

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

June 4, 2013

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 Mayor Holleman. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Kathryn McCurdy spoke in open forum and addressed the Town Board with the following requests: As a town citizen, she requested that the town website post the agenda's 3 days before the scheduled meeting and to have the meeting notes on the website no later than 10 days after a meeting. She stated that the Taylorsville blight or bright slideshow that she created has received numerous views and she is suggesting that the Town Council form a committee to compile a list of recommendations for improvements to the current town situation as indicated on the slideshow. She also stated that the county commissioners are considering establishing a visitor center possible in the Hiddenite Center. She suggests that the visitor center be located in downtown Taylorsville with examples of local history and current products made by local people. She also noted that the county commissioners are to meet with representatives from the NC Tourism Council in the near future. She suggested that the Town Council attend that meeting. Mayor Holleman asked Ms. McCurdy to compile a list of names for possible consideration of the committee and submit them to David Odom, Town Manager. There were no other comments in open forum.

The Mayor & Town Council presented the 2013 Alexander Central Fast-pitch girls softball team state champions with individual medals and a team plaque. This is the 8th straight state title in the school's history and the 3rd state title in the last 5 years. They had 33 wins and 1 loss on the 2013 season.

This Saturday night the band Shake Down will perform on the courthouse lawn from 7 to 10 pm.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Elliott and seconded by Commissioner Lerner to approve the minutes as presented for the May 21, 2013 regular called meeting. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Elliott to open the public hearing for discussion of the proposed FY budget. David Odom, Town Manager presented the proposed FY 2013-14 budget for the Town of Taylorsville. The budget totals

\$3,354,165.00 (excluding pass thru grant projects) for all Town personnel expenses, operations, capital improvements, and debt service requirements. It reflects a 3.5% increase from the July 1, 2011 approved budget. The General Fund budget totals \$1,603,950 and is balanced with a property tax rate of 35 cents per \$100 valuation. The proposed budget reflects an estimated 3.5% increase in revenue. The majority of the increase is to an improvement in sales tax revenue. As a word of caution this reflects increased cost of goods and provisions rather than a significant change in consumer spending. Citizens are not buying more, simply paying more. Real Property values are flat to receding due to forced sales and foreclosures. The budget for the Water & Sewer Fund totals \$1,689,400.00 an increase of 2.8%. This amount includes a 3.0% for residential rate increase due to ongoing water and sewer improvements, cost increases in wastewater treatment, system upgrades, and major replacement projects. The majority of our residential inside customers who use less than 5,000 gallons per month will see an average monthly increase of \$.25 cents per month High use accounts and outside sewer accounts will bear the majority of the proposed rate increase.

He also noted that the property revaluation will occur in 2015; however, the tax base is expected to decline due to economic conditions and aging properties. He noted that 1 cent on the town's tax rate will net approx. \$16,000 in revenue. 1 cent on the county's tax rate will net approx.. \$250,000.00 & 1 cent on Catawba county's tax rate nets approx.. 1 million. It should also be noted that the NC Legislature are proposing significant changes to franchise fee revenue and sales tax revenue which would directly affect the Town's revenue stream. If those changes are enacted, the Town will face serious decisions effecting future services such as Greenway transportation, zoning and planning and the recycling program. The second public hearing for the proposed budget is set for June 18th, 2013 at 5:30 pm. A motion was made by Commissioner Poole and seconded by Commissioner Robinette to close the public hearing.

A motion was made by Commissioner Poole and seconded by Commissioner Robinette to approve the adoption of the Resolution to purchase of 2750 automatic meter reading meters per the grant project between Energy United and the Town. The motion was passed unanimously. See attachment A, which is hereby incorporated and made a part herein.

A motion was made by Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Elliott to approve the budget amendments from fund balance to the cemetery and parks department for a total of \$16,000.00. The motion was passed unanimously. See attachment B, which is hereby incorporated and made a part herein.

David Robinette, Public Works Director gave a written report.

Tony Jones, Police Chief gave a written report. The missing person has not been found but the missing woman from Stony Point has been returned safely.

David Odom, Town Manager mentioned the possible actions of the NC Legislature & how if enacted we as a town will bare drastic revenue losses.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

Mayor

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Attest: _____
Yolanda T. Prince, Town Clerk