

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

June 5, 2017

Present Mayor George 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.

Open Forum:

Karen Morrison complimented the Greenway Bus transportation system here in town. She stated that it is a benefit to her and others to have this ability within the town limits. She is very thankful that the service is provided for citizens to use.

Mayor Holleman mentioned that the town has been associated with the WPCOG for more than 20 years and over the last 12 years we have secured over 12 million in grants through them and other departments of our State and Federal Government. No other comments were made from citizens.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Poole and seconded by Commissioner Elliott to approve the minutes from May 2, 2017 regular meeting. The motion was passed unanimously.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Elliott the public hearing to discuss the possible renaming of 1st Ave. Dr. SE back to its original name of pre 911 addressing of 1st Ave. Circle SE was opened. The motion was passed unanimously. According to GIS staff and 911 staff, there has been much confusion and delays in response time due to the Ridgeway apartments having that 1st Ave. Dr. SE address. It has been recommended by GIS staff and 911 staff that the address for the Ridgeway apartments be changed back to 1st Ave. Circle SE and that this will help eliminate confusion and delayed response time. Karen Morrison who lives at the Ridgeway apartments confirmed that she had difficulty having some services connected due to address confusion. No other comments were heard. A motion was made by Commissioner Poole and seconded by Commissioner Robinette to exit the public hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lerner and seconded by Commissioner Elliott to change the address for the Ridgeway apartments from 1st Ave. Dr. Se back to 1st Ave. Circle SE. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Elliott to open the public hearing scheduled for the 1st reading of the proposed FY 2017-2018 budget for the Town of Taylorsville. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Proposed Draft Budget is based on a tax rate of 34/100 Valuation. The Town of Taylorsville has not increased the property tax rate in 38 years. The Town Continually receives letters from the North Carolina Local Government Commission regarding low General Fund Cash reserves that are to be set aside for emergencies. A significant number of tree removals following Hurricane Juaquin further reduced general fund balance. One Penny generates \$17,723.00 tax income at a 97% collection rate. As Town manager since June 2003 no budget has included a proposed property tax increase, however due to the disparity of our tax rate compared to other towns offering the same services and low fund balance, a proposed increase in the tax rate from 34cents per \$100.00 valuation to 40 cents per \$100.00 valuation is proposed. The estimated additional revenue of \$106,336.00 would be used for nothing other than restoring our general fund emergency fund balance. Out tax base has declined over the years some due to property being purchased by local government and churches, which do not pay property taxes. In 2009 there were 29 full time employees and now in 2017 there are 19 full time employees. The town has divided duties of retired personnel to remaining personnel in order to keep costs as low as possible while still getting the job done. The W&S fund will average a 3.5% rate increase to the was charges. In 1978 the town had only 2 pump stations and now in 2017 we have 38 to monitor. A part time employee will go to full time in the w&s dept in order to monitor the pump stations. Commissioner Poole states that no one wants to see a tax increase but they also don't want to see reduced services and we are at the point that one of the two must happen. Therefore, a tax increase must happen because we cannot reduce services. There were no comments from citizens. A motion was made by Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Elliott to exit the public hearing. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Elliott to approve a budget transfer of \$30,000 from w&s contingency to w&s maintenance/repair of buildings for \$30,000 & a transfer from Streets & sanitation to streets –capital outlay of \$2,000.00. See attachment A, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes. The motion was passed unanimously.

Public Works Report: by David Odom As of right now, there is over \$3,000,000.00 of grant work on going at the WWTP and in town with the rehabilitation of the sewer plant and sewer lines in town. The sewer line rehabilitation is causing some tearing up of the pavement and causing potholes but those will be being fixed later on in the project.

Police Dept. report: Detective Lisa Johnson. A break in was solved at Giovanni's and a rape case was cleared this week.

Town Manager, David Odom presented a video of the on-going repairs at the WWTP and the paving and sidewalk project on Commercial Blvd.

The next meeting will be on Monday June 12th, 2017 at 5:30 pm in the Council Chambers of Town Hall.

With no further business to discuss, Commissioner Poole made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Commissioner Robinette. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Mayor

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Attest: _____
Yolanda T. Prince, Town Clerk