

January 12, 2004

The Middlesex Governing Body met in regular session on January 12, 2004 in the Conference Room of the Town Hall. Members present were Mayor Bobby R. Bissette, Commissioner Basco Lewis, Larry Daniel, Luke Robinson, Fred Hough, and Harold Meacombs. Mayor Bissette called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.. Commissioner Daniel gave the invocation. Mayor Bissette welcomed the press and our guest, Michael Acquesta of Peirson & Whitman Engineers.

Commissioner Robinson moved to accept the minutes of the December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting as correct. Commissioner Hough seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Commissioner Meacombs moved to accept the December Financial Statements as correct. Commissioner Lewis seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Utility Director Jeff Waddell reported that the Sewer Rehabilitation Project is underway in several areas. Mayor Bissette addressed the Board regarding Jeff remaining after his regular working schedule to oversee the project. It was the general consensus of the Board that since Don Raynor, the inspector, was on site the majority of the time, it would not be necessary for Jeff to stay after 4:00 p.m.

Police Chief Charles Ferrell presented a request to the Board to apply for a multi-jurisdictional technology grant through the NC Governor's Crime Commission with the towns of Spring Hope and Bailey, with Spring Hope administering the grant request. The grant for \$30,370 is a 25% match costing the town \$7,592, with \$22,778 being reimbursed. This technology would allow our police department to do criminal background checks and provide an interactive means of identification with the FBI and SBI database, which is all part of the Amber Alert Program for finding missing children. Commissioner Hough moved a go forward with the grant. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Daniel and it carried unanimously.

Commissioner Robinson presented a list of needed repairs for the Library. Included were roof repairs, painting the interior, fixing a leaking toilet and adding hot water in the bathroom. Jeff Waddell stated his department could fix the toilet and install a hot water heater. Mayor Bissette asked Jeff to call Danny Brown regarding the leaking roof and also follow-up on the tennis court well roof job. Painting was tabled until the roof is repaired.

After review of a memo from the Zoning Administrator, Commissioner Meacombs moved to appoint David Bartley to the Planning Board. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The Clerk introduced a Revised Loan Resolution for the Sewer Rehabilitation Project stating the \$228,000 loan was secured by an Installment Purchase Contract versus Government Obligation Bonds. Commissioner Meacombs moved to adopt the Revised Loan Resolution. Commissioner Lewis seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mayor Bissette asked for volunteers for the SONAC Program for 2004. Commissioner Daniel volunteered and the Clerk will contact Constance Corbett and ask if she will serve again.

Amendments to the Animal Ordinance were tabled until the February meeting to allow the Clerk time to do further research to try to simplify the ordinance.

Mayor Bissette asked the status of the development of the town's personnel policy manual. The Clerk advised the Board that employees are in the process of completing job description questionnaires. Mayor Bissette requested that the policy state who approves any training and schools and to specify meal and travel allowances. Commissioner Hough requested to address what types of schools and training would be approved. The Clerk stated that these concerns would be addressed.

Commissioner Daniel moved to go into Closed Session under G.S. 143-318.11(a) to review materials from the attorney. Commissioner Robinson seconded and it carried unanimously.

Minutes of the Closed Session are in the attached envelope labeled "Closed Session Minutes 944b" and are to be kept sealed and may be withheld from public inspection so long as public inspection would frustrate the purpose of the Closed Session.

Commissioner Robinson moved to return to Open Session. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Daniel and carried unanimously.

Being no further business, Commissioner Meacombs moved to adjourn.

Jennifer Lambert  
Clerk

Mayor Bobby R. Bissette  
Commissioners  
Harold Meacombs  
Fred Hough  
Luke Robinson  
Larry Daniel  
Basco Lewis