

Meeting Minutes  
August 12, 2013

Mayor Lewis called the regular meeting to order at 7:30pm and gave the invocation. Members presents were Commissioners Harold Meacombs, Danny Alford, Cherrye Davis, Dale Bachmann, and J.W. McClenny. Approximately fifteen guests attended.

Mayor Lewis opened the Public Comment Session and asked speakers to keep their comments to three (3) minutes. Robert Johnson, Edna Mount, and Gillistine Pearce addressed various concerns. The public comment session was closed at 7:40pm.

Commissioner Bachmann requested to change the July 9, 2013 meeting minutes as follows: remove "as correct" in his motion to accept the June financial statements. His motion died for lack of second. Commissioner Alford moved to approve the July 9, 2013 minutes as presented. Commissioner Meacombs seconded his motion. The vote was four to one, with Commissioner Bachmann being the dissenting vote.

Commissioner Bachmann requested to add under New Business, Item b. discuss water policy. Mayor Lewis requested to add Item c. Closed Session under G.S.143-318.11(a)(5) to discuss a contract, and Item d. Closed Session under G.S.143-318.11(a)(6) discuss a Public Works applicant. The amended agenda was approved unanimously in a motion by Commissioner Bachmann and seconded by Commissioner McClenny.

Clerk Lambert presented a summary and highlights of the July Financial Statements, including the Balance Sheet listing all of the town's CD balances, as requested by the Board at an earlier meeting. Commissioner Meacombs moved to approve the July Financial Statements as correct. Commissioner McClenny seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Bachmann noted the Utility Department has been working on several water leaks. He also stressed that recent newspaper articles, in which the EPA stated North Carolina was lagging in water quality, was referring to surface water. The town's water is well water, not surface water.

Commissioner McClenny moved to confirm the telephone vote to hire Ann Lewis as temporary Administrative Assistant effective July 16, 2013 at the clerical part time pay rate until Shelly Woodruff returns from medical leave. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Bachmann and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Meacombs moved to appoint Bruce Baker and Jahanzeb "Zeb" Magsi as unpaid auxiliary police officers effective immediately. Commissioner Alford seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The following 2013-2014 budget amendment passed unanimously in a motion by Commissioner Bachmann and seconded by Commissioner Meacombs:

<u>ACCT #</u>	<u>PROJECT REVENUES:</u>	<u>INCREASE</u>
11-373-1000	Carolina Gateway-East Coast Pkg Match	1,500
	<u>PROJECT EXPENDITURES:</u>	
11-501-4500	Engineering Fees	1,500

This amendment brings the total East Coast Packaging Building Reuse Grant Project to \$95,000. Clerk Lambert noted Reimbursement #2 has been sent to the NC Rural Center and we are waiting funding.

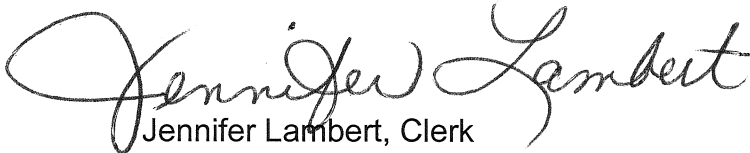
Commissioner Bachmann requested a review of the water policy as it relates to adding the 10% late penalty on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of the month. After a brief discussion, everyone agreed the policy should be changed to the following: In the event that the 15<sup>th</sup> of any month town hall is closed for any reason, payments will be accepted the following business day until 5:00 pm with no penalty. The Board clarified that penalties will be added the next morning at the open of business before any payments are processed, and no payments are to be applied that were placed in the drop slot after 5:00 pm. Title 4, Chapter 1, Section 4-1-20 of the Town Code reads, "a penalty of 10 percent of the amount owed shall be added on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of the month and paid by the consumer." Therefore, Section 4-1-20 of the town code will be reworded and will be presented for adoption at the September 9, 2013 meeting.

Commissioner Alford inquired if the \$3.00 recycle fee added effective July 1, 2013, could be waived for some elderly residents, adding that it is a burden or hardship for some. It was concluded there was no way to determine who would be eligible or qualify for waiver of the fee, or if it would be discriminatory in any way. Commissioner Bachmann commented that the cost of sanitation services has risen with the price of gas and diesel fuel. He also noted several hydraulic and welding repairs have been necessary for garbage truck, and the men must stop for every customer. It was suggested that the only way to reduce the charge for the service would be to adjust the rate down for everyone. No action was taken.

Commissioner McClenny moved to go into Closed Session under G.S.143-318.11(a)(5) to discuss a contract, and under G.S.143-318-11(a)(6) to discuss an applicant for a part time Utility Worker position.

Back in Open Session, Commissioner Bachmann moved to hire Walter Manning as part time Utility Worker for three (3) days per week at a rate of \$10 per hour effective immediately. Commissioner Alford seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

With no further business, Commissioner Meacombs moved to adjourn.



Jennifer Lambert, Clerk

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