

**MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF BANCROFT
DECEMBER 16, 2021**

Recorder Marie Dailey called the meeting to order (Mayor Donna McKneely present via phone) at 7:00 pm. She called roll - council members present: Bethany Adkins, Jami Hayes, Wally Harper, Dave McClung and Marie Dailey.

Councilwoman Adkins moved to accept the minutes with the correction of a showing Councilman McClung attending in person (and not ZOOM); Councilman Harper moved to accept the financial statement (both motions passed). Councilwoman Adkins then moved to pay invoices; motion passed.

Recorder recognized Tina, who works for the Putnam County Planning Commission, specifically the Dilapidated Enforcement Agency. She stated that the Town adopted the county ordinance and is bound under those rules. She went over the timeline once a complaint is received, and it can be a very lengthy process. All actions are governed by State Code – once they receive a complaint, it is out of the town's hands. The town can't interfere once a property is under their jurisdiction. Tina explained when she came on board, there were 98 cases, and she got 44 cases closed (closed 22 of 27 back cases). She understands the timing can be drawn out, but it's a serious issue when dealing with someone's property. Council asked about the complaint form, as some citizens think the town should fill them out instead of the individual. She said the complaint form can be anonymous. The town can provide the form, and assist the individual, but the complaint should be filled out by a resident who has knowledge of the dilapidated and abandoned property. Tina did say that the town can always withdraw from the memo of understanding with the Planning Commission if we chose.

James Pickron then appeared before the council. He stated people were asking about the trailer on Douglas property that he was dismantling. He works until 3:15 and can't get to the dump during the week and will try to make 2 loads on Saturday. He feels that he's doing what has been asked of him. He lives on Kevin Childress property (that he is purchasing) and complaints were lodged and people flying drones over his property, so he installed a 6' fence per the Planning Commission. He owns several vehicles that are all licensed and operable. He is purchasing Glen Witt's old garage but will clean that up differently than the approach at Douglas' property. Councilman Harper stated that his name was mentioned during the County Commission meeting on Dilapidated property. Mr. Harper believes they said that fines would begin after a certain time frame but urged him to watch the council meeting online. Councilwoman Hayes researched the information and provided the web address to Mr. Pickron.

The council briefly touched upon Town CleanUp 2022. Mayor McKneely stated that the Solid Waste Authority is helping (through grants) with cleanup around the county.

Council went over the Christmas in the Park to insure everything is in place for this weekend. Councilwoman Adkins led the discussion regarding the Town Lighting Contest. After much discussion, it was decided that the winners are 1st place – Billy Wick; 2nd place – Jack Dailey and honorable mention – Jacob Philips. Pictures to be posted on FB and mentioned in the town newsletter.

Councilman Harper noted that the town flags currently at the Fire Department really need new staffs to ensure the flags don't touch the ground. Councilman Harper made a motion to purchase 2 new flag staffs – motion died since Mayor thinks we already have the staffs at the town hall but will check with Councilman Frame.

With no further business to discuss, meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

DONNA MCKNEELY, Mayor