

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF TARBORO, HELD AT 7:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, MAY 9, 2016 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM, TOWN HALL, TARBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

MEMBERS PRESENT

C.B. Brown	Councilman
Steve Burnette	Councilman
John Jenkins	Councilman
Deborah Jordan	Councilmember
Garland Shephard	Councilman
Leo Taylor	Councilman
Othar Woodard	Councilman

MEMBERS ABSENT

Taro Knight	Councilman
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ALSO PRESENT

M Alan Thornton	Town Manager
Leslie M. Lunsford	Town Clerk
Chad Hinton	Town Attorney

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Councilman Taylor asked for other nominations to act as Mayor. Councilmember Jordan nominated Councilman Woodard, he declined the nomination as Acting Mayor. Councilman Shephard made a motion, which was seconded by Councilman Woodard and passed unanimously, that Council appoint Councilman Taylor to serve as Acting Mayor until further notice.

The meeting was called to order and Invocation given by the Acting Mayor, Leo Taylor.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA BY COUNCIL

Councilmember Jordan asked when Council planned to address the pay study performed by the MAPS Group. Council agreed to discuss the pay study during the upcoming budget study sessions. Councilman Woodard made a motion, which was seconded by Councilman Jenkins and passed unanimously, that Council approve the agenda as presented.

3. REQUESTS AND PETITIONS OF CITIZENS

A. Judith Moss – 1708 W Wilson Street, Tarboro

Ms. Moss informed Council that the Town of Tarboro had 40 participants in the Down East Senior Games. She stated that Tarboro was a certified FIT community at one time and what a draw that would be for the Certified Retirement Community. Ms. Moss asked that Council congratulate the participants and thank the volunteers of the Down East Senior Games if they see them around town.

B. Viola Harris – 609 Saint David Street, Tarboro

Ms. Harris thanked the Town of Tarboro, Councilmembers and the Parks & Recreation Department for their participation in the National Day of Prayer held on Thursday May 5, 2016.

C. Peter Herring – 1103 Panola Street, Tarboro

Mr. Herring requested an update on replanting trees and repairing electric lines near his business property at 305 N Main Street. Staff will follow up on request.

D. Van Holland – 212 N Main Street, Tarboro, Mud Dawgs Baseball Program

Mr. Holland requested Council consider reducing the fees to rent the fields at Indian Lake Sports Complex to allow for baseball tournaments to come to our area. He explained the Mud Dawgs league and how many kids they have ranging from ages 8-18. He stated that league plays in tournaments in Wilmington, Fayetteville and other surrounding areas with 30 plus teams. Mr. Holland also requested a field at the Complex and/or Municipal Stadium for the teams to use for practice. Councilmembers requested staff present a written evaluation of the fields at the Complex and Municipal Stadium at the June Council meeting. Councilman Woodard made a motion, which was seconded by Councilman Burnette and passed unanimously, that Council review the Recreation fees during the upcoming Budget Study Session meeting on Thursday, May 19, 2016.

4. MATTERS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

None.

5. REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

A. Planning Board and Zoning Commission Report

Catherine Grimm, Planning Director, presented the Planning Board and Zoning Commission report for April 18, 2016 to Council. The report is attached at page 73-12a.

Councilman Jenkins made a motion, which was seconded by Councilman Shephard and passed unanimously, that Council call for and hold a public hearing regarding Zoning Map Amendment 16-02 RA-12 to RA-8-C at the regular June 13, 2016 Council Meeting.

Catherine Grimm, Planning Director, presented the joint annual report of the Planning Board and Zoning Commission and the Development Review Committee to Council. The report is attached at page 73-12b through 73-12f. She also presented the Planning Board and Zoning

Commission report for May 2015 – April 2016 to Council. The report is attached at pages 73-12g.

B. Historic District Commission

Catherine Grimm presented the annual report of the Tarboro Historic District Commission to Council. The report is attached at page 73-12h through 73-12j.

6. BUDGET PRESENTATION

Alan Thornton, Town Manager and Budget Officer, thanked Anne Mann, Finance Director, and staff for assisting in preparing a balanced budget for FY 2016-2017. Mr. Thornton presented Council with the proposed FY 2016-2017 budget. Councilman Shephard requested employee salaries be shown differently than recommended by the Local Government Commission. He was informed that a separate document could be provided to fulfill his request. Council decided to meet on Thursday, May 19, 2016 at 6:00 pm at Town Hall for a budget study session.

7. TOWN MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Consent Items

Councilman Woodard made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Jordan and passed unanimously, that the following consent item be approved:

(1) Memo 16-32 – 2015 Tax Levy Adjustment

Action taken: Council

(1) ordered the Tax Collector be charged with afterlist 37 in the amount of \$536.20,

(2) entered into the minutes 2015 Tax Levy release number 24 in the amount of \$57.97, and

(3) approved the *Schedule of 2015 Tax Levy Adjusted as of May 9, 2016*, attached at page 73-12k, in the amount of \$3,359,265.92.

(2) Memo 16-33 – Utilities – Annual Charge Off of Uncollectable Bills

Action taken: Council approved the list, attached at pages 73-12l and 73-12m, and authorized the Collector of Revenue to charge off utility bills of 174 former accounts which amount to \$58,404.49.

(3) Minutes

Action taken: Council approved the minutes of the March 23, 2016 special called meeting and the April 11, 2016 regular meeting.

B. Action Items

(1) Memo 16-34 – Call Public Hearing – 2016-2017 FY Budget

Councilman Woodard made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Jordan and passed unanimously, that Council call for a public hearing on the 2016-2017 FY Budget to be held at the regular Council meeting on Monday, June 13, 2016.

(2) Memo 16-35 – Edgecombe County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), Adoption by the Town of Tarboro

Councilman Woodard made a motion, which was seconded by Councilman Jenkins and passed unanimously, that Council adopt the Emergency Operations Plan developed by Edgecombe County for the purpose of enhancing Preparedness, Response and Recovery capability within Edgecombe County, North Carolina.

8. OTHER REPORTS

A. Town Manager

The Town Manager reminded Council that the Happening on the Commons would be held on Saturday, May 21, 2016 and the Pops on the Commons Symphony would be held on Wednesday, June 8, 2016. Mr. Thornton informed Council that Dr. Lawrence Auld had submitted a letter of resignation to the Edgecombe Memorial Library Board and that his vacant seat would need to be filled. Councilman Taylor requested the item be added to the June Council meeting agenda. Mr. Thornton also requested Council schedule a special called meeting for Anthony Edwards and Watson Brown to submit a revitalization plan for the Town of Tarboro. Council called for the special meeting be to held on Monday, May 23, 2016 at 6:00 pm at Town Hall.

B. Town Attorney

The Town Attorney updated Council on the closing of 203 Creek Street.

C. Mayor Pro Tem

None.

D. Council Members

Ward 1 – Councilman Woodard – thanked Anne Mann, Finance Director, for her daily work on multiple projects. He also confirmed that the Town's water was safe and in compliance with all regulations. Councilman Woodard gave Troy Lewis, Public Works Director, an opportunity to clarify the water report. Troy stated that the annual water report was on the Town's website and again confirmed that the water was safe and in compliance with all regulations. Councilman

Woodard also stated that Council operates by a majority vote, all Councilmembers are working for the good of the Town and in some cases not everyone will agree.

Ward 2 - Councilman Taylor – expressed concerns for the need of a street light at Maurice Drive and Howard Avenue. Buddy Harrison, Electric Department Director, stated that he would work with Councilman Taylor to solve the issue. Council Taylor also gave an update on the speeding issue on Pine Street, stating that the Police Department had patrolled the area and had written many citations.

Ward 3 – Councilman Burnette – requested Council appoint a Mayor at the next regular Council meeting, expressed concerns for funding for travel recreation teams added in the 2016-2017 budget and requested an update on the new Town website. Anne Mann informed Council that the website would be going live soon. Alan Thornton suggested Council seek advice from the Town Attorney at the special called meeting on May 23, 2016 regarding the open Mayor seat.

Ward 4 – Councilman Brown – thanked the Police Department for the increased patrol on Walnut Street.

Ward 5 – Councilman Jenkins – None

Ward 6 – Councilmember Jordan – thanked the Edgecombe Tribune and the Tarboro Weekly for reporting on Autism Awareness Month and informing citizen of the resources offered for individuals and families. Councilmember Jordan also expressed her appreciation to the Electric, Public Works and Police Departments for their assistance and support.

Ward 7 – Councilman Knight – None

Ward 8 - Councilman Shephard – addressed several concerns including recycling, effective date for Electric rate decrease, water report from 2014, routine taxicab inspections, Council Chamber sound system upgrade and Town Common fountain. Concerns were appropriately addressed. He stated that he received notice that the special called meeting regarding the insurance presentation by Mark III had been canceled and questioned why the meeting was still held. Alan Thornton stated that the meeting was properly advertised to the public and that Councilmembers were notified of all changes. Councilman Shephard questioned Council's decision to change insurance companies and requested the Town's BCBSNC representative's contact information. Councilman Shephard also addressed concerns about the need for an "eye sore" ordinance and enforcement of current junk car ordinance at 2000 Panola Street. Councilman Jenkins made a motion, which was seconded by Councilman Brown and passed unanimously, that Council consider an "eye sore" ordinance at the special called meeting planned for Monday, May 23, 2016. Councilman Shephard also asked for clarification from the Town Attorney on researching the Town of Tarboro. Chad Hinton stated that it depended on the issue, some issues do not have restrictions, however, if it undermines Council or Department Heads, restrictions may apply.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Jordan made a motion, which was seconded by Councilman Woodard and passed unanimously, that the meeting be adjourned.

Leo Taylor, Acting Mayor

Leslie M. Lunsford, Town Clerk