

MINUTES OF THE WHITSETT TOWN COUNCIL
May 14, 2019
Whitsett Town Hall Building

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The regular meeting of the Whitsett Town Council was held on Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at the Whitsett Town Hall. The following members of the Town Council were present: Mayor Richard Fennell, Mayor Pro Tem Andy Brown, Council Members Jerry Rice, Cindy Wheeler, and Lee Greeson.

Also present were Town Administrator Ken Jacobs, *The Alamance News* reporter Tomas Murawski, and two Town residents. Absent was Planning Board Chairman Bob Maccia.

Mayor Fennell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., noted that a quorum was present; and asked Council Member Jerry Rice to offer the invocation.

SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

Mayor Fennell asked for any speakers from the floor, and no one asked to be acknowledged.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Adoption of the Minutes

Mayor Fennell asked for changes to the minutes from the April 9, 2019 regular meeting; and hearing none, asked for a motion to adopt the minutes. Motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Council Member Jerry Rice; motion seconded by Council Member Cindy Wheeler. The motion to adopt the March regular meeting minutes passed by unanimous vote.

2. Any Other Old Business

Mayor Fennell asked if there were any other old business; and there was none.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Planning Board

In the absence of the Board Chairman Bob Maccia and last week's meeting having been cancelled, there was no report.

2. Enforcement Committee

3. Enforcement Officer

Enforcement Officer Jacobs reported that he had been clued in on major renovations being done to a house at 7235 Whitsett Park Road for which no Town DCC had been issued. Jacobs queried the contractors on site, and advised them of the process to follow. The county inspector was informed of the situation and upon investigation, imposed a stop work order until proper Town clearance and county permits could be secured by the property owner.

4. Town Administrator

Town Administrator Jacobs reported the following informational items:

- **Town Properties:** (1) Had a phone conversation with Rex Tuggle, owner of the derelict property (former store) at 814 NC Hwy 61, who said he contacted Guilford County about well and septic rehab and locations on the one-third acre lot; and planned to contact adjacent property owners to inquire about the possibility of an easement or land purchase to enable him to restore service for the structure. Tuggle will continue to keep the Town informed on progress.
- **Town Development Progress:** (1) Site plans are moving through Guilford County review process so that grading and construction can be scheduled and begin on the Town-approved residential development on 24.5 acres at 7232 Burlington Road. (2) The Parks and Recreational grant application will be delayed until next year because of the inability to obtain required three quotes for each construction initiative, i.e., picnic shelter, restrooms, playground, walking track, sport courts, etc.
- **Meetings:** (1) With the ongoing acquisition of Town properties by Jim Griggs, felt it necessary to meet with Griggs and his son to discuss what their plans might be. Both assured that any development would be done in line with the Town's vision and would conform to the adopted strict architectural standards. (2) Will be going to the NC Rural Water Association annual conference in Greensboro, primarily to establish contact with vendors on radio-read water meters and needed hardware and software.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Review Republic Services Three-Year Renewal Contract

The latest 5-year contract with Republic for regular household garbage and curbside recycling collection services will expire June 30, 2019; and Council Members had been provided a proposed amendment to extend and modify the contract for a now 3-year term.

The agreement is a mutual consent service contract extension that includes a rate hike from \$14.00 per household/per month to \$16.65, primarily due to the added surcharge for processing recyclables. Costs associated with recycling have proven to become a major concern for haulers and municipalities alike. The amendment also includes an annual CPI increase of 3.5%.

The new contract should be approved along with the proposed Town operating budget for 2019-2020 at June's public hearing and regular meeting.

2. Present Proposed 2019-2020 Town Operating Budget

Town Administrator Jacobs formally presented the proposed operating budget to Council Members, which new this year is displayed in aggregate format now that the Town has converted to a central depository banking system. In its current state, the proposed budget is balanced at \$201,180 in estimated revenues and expected expenditures; yet, is subject to likely only minor changes prior to the June public hearing and meeting.

The \$201,180 budget is an increase of \$6,845 over last year's budget; and in preparation for next month's adoption, Council Members will apply further review of that presented.

3. Set Public Hearing Date for June 11, 2019

Council Member Lee Greeson made a motion to set the public hearing for June 11, 2019; motion seconded by Council Member Jerry Rice. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

4. Any Items from Council Members

Mayor Fennell asked for any items from Council members; and there were none.

5. Announcements

Mayor Fennell asked for any announcements; and there were none.

6. Speakers from the Floor

Mayor Fennell asked for any speakers from the floor; and no one asked to be recognized.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, Mayor Fennell invited a motion to adjourn. Council Member Jerry Rice made the motion to adjourn; motion seconded by Council Member Lee Greeson. The motion passed by unanimous vote; and the May 14, 2019 Town Council meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:32 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Whitsett Town Council will follow the public hearing that is scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 11, 2019 at the Whitsett Town Hall.

/s/

Jo Hesson, Town Clerk

/s/

Richard Fennell, Mayor

APPROVED: June 11, 2019