called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**1. Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer:**

Mayor Wolford opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and James Plaughner offered prayer.

**2. Review and Approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting September 27, 2005:**

The minutes for the September 27, 2005 regular council meeting were not available.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**3. Fall Cleanup:**

Public Works Director, Ronnie Davis, reported the estimate for the roll off dumpsters is \$10,320. This City is unable to afford this option either. There was again discussion of how to notify Salem residents of the available drop off and pick up services available in the area. There is no room to note on the water bill. Councilman Plaughner made a motion to approve the placement of an article in the Town Talk about the garbage pick up options. Councilwoman Plaughner seconded the motion. Carried 7/0.

\*\*At this time a City Attorney report was given by Beth Snead regarding the status of the annexation issues. \$9,048.78 has been spent so far and the water plant property is now

ready for presentation to the Harrison County Commission. Some work has been done on the Upper Dog Run Reservoir and no work has been done on the Lower Dog Run Reservoir. An estimate of \$12,000 to \$18,000 was provided to finish the annexation work on the reservoir areas.

**4. Roll off Dumpsters:**

This item was discussed under item 3.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**5. Date and Hours of Trick or Treat:**

The hours for trick or treating in Salem will be 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Monday October 31, 2005.

**6. Surcharge of 2.25% for Fuel on Garbage Bill:**

The City Manager recommended the addition of a 2.25% fuel surcharge on the garbage bill. This is an approved PSC surcharge. This will amount to @.25 cents per month. Many other municipalities are doing the same. Councilman Fisher made a motion to approve the 2.25% fuel surcharge to the garbage bill. Councilwoman Plaucher seconded the motion. Carried 7/0. Councilwoman Plaucher requested the customers be notified a month before it begins, have it posted on the city hall door and place an article in the Town Talk.

**7. Water Tank for Kevin Fluharty:**

Kevin Fluharty has requested the bladder water tank system in his home at Lakeview Terrace. Ronnie Davis provided an estimate of \$2,000 to \$2,500. The City Manager will check with the HNTB engineers regarding plans to correct the overall problem with the water upgrade project and to get a copy of the PSC order.

**8. Removal of Backwash Sludge:**

There was review of an estimate for the removal of the backwash sludge at the water plant. This should be done annually but has not been done for three years. Councilman Lamb made a motion to approve the expenditure of up to \$2,500 for the removal of the backwash sludge. Councilman Plaucher seconded the motion. Carried 7/0.

**9. Consideration of Purchase of a Power Washer:**

There was review of an estimate for the purchase of a power washer for use in water and sewer departments. Councilman Fisher made a motion to approve the purchase of the power washer up to \$799. Councilwoman Leda seconded the motion. Carried 7/0.

**10. City Manager's Report:**

- A.** The City Manager reported on an upcoming workshop on election law changes scheduled for November in Glade Springs. The City Clerk will attend.
- B.** A pool grant was received from the Harrison County Commission for \$1,000.
- C.** There was review of a letter from attorney Bill Porth regarding the sewer dept. I & I consent order.
- D.** The budgets need upgraded in the computer before the City Manager can provide budget reports to council.
- E.** A thank you card will be sent to the Mayors mother, sister and a neighbor for their assistance in the painting of the curbs in town prior to the Apple Butter Festival.

\*\*Councilwoman Plaughter reported she is working on planning a city employee Christmas covered dish dinner at the Park Barn on Dec. 3, 2005.

\*\*Ronnie Davis reported on the need for a bucket for the backhoe and provided an estimate of \$1,350. Councilman Lamb made a motion to approve the expenditure of up to \$1,350 for the backhoe budget. Councilman Fisher seconded the motion. Carried 7/0.

\*\*Councilwoman Leda spoke about the recent council decision to allow an easement to the Salem Rifle and Pistol Club for installation of electric at their range. She provided the following reasons for her nay vote on the matter. She feels the council members have the responsibility to think about the future of the town and what is best for the community as a whole rather than for themselves or their friends. She feels once they are granted the ability to install electric they will never look for land in which to re-locate. She feels it is a problem to allow a private club to control public land. It is also a concern that debris from the lead bullets and debris previously dumped there could enter into the stream that flows to the city water source. She feels it is not fair for a club of approximately 100 people to determine the fate of the entire town and she has not, in her opinion, heard of a good reason not to annex the city property in this area other than the fear of a lawsuit from the gun club. The current lease does not cover the entire city owned property of 435 acres. She feels this land is prime land for development and the generation of B & O taxes and jobs to the city and many developers would seek land close to the interstate for a business such as hotel. She feels council should focus on revenue generation to help slow or stop the continued increase in water and sewer rates to address the raising

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employee insurance costs. She thinks a solid plan needs developed to realize the potential for growth with the land the city already owns. She feels developers would not want to build next to a shooting range.

\*\*At 8:30 p.m. Councilwoman Sutton made a motion to move to executive session to discuss personnel matters. Councilwoman Plaugher seconded the motion. Carried 7/0.

\*\*At 8:31 Council took a break and resumed at 8:45 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**11. Personnel Matters:**

\*\*At 8:56 p.m. Councilwoman Plaugher made a motion to return t regular session. Councilwoman Leda seconded the motion. Carried 7/0.

\*\*Resident Bill Ayers expressed appreciation to council for their work on addressing the zoning issues that will hopefully allow him to build a garage on his property.

\*\*At 8:57 Councilman Fisher made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Plaugher seconded the motion. Carried 7/0.

**TABLED BUSINESS**

1. Parking Lot Lease Agreement
2. Allegheny Power Street Lighting Agreement
3. Actions on Sponsor Grant Agreements
4. Consideration of Purchasing a Gate and Fencing for Water Dept.
5. Demolition of Condemned Properties
6. Annexation of City Owned Properties
7. Workshop Committee Meeting Safely Committee and Safety Director (Workplace Violence Policy, Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002 Emergency Preparedness)
8. Workshop Committee Meeting Personnel Committee (Personnel Handbook and Grievance Procedures)
9. Workshop Committee Meeting Police Committee (Police Dept. Rules and Regulations Operational Manual)

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Mayor

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Recorder