

January 6, 2025

5:50 p.m.

Ripley Power Board Meeting

Ripley City Courtroom

Board members present: Alston, Long Chipman, Frazier, Keeley and Fitzhugh

Board members absent: Thompson

Also present: Donna Buckner and Attorney Rachel Jackson, Superintendent Johnnie Ford, Fire Chief Tracey Worlds, Superintendent Scott Nelson, Police Chief Mitchell Turner and Park Director Mike Worlds

Visitors: Linda Love and Ron Goforth

Mayor Fitzhugh reported he received a note from Superintendent Mike Allmand indicating he would not be able to attend the meeting tonight but to reference notes provided.

Mayor Fitzhugh stated we have a situation where the City of Ripley Board of Mayor and Aldermen is the Power Board. There is a group at the Ripley Power & Light that are acting as the Power Board or at least they have indicated at least to us that they are that. It's important to let the public know what kind of business is going on because this may have to be ratified by the Board of Mayor & Aldermen as the Power Board at some point in time. It's quite confusing but as a matter of public record we will go through the notes provided. On December 12th, Kenny Parham was named as secretary replacing Minnie Stowe. That group reviewed applications for board positions which were Kenny Parham 4-year term, Linda Love and Dwight Beard filling the remaining term of Minnie Stowe. They recommended sending all three applications to the city mayor for appointment consideration. They reported accepting a bid from Power Grid for the East Industrial Park substation in the amount \$198,000. The RPL pension report was acknowledged with the yearly contribution would go up to meet the 10-year goal of being 100% funded. That plan covers 27 active employees, 17 retired employees and 3 vested participants who no longer work for RPL. They discussed a revenue anticipation note that was to be signed and filed with the IRS declaring the official intent for reimbursement for certain capital expenditures which is usually done by the organization in charge. They reviewed the Silicone Ranch Mount Pleasant solar project which Superintendent Allmand, himself (Mayor Fitzhugh) and the lawyer for this project have discussed concerning a project with several other municipalities that would be a 20-30 year contract with TVA. They also acknowledged receipt of \$4,491,000 from Silicon Ranch for equipment purchases and operation for the Ripley solar project. They discussed \$499,000 which would be taken from the Silicon Ranch funds for a 30% downpayment on the \$1.6 million Pennsylvania power transformer that this group discussed at the last meeting. They also discussed making repairs to the floor

in the RPL 73,500 sq ft. warehouse indicating it would make for better presentation to prospective industries. The Superintendent stated he spoke with Mayor Gaines about the possibility of receiving a grant to complete the project.

Mayor Fitzhugh stated there was also a called meeting on December 31st by this same group for further consideration of the Silicon Ranch Mount Pleasant solar project. They agreed to revisit this issue once TVA completed their agreement in the event the offer was still available.

Mayor Fitzhugh adjourned meeting at 5:55 p.m.

Donna Buckner, Recorder

Craig Fitzhugh, Mayor

January 6, 2025

6:00 p.m.

Ripley Board of Mayor and Aldermen

Ripley City Courtroom

Mayor Fitzhugh called the meeting to order and requested Recorder Buckner to issue roll call.

Board members present: Fitzhugh, Alston, Chipman, Fraizer, Keeley, Long and Thompson

Board members absent: none

Also present: Donna Buckner, Attorney Rachel Jackson, Chief Tracey Worlds, Superintendent Johnie Ford, Park Director Mike Worlds, Superintendent Scott Nelson and Superintendent Mike Allmand

Visitors: Linda E. Love, Ron Goforth and Angela Allmand

Invocation: Superintendent Scott Nelson

Pledge of Allegiance

1. Motion by Alderman Keely and second by Alderman Frazier to approve December 2, 2024 Board of Mayor and Aldermen meeting minutes as printed and delivered in agenda package. All aye
2. Motion by Alderman Chipman and second by Alderman Alston to approve December 2024 financial statement as printed and delivered in agenda package. All aye

Correspondence: none

Public comments: Linda Love – voiced concerns regarding anticipated litigation, as well as, concerns for students in school dealing with the death of Demarcus Barnes.

Mayor Fitzhugh thanked all city departments for readiness for holiday season.

Department reports:

3. Motion by Alderman Chipman and second by Alderman Frazier to approve department reports as printed and delivered in agenda package. All aye
4. Motion by Alderman Chipman and second by Alderman Thompson to approve agreement between City of Ripley and TLM Associates, Inc. for engineering services pertaining to the Ripley YMCA Build Out at UTM-Ripley Center. Roll call. All aye
5. Motion by Alderman Chipman and second by Alderman Long to approve 1st reading ordinance of the City of Ripley amending Title 8 Alcoholic Beverages, Chapter 1 Intoxicating Liquors and Chapter 2 Beer. Roll call. All aye
6. Motion by Alderman Thompson and second by Alderman Alston to pursue discussion regarding property located at 235 Scott Drive for Tina Turner heritage. All aye

Meeting adjourned 6:20 p.m.

Donna Buckner, Recorder

Craig Fitzhugh, Mayor