

Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2014

Mayor Lewis called the regular meeting to order at 7:30pm and gave the invocation. Members present were Commissioners Harold Meacombs, Danny Alford, Cherrye Davis, and J.W. McClenny. Commissioner Ann Lewis was absent. About twenty guests attended, including representatives from the *Nashville Graphic* and *Spring Hope Enterprise*.

The April 11, 14, 28, and May 1, 2014 meeting minutes were unanimously approved with a motion by Commissioner McClenny and seconded by Commissioner Davis.

Requested additions to the agenda were as follows: Add to New Business, Item (d) Accept resignation of Police Officer Sammy Drake and interview his replacement in the scheduled closed session; Item (e) Motion to hire three swimming pool attendants and discuss filling in the baby pool with concrete; and Item (f) Schedule special meeting to discuss the 2014-2015 budget and set a Public Hearing for the budget. The amended agenda was approved unanimously in a motion by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Meacombs.

Mayor Lewis opened the floor for the public comment session. Citizens Robert Johnson, Becky Strickland, Ginger Bullock, and Edna Mount commented on various topics. The session was then closed.

Commissioner Alford moved to approve the April financial report. Commissioner McClenny seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Lewis reviewed the April activities of the Utility Department. Grass cutting is continuous during this time of year and the swimming pool is being cleaned and prepared to open Memorial Day weekend. The CDBG application for lift station overhauls was submitted May 1, and if the town is not funded in this round, we can reapply September 1, when another round of funds totaling \$26 million will be available.

Cherrye Davis reported the library has eight new chairs and a new computer desk. A printer is broken and not worth fixing so Commissioner Davis is checking prices for a new printer. A leaking water heater will be replaced soon.

Mayor Lewis advised that Bennie Lewis completed work on one park shelter at Hanes Park, and will begin work on the second shelter in about two weeks. Work on the athletic fields at Bailey-Middlesex Park is continuing and Phase 1 of the park is very near completion. Two permits were issued to build houses, one in Cedar Run Subdivision and one on Rockside Road in the Village Square Subdivision.

Health Insurance Quotes for 2014-2015 were presented. The town's current plan will increase 19.2%. The Affordable Health Care Act changed health insurance significantly and only nine plans are available. Of the four quotes received, the plan that appears to be the best route for the town and the closest to the current plan, the ACA BCBS Silver HSA, would be a 1.8% increase above the current plan, or an estimated premium of \$44,303.

Clerk Lambert presented a review of building rental rates as requested at the previous budget meeting. The study revealed the town's community building rental and deposit rates were in line with others, taking building size into account.

Commissioner Meacombs and Alford met with Chief Dennis Murray and discussed his 2014-2015 budget requests. Commissioner Alford expressed that the oldest two police cars should be replaced with good used cars, keep the 2006 and 2007 Crown Victoria's instead of purchasing a new vehicle. New decals and a complete paint job is needed on the 2003, and the 2001 also needs paint and decals. Chief Murray also reported the department will apply for a 50/50 grant for bulletproof vests.

Clerk Lambert reported the Worker's Compensation Insurance premium estimate is close to the current year and the Property & Liability Coverage premium will decrease \$4,700 due to lower exposure.

Wastewater treatment rates have not been received from the City of Raleigh, however, Mayor Lewis noted that an early projection for 2014-2015 was a 6% increase.

Rates for credit card processing fees have been received from Southern Bank, PNC Bank, and Bank Card Associates (a third party contractor through Logics, LLC software). Initial costs would be the processing terminal at \$350 new and \$250 for a refurbished unit. A monthly minimum bill would run \$42.50 per month until a larger volume of customers use the cards. Application fees and annual fees would run another \$91. Discounted rates for processing run 1.49% to 1.69% for swiped versus manual entries, plus another .11% pass through fee. Bailey and Spring Hope both absorbed the costs. They do not process any manually keyed transactions and charges by phone. Cyber Risk Insurance is recommended to cover hackers of credit card information because the town's Property & Liability Coverage does not cover this. After a brief discussion about how many customers already use account drafts, and whether to pass costs along to the customers using a card or absorb the fees, the general consensus of the Board was not to pursue credit card processing at this time due to costs involved.

Melissa Schmidt-Rumaldo requested that her lease with the town for her bakery be renewed for one year effective May 1, 2014 at the current rent of \$250 per month. Her lease was renewed unanimously as requested after a motion by Commissioner Meacombs and a second by Commissioner Alford.

The following 2013-2014 Budget Amendment was unanimously approved in a motion by Commissioner Meacombs and seconded by Commissioner Alford:

<u>GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:</u>		<u>INCREASE</u>	<u>DECREASE</u>
<u>Legal:</u>			
10-470-3800	Professional Service	3,000.00	
<u>Sanitation:</u>			
10-580-7400	Capital Outlay		2,000.00
<u>Zoning:</u>			
10-490-3800	Professional/Legal Service		1,000.00

Durwood Williams, Williams Paving, looked at streets with Mayor Lewis to access repairs needed before any paving bids were requested. After inspection Mr. Williams determined that work needs to be completed on some streets before regular the paving project can be completed. Major problems were detected all along Cope Avenue and S. Poplar, and E. Pamlico Streets. Old asphalt must be removed and replaced with base. Jones Street East Hanes Avenue, and S. Chestnut will be completed with 2" of pavement over existing stone. The quote for this work is \$43,150. Commissioner Alford, Streets Commissioner, has reviewed the streets and the quote. Mayor Lewis noted that bids will go out after July 1 for approximately 5,400 feet to be for paved. Commissioner McClenny moved to approve the \$43,150 quote from Williams Paving. The motion passed unanimously after a second by Commissioner Alford.

Police Officer Sammy Drake's resignation was unanimously accepted in a motion by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Meacombs. The interview for his replacement will be included in the scheduled Closed Session.

Commissioner Meacombs moved to hire Casey Liles, Laura Garcia, and Alex Strickland as swimming pool attendants at \$9.00 per hour and authorize Mayor Lewis to possibly hire one more attendant if needed. Commissioner McClenny seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

After a brief discussion regarding the extra costs involved and lack of use of the baby swimming pool, Commissioner Meacombs moved to fill the baby pool with concrete. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Alford and carried unanimously.

A Special meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, May 27, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. to hold further 2014-2015 budget discussions in a motion by Commissioner Meacombs, seconded by Commissioner McClenny, which passed by a unanimous vote.

Commissioner Davis moved to hold a Public Hearing for comments and public discussion for the proposed 2014-2015 Budget on June 9, 2014 at 7:30 pm with the regular

meeting to follow. Her motion was seconded by Commissioner McClenny and carried unanimously.

Commissioner McClenny moved to go into Closed Session as allowed by G.S.143-318.11(a)(6) to discuss personnel matters and hold an employee interview. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Back in Open Session, Commissioner Meacombs moved to hire Michael Marshall as a full time Police Officer at a rate of \$29,000 per year effective with pay period beginning May 9, 2014, and he will be on probation for one year per town policy for new employees. Commissioner McClenny seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

With no further business, Commissioner Meacombs moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McClenny and the vote was unanimous.

Jennifer Lambert, Clerk

Mayor Luther H. Lewis, Jr.
Commissioners
Harold Meacombs
Danny Alford
Cherrye Davis
J.W. McClenny