

## **REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**

February 7, 2006

Present: Mayor Guy Barriger

Comm. Bob Phillips, Comm. George Holleman, & Comm. Jack Lerner

The regular meeting was opened for business by Mayor Barriger at 6:00 p.m.

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

Motion by Commissioner Phillips, seconded by Commissioner Lerner to adopt the agenda as presented. Passed unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Holleman, seconded by Commissioner Phillips to approve the minutes from the January 3rd, 2006 regular meeting. Passed unanimously.

### Open Forum:

Larry & Bobby Boyer came before the Town Board asking for a reduced water & sewer bill for a building they rented. The tenant left and there was a leak which they were not aware of, which made the bill \$464.00 this month. The average bill runs around \$134.00 per month. Town Manager, David Odom will look into the matter and together reach a reasonable solution.

Mayor Barriger opened the public hearing for public comment on the possibility of changing the Town Charter in order to allow for absentee voting in Municipal elections. Mayor Barriger stated he did not get to vote during the last election due to being in the hospital and he is in favor of absentee voting. Commissioner Holleman also stated that he is in favor of absentee voting. Mickey Chapman questioned why the issue didn't occur during any prior board's administration. No further comments were made and the public hearing was closed.

Motion by Commissioner Lerner, seconded by Commissioner Holleman to adopt a Resolution of Intent to amend the Town Charter to allow absentee voting in Municipal Elections. Passed unanimously. See attachment A, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes.

Mayor Barriger opened the 2<sup>nd</sup> public hearing on the possibility of changing the Town Charter in order to allow for increasing the Governing Board size. Mayor Barriger stated that the number and length of terms was the issue at hand. Suggestions have been made for 4 commissioners & a Mayor with full voting rights & 4 yr concurrent terms. Mickey Chapman stated he is in favor of leaving the Board as it is. Marie Chapman stated she feels the Board would be better with 4yr terms. Ruby Little stated she feels there would be a better chance of more representation with 2yr staggered terms. Town Manager, David Odom noted that an election costs approximately \$5,000.00 and each council member is paid \$3941.42 per year. Bob Phillips stated that a good Mayor leads and directs a Town. They don't necessarily have a vote on all Board's. Most other towns indicate the more board members the less consensus of the board. He feels that it would be a good idea to have a referendum and let the people decide. No further comments were made

and the public hearing was closed.

Motion by Commissioner Holleman, seconded by Commissioner Lerner to adopt a Resolution of Intent amending the Town Charter to increase the Governing Board size from 3 Councilmen and a Mayor to 4 Councilmen and a Mayor who has full voting rights to become effective with the 2007 Municipal Election. Each member would serve 4 year concurrent terms. The motion passed with a vote of 2 to 1, with Commissioner Phillips voting nay. See attachment A, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes.

The February 2006 Anchor Business Award was presented to Kay Hanes Dress Shop for 25 years of service and to Jimmy Chapman for 52 years of service as the paper carrier. Ruby Little spoke and stated that Jimmy has served his fellow citizens and community well and he would be missed. Commissioner Holleman stated that he appreciates his dedication to the community and all his community service work with the town. Commissioner Phillips stated he appreciates Jimmy and Marie for being good neighbors & all that they do.

The following were awarded Conservation is Contagious awards.

Winner of Wal-Mart Gift Card and Town Pin:

TJ Norton  
130 Applehouse Lane, Taylorsville  
635-5986

In the morning I leave a little hot water in the bottom of the bath tub to heat the room. I also try to keep the lights off  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the day. Also I watch very little TV and don't play a lot of video games. I recycle mostly everything and wash dishes by hand.

Winner of Town Flag and Town Pin:

Dot Feimster  
14 Pop Davis Rd.  
Taylorsville, NC 28681

I insulated my water heater, make sure my spigots aren't dripping and turn my heat and air very low while at work and while sleeping. I always turn off all lights in rooms not being used and wash only full loads.

Winner of Savings Bond and Town Pin:

Joyce Brookshire Estep  
10348 Brush Mt. Rd.  
Moravian Falls, NC 28654  
336-921-3995

We have an outside wood furnace. It heats our water and our house. We also heat our swimming pool with the furnace. This saves a lot of money for us. Our electric bill is never over an average of \$50 a month. We have our own wood to use. We also have a small pool which churches use to baptize. We heat this pool also with the wood furnace.

Winner of Town Clock and Town Pin:

Mrs. Lee Jan Waddell  
PO Box 201  
Hiddenite, NC 28636  
704-585-0077

Use toaster oven instead of large oven for biscuits, 8 x 8 pan of brownies/casseroles. Drive car 35 mph for 1<sup>st</sup> 3 miles to warm engine instead of idling or revving engine. For dish washer use: turn off heated drying option. Prepare mentally for the seasons. Accept you will be a little warm in the summer and a little cool in the winter. This will stop the thermostat from being 65 in summer and 80 in the winter. Then dress accordingly.

Winner of Energy United Shirt and Town Pin:

Barbara Morrison  
85 Cole Campbell Road, Taylorsville  
828-632-6523

Several ways my family has conserved energy is by buying recent appliances. When we purchased a new electric range we had a special order one that has a small oven on one side and a larger oven on the other side. We also purchased a new washer with a supper capacity to wash full loads of laundry. We installed a monitor heater to help with oil bills and we have an attic fan we use on days to save air conditioning. There are only two of us but we try to save all we can. Within the past few years we had windows installed as well.

Motion by Commissioner Phillips, seconded by Commissioner Holleman to approve a 6 month trail with the NCDOT for Honor Grade inmate labor. There would be 3 inmates at a cost of \$3.00/day working on town/governmental property doing upkeep & beautification projects in town. Town staff would have to be trained & sign an agreement for supervising the inmates. NCDOT would transport them from Wilkes county and we would pick them up in the mornings and return them in the evenings. NCDOT provides their meals. Worker's comp insurance would cost approximately \$600.00 for 6 months. Passed unanimously.

Town Planner, Jon Pilkenton presented a sidewalk study showing the new construction and repairs needed on the sidewalks in town.

Motion by Commissioner Phillips, seconded by Commissioner Lerner to approve obtaining a used 1996 mobile home for approximately \$15,580.00 including setup for the Pop Davis Grant for safe habitable dwelling. Passed unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Holleman, seconded by Commissioner Lerner to approve the sewer request from Clay Lunsford for a sewer hookup at a house at the industrial park entrance on Hwy 90. He will have to pay to bore under the railroad to obtain the standard 4 inch tap and will be subject to outside sewer rates. Roger Adams off Millersville road also requested a 4 in tap. As part of the Mitchell gold grant, the tap fees were waived, but he has agreed to pay an impact fee of 2cent/gal, which amounts to an estimated 4000/gal/month, which equals \$ 960.00. Passed unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Phillips, seconded by Commissioner Holleman to approve amending the FY 05-06 budget by an increase of \$3611.25 for grant revenue received from the State for police bullet proof vests. Passed unanimously. See attachment B, which is hereby incorporated and made apart of these minutes.

Motion by Commissioner Holleman, seconded by Commissioner Lerner to set a public hearing for March 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30p.m. in order to hear public comments on amending the Town's Zoning Ordinance. Passed unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Holleman, seconded by Commissioner Lerner to declare the Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of the satellite annexation petitions received from Propst Superette's on Hwy 16 N. & Hwy 16 S. and to also set a public hearing for March 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Passed unanimously. See attachment C, which is hereby incorporated and made apart of these minutes.

**Public Works Report:**

David Robinette publicly thanked the board for supporting the hiring of additional staff to the public works department. He believes a difference will be seen immediately.

**Town Manager's Report:**

The new park shelter is making progress and is in line with expense estimates. The vocational department of Alexander Central did an excellent job.

We are waiting on NCDOT ROW easements before construction bids can be advertised for on the sidewalk grant.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30.

\_\_\_\_\_ Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_ Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_ Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_ Commissioner

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Yolanda Prince  
Town Clerk