The Lyerly Town Council met for their agenda planning meeting on Tuesday, January 1, 2019 at Lyerly Town Hall. Those in attendance were:

Jim Ferguson, Mayor

Gwen Fisher

Phil Brooks

Juanita Baker

Shirley Davis

January 1, 2019

Mayor Ferguson began the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Ferguson wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Mayor Ferguson said that they had already discussed replacing our current tractor. We will probably wait a month and get some quotes from three different places. We are leaning toward someone local, maybe Rome.

Mayor Ferguson said that Michael Cabe has been driving the new four door utility truck and taking it home and it isn’t the most fuel efficient vehicle and he doesn’t need to be taking home a crew cab F-350. A regular cab truck would use way less gas and it would cost way less to purchase. Gwen Fisher asked if we would trade something in on a new truck. Mayor Ferguson said that we would sell our two older trucks and what they bring would go toward the new truck purchase. Shirley Davis said that we purchased a new truck last year and now we want to buy another truck for the boys to ride around in. Mayor Ferguson said to let him finish. He said that the new F-350 that Michael is driving now will become the truck that the guys go out in to read meters, do work or whatever. If we sell both of the old trucks, the F-250 single cab and the diesel, the money from them will go to purchase the new truck for Michael. The F-250 single cab utility truck has been staying in the shop more than anything so we have gotten it fixed and parked it until it sells. Shirley Davis said that when they came to do work at her house, they brought both trucks. She then asked if they get a new, smaller, more fuel efficient truck, will they use mostly it. Mayor Ferguson said no. The work truck will be the big F-350 utility truck. Mayor Ferguson said that we are going to go ahead and sell the older F-250 utility truck and see what it brings. Juanita Baker said that it was purchased new when Jeff Coley was mayor a long time ago. She then asked if the logo would be put on the new truck. Mayor Ferguson said no. The doors will be left blank because he is tired of all of the calls telling him where it has been seen.

Mayor Ferguson then brought up the infiltration into the sewer system. The sewer system is meant for wastewater, which comes from the drains inside houses and whatever wastewater Mohawk, Try-Con and Smith Ironworks has. It is not meant for rainwater. We are permitted for a certain amount of water to pass through our facility and the infiltration from the storm water is causing us to go over that amount. He then explained to the council; the customer hooks onto the sewer line and the sewer line goes to the lift station. You can have infiltration on the customer side from work that they have done, like if they hook up a storm drain to the sewer and we don’t realize it or if they have cleanouts that attach to their sewer lines for the purpose of maintenance and they accidently knock the lid off and it doesn’t get replaced. Usually when they do infiltration studies, this problem accounts for around 30% of your problem and the rest of it is most likely from a break in your sewer line somewhere. The wastewater should be a closed system with pipes that go straight from the residents to the lift stations to the sewer ponds and storm water can come to the pipes but can’t get in unless there is a break somewhere. Mayor Ferguson said that what we can do is buy a Flow Monitoring System. There are manholes throughout the system every 150 feet or so. You would take the Flow Meter and start with one manhole and leave it. It would give us a computer readout of how much goes through it when it isn’t raining. Then it would give us a readout of how much goes through it when it is raining. If it isn’t that big of a difference, then we know that isn’t where our problem is and we can move to a different neighborhood. Once we see an increase, we can begin to fix the problem. If we contract a company to come in and find the problem, they will drop these meters throughout the system to find it quicker. That would cost around $25,000 - $30,000. If we were to buy the flow monitor ourselves, it would take longer but we would end up with the same results in the end and it would only cost us about $7,000. He added that it may take about six months to a year. Gwen Fisher said that we would also have it to use in the future if needed. Mayor Ferguson said that once the problem is located, we could use the camera that we talked about on the snake in that area to visualize the entire problem. Juanita Baker said that she thinks that would be the best. Phil Brooks and Juanita Baker asked if that would be satisfactory to the State. Mayor Ferguson said that we haven’t had a problem with the state so far. If it gets to where the state contacts us, it has gone too far. It is definitely something that we can’t ignore.

Mayor Ferguson said that we are planning to send the newly purchased fire truck to Brindlee Mountain Fire Apparatus. They are a company in Alabama and they are the largest seller of used fire trucks in the southeast. They have a huge maintenance system. The new truck has a valve on the tank that needs to be fixed and they will also go over the entire truck and give us a list of everything that is wrong with it. Juanita Baker asked if we were going to let them go ahead and fix everything. Mayor Ferguson said that it depends on how much it costs. Juanita Baker then asked if there is a lot that needs to be changed before we can put it into service. Mayor Ferguson said no. He said that there are some emergency lights that need to be replaced but besides that, it can be put into service now. He said that he talked to the guy and Brindlee Mountain and he is supposed to email him some ball park estimates on the costs to go over the truck. Mayor Ferguson added that this will come from the grant money that we received from USDA.

Fire Chief Ronnie Stephens came into the meeting. He and Mayor Ferguson discussed the need for a few sets f turnout gear. Mayor Ferguson told the fire chief to get him a list of everything that they need for the fire department.

Shirley Davis asked when is the ditch across from her house going to be paved. She said that it has washed out again and it is very rough. Clerk Sally Kerce said that they will have to give it time to settle before they can repave it. Shirley Davis said that they have patched it before but it’s bad again. She then added that she would like to see the road between her house and Lyerly Dam Road made into a one way street because it is so narrow. She asked if we could maybe look at that later. Mayor Ferguson said yes.

Mayor Ferguson added one more thing about the flow monitor. He said that everyone that he has talked to about purchasing it, it all leads back to ADS Environmental. He said it technically exceeds the amount that he is allowed to spend without getting quotes but there isn’t anywhere else to get quotes from. He said that the company that makes our meters has one but it isn’t good quality. Gwen Fisher asked if the council approves it, can he go ahead and purchase it without other quotes. Mayor Ferguson said yes. He just needs their approval.

There being no further business or discussion, the meeting ended at 7:33 p.m.

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Mayor Town Clerk