



**Acts of
City Council of Hinton
Regular Meeting
Tuesday September 21, 2010
7:00 p.m. -- Hinton City Hall**

1. **Call to order / Roll Call** - Mayor Blankenship called the meeting to order and the record showed that Councilman Jordan, Councilman Oxley, Councilman Meador and Councilman Basham were all present. City Manager Cris Meadows, Chief of Police Derek Snavelly, Public Works Director Ralph Trout, Fire Chief Ray Pivont and City Attorney Richard Gunnoe were also in attendance.
2. **Invocation / Pledge of Allegiance** - Len Maddy led the devotions and the pledge of allegiance.
3. **Approval of Agenda**- Mayor Blankenship asked for approval of the agenda Councilman Jordan made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilman Basham seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of 4-0.
4. **Approval of Minutes August 24, 2010** - Councilman Jordan moved to approve the August 24, 2010 minutes. Councilman Oxley seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of 4-0.
5. **Approval of August 2010 paid invoices** - Councilman Jordan moved to approve the August 2010 paid invoices. Councilman Basham seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of 4-0.
6. **Approval of August 2010 financial report** - Councilman Jordan moved to approve the financial report. Councilman Oxley seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of 4-0.
7. **Approval of Unpaid Invoices** - Councilman Jordan moved to approve the unpaid invoices. Councilman Basham seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of 4-0.
8. **Approval of building permits** - Councilman Jordan moved to approve the building permits. Councilman Basham seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of 4-0 Councilman Oxley abstained on 1105 Temple Street
9. **Appearance of Citizens – Robert Williams** told council he was buying the culvert pipe like they wanted and asked when the city would be able to build his parking space. Mr. Trout stated it would be the first of November before he could get to it. Gary Garten stated he is giving Mr. Williams permission to use his property for the parking spot.
10. **Discussion and or action concerning Gold Coast Sewer Project** – Council discussed the project and that it would be finished next month. Councilman Meador moved to approve the invoices and the resolution concerning the Goldcoast sewer project. Councilman Oxley seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of 4-0.
11. **Discussion and or action concerning ordinance to change election cycle (second reading) - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF HINTON AND MODIFYING THE ELECTION CYCLES AND ELIMINATING PRIMARY ELECTIONS**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Hinton desires to amend the existing Charter of the City of Hinton as previously adopted, as set out, hereinafter;

WHEREAS, the existing Charter of the City of Hinton requires two separate and distinct elections for the election of the Mayor and City Council, being a primary election as required by Section 9 (b) of the Charter of the City of Hinton that is to be held on the second Tuesday in May and the general election as required by Section 9 (c) of the Charter of the City of Hinton that is to be held on the second Tuesday in June;

WHEREAS, the City of Hinton pays from its general budget for the costs of each said election;

WHEREAS, the elimination of one of the two elections that are now required would result in a substantial cost savings for the City of Hinton;

WHEREAS, the election of the Mayor and Council would be on a non-partisan basis similar to the method in which candidates are elected to the Board of Education, with no party affiliation appearing on the ballot;

WHEREAS, the current election for City offices is scheduled every four years when there is no national or state election and, as a result, voter turnout and interest has historically been low;

WHEREAS, it is also the desire of the Mayor and City Council to change the election cycle so that the election for the City of Hinton corresponds with the primary election cycle for the Governor of the State of West Virginia and the President of the United States which will be held on the second Tuesday in May 2016 and every four years thereafter;

WHEREAS, in order to accomplish this change it is necessary that at the conclusion of the existing term of the Mayor and City Council which ends on June 30, 2013 that an election be held in May 2013 for a term of office of three years commencing July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2016 followed by subsequent four year terms commencing on July 1, 2016 with elections every four years thereafter.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HINTON that this ordinance to amend the existing Charter of the City of Hinton and to modify the election cycle and eliminate primary elections to be adopted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDAINED, that from this date forward, that the election process for election of City Offices be modified and that City elections be held the second Tuesday in May every four years commencing in May of 2016, after completion of the election in May of 2013 and that those elections be non-partisan and that the currently existing primary election be abolished.

IT IS FURTHER ORDAINED, that no City primary election be held in the election year of 2013 and that the Mayor and the City Council be elected in a non-partisan election in May 2013 for a term of office of three years which will commence on July 1, 2013 and end on June 30, 2016 and thereafter an election will be held to coincide with the primary election for the Governor of the State of West Virginia and the President of the United States in May of 2016 and every four years thereafter with the Mayor and Council elected for terms of four years with the initial term commencing on July 1, 2016 and concluding on June 30, 2020 and for terms of four years thereafter.

Councilman Meador moved to dispense with the reading. Councilman Oxley seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of 4-0. Councilman Meador moved to accept the election ordinance. Councilman Jordan seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of 3-1 with Councilman Oxley voting no.

- 12. Discussion and or action concerning location of fire station** – Council discussed the various locations that have been discussed over the years. Mayor Blankenship said he would like to see it built in the current location but believes it will be too hard to modify the grant and the State Historic Preservation Office would have to approve everything at the current location. They have already approved the Avis site and he feels that we need to proceed without delay and build it in Avis. Council continued to discuss the issues and Councilman Jordan asked Cris to get our architect to find out the costs and delays associated with both places. Mayor Blankenship stated there would be delays at the current site and the Avis site could be ready to be built on in 30 days.
- 13. Discussion and or action concerning adoption of operations policy and procedures manual for fire department** – **Cris Meadows** stated that our insurance company requested that we adopt a standard operating policy for our fire department. Councilman Jordan moved to approve the Standard Operating Guidelines for the Fire Department. Councilman Basham seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of 4-0.
- 14. Discussion and or action concerning city code changes** – **Cris Meadows** presented changes to chapter 18 and 19 of city code. Council discussed the changes and modified some of the code to have the municipal judge hear the nuisance cases instead of council. Councilman Jordan moved to approve the first reading. Councilman Basham seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of 4-0.
- 15. Discussion and or action concerning annexation** – Mayor Blankenship stated that what we were doing was applying for a minor boundary adjustment to incorporate the road across the river in the gold coast area and any property owner that would want to come into the city. We were not forcing anyone to come into the city but if they want to come in they would be afforded the same benefits of police and fire protection along with the city street crew. The public asked if a property was added by one owner then sold to another could they take the property out. Mayor Blankenship said once they were in they were in. Councilman Meador moved to approve the minor boundary adjustment. Councilman Basham seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote 4-0.
- 16. Adjournment / Next Regular Meeting October 19, 2010**

City Manager

Mayor