

## **REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**

March 6, 2012

Present: Mayor George B. Holleman  
Mayor Pro Tem Kenny Poole  
Commissioner Ronnie Robinette  
Commissioner Edd Elliott, Jr.  
Commissioner Jack I. Lerner

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

The invocation was given by Reverend Sterling Howard. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Elliott to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Elliott to approve the February 7<sup>th</sup> regular meeting minutes as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

### Open Forum:

Reverend Sterling Howard spoke to on behalf of the NAACP. He questioned the recent hiring practices of the town. He stressed that minorities should be considered when hiring and to also place the notices of available positions in the local newspapers in addition to the internet. Mayor Holleman stated that applicants must meet job specific requirements before they can be considered, as in the case of police officers. Commissioner Poole stated that the Town Board only set policy that they did not administer the policies. Those duties fall to the Town Manager and other staff of the town. Town Manager, David Odom stated that the town utilized the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act in conjunction with the NC Dept. of Labor to use workers within the last 3 years. Those positions were on a temporary basis. One full-time position for the town was filled from that program. Other programs that the town utilizes are the apprentice & journeyman programs through the high school for part-time work. All positions available with the town are advertised in Taylorsville Times newspaper.

David St. Clair with Boy Scout Troop #274 was in attendance to work towards his citizenship in the community badge. He was presented a town pin.

Dennis Chapman spoke before the town board regarding the amount and type of items that are left on gravesides in the town cemetery. He noted that people should be allowed to grieve in an individual manner but expressed concern over the type of items left that might cause a mowing and maintenance hazard to the town & others. It was noted that policies are in place regarding the cemetery but that it is an extremely delicate subject that requires diplomacy given the nature of the issue.

A motion was made by Commissioner Poole and seconded by Commissioner Lerner to approve the engineering proposal from West & Associated PLLC for the Milstead Woods apartment complex CDBG project. The motion was passed unanimously.

Town Manager David Odom and Commissioner Ronnie Robinette met with several representatives regarding alternative energy sources. They met with Lynn Martin, Energy Engineer with NC State Energy Office, Ben Edson with First Light Solar Company, Steve Cavanaugh & Will Jernigan with Cavanaugh Engineering firm, Raymond Garden with PSNC Energy, Tim Holder, VP of Operations with Energy United Electric, and Dr. Hugh Eckerlin, engineer with NCSU Solar Center Aerospace. Seven of the eight listed have visited the waste water treatment plant and agree that the site has significant possibilities for both alternative sources of energy and educational programs to promote citizen awareness. A short form contract could be entered into with Cavanaugh Engineering to prepare an application for possible grants and to set a scope of vision to establish the steps needed to bring these ideas to reality.

Town Manager, David Odom mentioned that information was included in the agenda packet of updated pricing on Christmas lights and banners for the town board's consideration.

A motion was made by Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Elliott to approve the short form agreement with Cavanaugh Engineering for \$4,000.00 to begin grant applications for alternative sources of energy and to set the scope of vision for the idea's to become reality. The motion was passed unanimously.

Town Manager, David Odom stated the current ordinance regarding burning inside the town limits and discussed possibilities to include & exclude from the current ordinance.

#### Staff Reports:

Police Chief, Tony Jones gave the monthly police report.

Public Works Director, David Robinette was away attending a training seminar. It was noted that the new Dialysis center is underway testing their equipment before opening to the public. The Energy Efficiency grant has been completed. The grant for the various sewer systems improvement grant will be going to bid soon.

Town Manager, David Odom mentioned that the 505 National Guard units from Taylorsville will be deployed on May 12<sup>th</sup> for a one-year tour in Kuwait. A request that yellow ribbons showing support be placed on the deployment day. The board agreed by unanimous consent.

Also, the town board agreed to recognize the varsity men's and women's basketball teams for their accomplishments this past season. It was also mentioned that the WPCOG new building open house will be on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Holleman acknowledged the passing of town citizens Clede Graham, Carol Crowgey and Lorine Lackey.

The next regular meeting was scheduled for March 6, 2012 at 5:30 pm in the Council Chambers. With no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

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Mayor

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Commissioner

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Commissioner

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Commissioner

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Commissioner

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Yolanda Prince, Town Clerk