

1  
April 28, 1952

A special meeting of the Town Council was held on the above date at 4:00 P.M. in the small office adjacent to the Terminal Cafe on Virginia Avenue with Mayor B.E. Ball presiding.

All members were present and answered to roll call except Councilman W.R. Hammer.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the fire of April 27th which destroyed the Town Hall. The town manager reported that the best estimates that the fire started between 10:45 and 11:15 P.M. on Sunday, April 27, 1952 and that the fire started in the north west section of the building adjacent to the town jail. Mr. McCord further reported that the fire Chief, Earl Brown, and he were of the opinion that the fire was caused by defective electrical wiring and/or defective hearint apparatus. Mr. McCord further reported that the first alarm was sounded approximately 11:15 P.M. after receiving warning from Miss Mable Elliott and one of the prisoners located in a cell on the east side of the jail. It was further reported that the fire lasted in its greatest intensity from 11:15 P.M. to approximately 1:15 P.M. and that the fire departments of Coeburn, Wise, Virginia, were called to assist in the confining of the conflagration. The extent of the damage was not know at the time of this meeting except that the building was a complete loss.

Item  
#1

Mr. McCord was then instructed by council to continue the cleanup of the property which he had started and he was instructed to remove all unsafe walls in order that the area may be rendered as safe as possible.

Item  
#2

A brief discussion was held concerning the reconstruction of a new town hall and Mr. McCord was instructed to contact several architects with relation to this subject.

Item  
#3

There being no further business before the council same adjourned at 5:15 P.M.

  
Clerk

  
Mayor