

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

November 9, 2010

Present: Mayor George B. Holleman

Comm. Ronnie Robinette, & Comm. Kenny Poole

Comm. Jack Lerner, & Comm. Albert Moats

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

The invocation was given by Mayor Holleman. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Robinette, seconded by Commissioner Poole to approve the agenda. Passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Poole and seconded by Commissioner Lerner to approve the October 5, 2010 regular meeting minutes as presented. Passed unanimously.

Kathryn McCurdy spoke in open forum about a dilapidated house on the corner of Main Ave. Dr. & 7th Street. She questioned the safety of the structure and what could be done to force the landowner to correct the problem. Phyllis Douglas suggested that an impact law be established in town which would allow the Town Board to enforce private landowners to keep their property up to standards established by the Town. She stated that this law is in effect in other towns and it forces a uniform appearance to everyone's property. If landowners don't comply, the landowners are "impacted" with fines until their property appearance is brought up to the established standards.

No other citizens spoke in open forum.

Wil Jernigan with Cavanaugh & Associates Engineering firm gave an overview of the results found from the Water Audit Leak Detection Grant that was conducted. We received a score of 66 out of a 100. This is an average or mid-range score. The town purchase's 150 million gallons per year of water & we lose 27 million which is an 18% loss ratio. 11% of that is recoverable with the installation of new meters and lines & increased technology. It's recommended that the overall working usefulness of the system needs to be checked over every 5 to 10 years.

The Town received a matching grant project from the US Forest Service under NCDEHNR entitled Tree Inventory and Management Plan. The scope of the project was to evaluate our public trees and develop a management plan for their maintenance and care. We have a total of 553 trees. 14 large oaks will need to be removed due to disease and safety reasons. Some will need to be trimmed but otherwise most of the trees are fairly healthy. He recommends that only 10% of the same species of tree be in the overall makeup of the total population. This is due to the fact that a disease or blight could wipe out the tree population. He also suggests that large canopy trees be replanted even though it takes a longer time for them to mature.

A motion was made by Commissioner Poole and seconded by Commissioner Robinette to adopt

a Resolution approving a Water Shortage Response Plan for the useful guidance of future management of water supplies for the Town of Taylorsville. Passed unanimously. See attachment A, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lerner and seconded by Commissioner Moats to allow Taylorsville Recreation to display sponsorship banners along the outfield fence at Town Park. They will be responsible for and maintain the 3x8 banners and it will be a fund raising venue for the committee to use towards improvements at the park. Passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Poole, seconded by Commissioner Robinette to deny a property tax penalty request abatement from Sharon Coffee. She had paid the principal after receiving a delinquent notice from the county but has asked that the penalties be removed. Based on the N.C.G.S.105—380 prohibiting taxes to be released, refunded or compromised, the request was denied. Passed unanimously.

By unanimous decision, the request to observe Veterans Day on Friday November 12th instead of Thursday November 11th was denied.

A motion was made by Commissioner Poole, seconded by Commissioner Robinette to approve purchasing two bronze plaques & one street sign acknowledging the United Baptist Institute. The plaques will be placed at Town Hall and Taylorsville Elementary School and the street sign will be placed in front of where the Institute once stood near Taylorsville Elementary. Passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lerner and seconded by Commissioner Poole to direct the Town Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of a voluntary satellite annexation petition received from James & Kristy Hunt located at 56 Gravel Hill Court. Passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Lerner to approve writing a letter of support to Leeanne Whisnant, Director of the Alexander County Health Department for the grant application for the FQHC – Federally Qualified Health Center. Passed unanimously. See attachment B, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes.

At the October Town Board meeting, Elizabeth Jackson, Executive Director of Domestic Violence Resource Center spoke before the Town Board regarding the center and how it serves Alexander County and the Town of Taylorsville. The center is vital to our citizens, especially women and children. If the center was not available, many would have no alternative when in need of shelter and immediate help. The center is struggling like so many others during these tough economic times just to keep the doors open. They asked for financial support from the Town in order to keep helping the needy. After discussion, it was tabled until the November meeting. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Lerner and seconded by Commissioner Moats to allocate a one-time contribution of \$6,000.00 to the agency. The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 2, with Commissioner's Robinette and Poole voting nay.

Chief Tony Jones gave the police report for the month of October 2010.

Town Manager, David Odom gave an overview of the various projects underway. The sidewalk grinding has made the streets safer to travel. The work is almost complete. The Hiddenite sewer project is almost complete and the repairs to the WWTP are underway and ongoing.

A motion was made by Commissioner Poole and seconded by Commissioner Moats to enter into closed session in order to discuss a personnel issue as allowed by N.C.G.S. 143-318.11. Passed unanimously.

Discussion was had over the personnel issue with part-time employee Fred Matheson. Town Manager, David Odom was summoned to magistrate court by Fred Matheson. He claims that he is owed back part-time vacation and sick time from 1987 through 2003. Our NC League of Municipalities attorney represented the Town. The case was dismissed. The statute of limitation had run out. No action was taken.

A motion was made by Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Poole to return to the regular session. Passed unanimously.

The next meeting was scheduled for December 7, 2010 at 5:30 pm.
With no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Mayor

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner
Attest:

Commissioner

Yolanda Prince, Town Clerk