

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

January 6, 2009

Present: Mayor Guy Barriger

Comm. George Holleman, Comm. Jack Lerner, &

Comm. Ronnie Robinette, & Comm. Kenny Poole

The regular meeting was opened for business by Mayor Barriger at 5:30 p.m.

The invocation was given by NC Senator Steve Goss. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Comm. Robinette, seconded by Comm. Poole to approve the agenda with the following addition. Add item 7a. Tax Release for Midway Construction. Passed unanimously.

Open Forum:

NC House Representative Ray Warren addressed the current economic situation in our surrounding area and across the state. The State of NC is expecting a 2 to 3 billion shortfall in revenue for this fiscal year. The unemployment rate was 5.3% in October 2007 and increased to 8.3% in October 2008. Revenue from sales tax is expected to be low. He expects less discretionary expending in 2009 and hopes for smarter spending where state projects are concerned. He feels that workforce development is the key to our current economic condition and local unemployment levels. Instead of trying to entice new businesses to locate here, he wants to use grant monies to focus on existing businesses' that are already established here. He wants to help them re-furbish their buildings and expand in order to hire more workers. He also feels that our citizens can be re-trained through our local community colleges to learn new skills that will enable them to find employment.

NC Senator Steve Goss addressed the big Federal Economic Stimulus package that is supposed to be distributed soon to NC and then further down to local counties, cities and towns. He stressed the need to be "shovel ready" when the money is distributed. Plans should already be in line of what types of infrastructure work needs to be completed so that they can begin to be implemented in 30 to 45 days of receiving the funding. This funding will stimulate the economy with projects which will create jobs thus stimulating the economy further with the return of everyday spending on basic and luxury items which creates sales tax revenue.

Motion by Comm. Holleman, seconded by Comm. Lerner to adopt a Resolution authorizing the application of a grant for replacing and rehabilitating sewer lines and manholes in the northern portion of the town and to replace Northwood Park pump station and to repair the Macedonia pump station with the North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund. Passed Unanimously. See attachment A, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes.

Motion by Comm. Poole, seconded by Comm. Robinette to approve a 2008 tax release for Midway Construction in the amount of \$1,744.70. Two properties were double billed by accident and two were sold to others which caused the need to release those funds. Passed unanimously.

Motion by Comm. Poole, seconded by Comm. Holleman to approve a one-time contribution of \$202.51 to the WPCOG. They wish to create a 2 year program position, WPCOG Foreclosure Counselor, which will employ an individual to provide education, mentoring and skills to help people avoid foreclosure. Passed Unanimously.

Motion by Comm. Poole, seconded by Comm. Holleman to approve a contract with the MAPS group. They will provide a current personnel policy manual & study and evaluate all positions for determining the proper position classification and prepare current class specifications for each position class based on job duties and requirements. No salary study will be conducted at this time. Passed unanimously. See attachment B, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes.

Staff reports were in written form in order to save time.

Jon Pilkinton advised that the Planning Board would like a work session with the Town Board to discuss the new land development plan on January 22, 2009 at 5:30. After the plan has been presented, a public hearing will be scheduled for February 3, 2009 at the next Town Board meeting for formal presentation to the public and formal adoption by the Town Board.

Police Chief, Tony Jones presented the standard written report. He mentioned that all officers are taking a Spanish class for law enforcement at CVCC on Mondays. The class will last 14 weeks and is at no charge to the Town. Some books may have to be purchased at a later date.

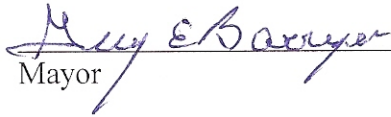
Motion was made by Comm. Robinette, seconded by Comm. Poole to enter into closed session as permitted by G.S. 143-318.11 to discuss a personnel issue. Passed unanimously.

See closed session minutes.

Motion was made by Comm. Robinette, seconded by Comm. Lerner to exit closed session and return to regular session.

By unanimous consent the next meeting was set for February 3, 2009 at 5:30 pm. Passed unanimously.

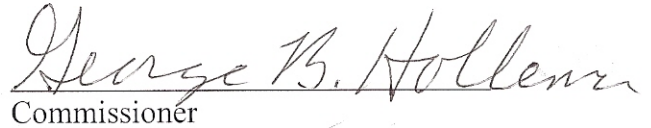
With no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.



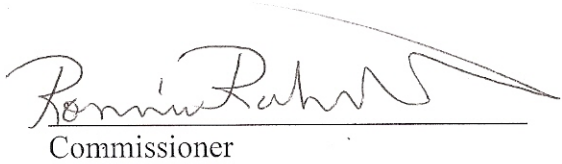
Mayor



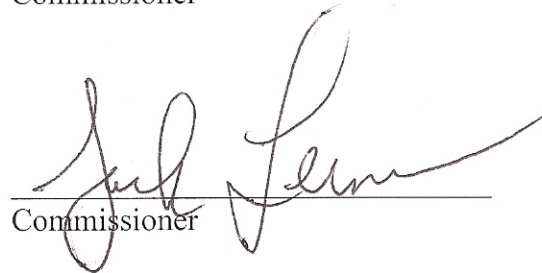
Commissioner



Commissioner



Commissioner



Commissioner

Attest:



Yolanda Prince, Town Clerk