

November 8, 2010  
Meeting Minutes

The Middlesex Governing Body met in regular session in the Conference Room of the Town Hall. Mayor Luther H. Lewis, Jr. called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and gave the invocation. Members present were Commissioner Luke Robinson, Dale Bachmann, J.W. McClenny, Harold Meacombs, and Fred Hough. Police Chief Charles Ferrell was present and Vennie Brock was the only guest.

Mayor Lewis opened the floor for the public comment session and there were no comments and the session was closed.

Commissioner Robinson moved to approve the October minutes as presented. His motion was seconded by Commissioner McClenny and carried unanimously.

Mayor Lewis requested to add Item f. under Old Business. Nash Hospitals, Inc. annexation petition and set date for Public Hearing and add a Closed Session to review a contract. The amended agenda was approved in a motion by Commissioner Bachmann, seconded by Commissioner Robinson, and carried unanimously.

Clerk Lambert reviewed the October financial statements. They were accepted as correct in a unanimous motion by Commissioner Robinson, which was seconded by Commissioner Bachmann.

Chief Ferrell reported that Officers Sam Cabrera and Will Wheeler have completed training and have been released to work on their own. Officer Hillary Thompson has begun training.

Commissioner Bachmann reported that the remaining 70 meters to be installed must be dug up and he hopes to complete the meter project by in mid December.

Mayor Lewis advised the Board he gave permission to NC DOT to use the town's conference room on November 30th, from 5:00pm-7:00pm for a Public Hearing to close Stone Heritage Road (the dirt road to the right off 264 Alt. to Bailey) rather than installing crossing signals due to the cost.

Mayor Lewis reported that Senator A.B. Swindell's request for \$150,000 to add two crossovers on US 264 four lane to assist Middlesex and Bailey fire and rescue vehicle access was approved.

Mayor Lewis advised the Board that Cindy Ridgway is organizing a Christmas parade with about 50 units, which is larger than originally anticipated. The parade will begin at Mortex, turn left on West Hanes and end at the W. Hanes Park. He advised Chief Ferrell that officers will be needed to help with street closings. The parade will line up on S. Walnut street behind Mortex. The date is Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm and Cindy has asked that all Board members ride in the parade. Ridgway has booked the Southern Nash Band, various fire departments, beauty queens, Muddy the Mudcat, Shriners units, and others.

The town budgeted \$500 to donate toward the event. Ridgway will open a non-profit account at Heritage Bank under her social security number for the Christmas Parade Fund. Mayor Lewis said he would like to see the town give around \$400 more to help cover extra costs involved. They will also be looking at selling the hot dogs versus giving them away due to the number of people that will most likely be attending. All funds received from sales would go back into the Parade Fund towards next year. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Meacombs moved to increase the donation by \$400 from \$500 to \$900 for the Christmas Parade. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Bachmann and carried unanimously.

Williams Paving completed the Powell Bill street paving project and Commissioner Meacombs moved to amend the bid to \$104,215 to cover the additions to the original bid, which was approved by a telephone vote. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Hough and carried unanimously.

Mayor Lewis thanked Commissioner McClenny for his time and effort obtaining bids for the roofing project. Dale Brown Roofing replaced boards and rotten rafters from the town hall and two rental buildings, which was an additional \$1,600, bringing the final cost to \$21,600. New gutters and downspouts must be installed at the rear of the building because facial boards had to be replaced. A quote of \$840 from Tri City Installation was presented to the Board. Commissioner Bachmann moved to amend Dale Brown Roofing's bid of \$21,600. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McClenny and carried unanimously. Also in a motion made by Commissioner McClenny and seconded by Commissioner Hough, Tri City's \$840 quote for the gutters and downspouts was approved unanimously.

Also as an FYI, Mayor Lewis presented a copy of a letter extending the deadline of the Meter and Well#5 Construction Project to January 31, 2011.

In another FYI to the Board, Mayor Lewis presented a copy of the order confirmation to Lowry Systems in the amount of \$71,083 for the air stripping system for Well #4 to resolve the VOC contaminant problem. He also added

that the request for Emergency Funds to the state was not entered into the system as Emergency Funds as requested in the letter, but is now correctly classified as emergency funds. In order to qualify, the town must advertise to minority businesses, and this will be done when Dr. Lowry gives us the specifications needed to advertise for bids.

Mayor Lewis reminded each Board member to get the community building key, go by and look at its condition and come back with ideas. He added that it is disgraceful to rent the building in its' current condition.

A Certificate of Sufficiency was presented regarding the annexation petition received from Nash Hospitals, Inc. and town attorney Liz Fairman concluded the petition was signed by the current property owner. Mayor Lewis added that a total of eight tracts of land on 231 N. (N. Nash) which includes the old Hall tract and the Griffin Heirs tracts have already been rezoned to Light Industrial. Construction is anticipated to begin around March to April and they hope to be up and running in September 2011.

Commissioner Meacombs moved to hold a Public Hearing on the annexation request on Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30pm in the Conference Room at the town hall and the regular scheduled meeting will follow. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and carried unanimously.

Reserve Officer Tim Kapp resigned effective October 15, 2010 stating in his letter that he is now carrying his certification with the Topsail Beach Police Department. His resignation was accepted unanimously in a motion by Commissioner Robinson and seconded by Commissioner McClenny.

A 2010 tax discovery received from the Nash County Tax Office for Stallings Brothers, Inc. in the amount of \$807.29 for permanent tag trailers was approved in a motion by Commissioner McClenny, seconded by Commissioner Bachmann and carried unanimously.

The following 2010 Budget Amendment was approved unanimously in a motion by Commissioner Bachmann and seconded Commissioner McClenny:

<u><b>GENERAL FUND:</b></u>		<u><b>INCREASE</b></u>	<u><b>DECREASE</b></u>
<b>POWELL BILL EXPENDITURES:</b>			
10-570-4500	Contracted Services	12,000.00	
<b>POWELL BILL REVENUES:</b>			
10-343-0200	Powell Bill Fund Bal Approp.	12,000.00	
<b>To cover amendments to Powell Bill Street Paving Project and to clean ditches on Powell Bill Street right of ways</b>			

The following 2010 budget amendments within the same departments were presented as an FYI:

<u><b>GENERAL FUND:</b></u>	<u><b>INCREASE</b></u>	<u><b>DECREASE</b></u>
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**STREETS & SIDEWALKS EXPENDITURES:**

10-560-4500	Contracted Services	2,500.00	
10-560-7100	Patching		2,500.00

**To cover \$1200 for paving at rear of town hall around leak repairs and any other contracted services needed for the remainder of the fiscal year**

**PUBLIC BUILDINGS:**

10-500-1500	Maint.-Bldgs & Grounds		22,000.00
10-500-7401	Capital Project	22,000.00	

**FYI for roofing of town owned buildings by Brown Roofing- moved from Building Maint. To Capital Project-extended life of building and can depreciate**

A brief discussion was held on water and sewer impact and acreage fees charged. Mayor Lewis and Commissioner Bachmann feel the fee for a ¾" to 1" meter tap needs to be increased to break even with the cost of the materials and installation. Commissioner Bachmann explained that the cost of the digital meter alone is \$180, not including any pipe, fittings or installation costs. They recommended to increase the water tap fee from \$350 (plus additional costs) to \$550 (plus additional costs). There is currently a \$60 fee for the cost of the meter, which everyone agreed should be deleted. Additional costs would be incurred when a tap would need to be bored under the road and extra pipe used, or some situation out of the ordinary causing extra expense to the town. Commissioner McClenny moved to raise the water tap fee for a ¾" – 1" meter tap to \$550 plus additional expenses incurred by the town. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Meacombs and carried unanimously.

Mayor Lewis reported that recently, one person has opened several different utility accounts for other people in their name, when they did not own the property, nor were they residing at these locations. A short discussion continued about requiring a copy of a lease agreement or some other form of documentation before opening a water account. Commissioner Bachmann moved to require documentation (i.e. copy of lease agreement if available, or signed permission from the property owner) from all persons requesting water

service that do not own the property. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and carried unanimously.

As requested at the October meeting, Clerk Lambert presented a comparison of revenues versus expenditures for this year versus last year for all funds, with explanations of the large expenditures for projects or large purchases. A separate comparison for sanitation only was presented, comparing this year to last year. Clerk Lambert added that sanitation has a gain so far this year, but we had a loss last year due to the purchase of trash carts totaling \$22,309. Commissioner Bachmann added that the bed of the trash truck was getting in bad shape and he requested the Board keep an eye on that situation. Clerk Lambert also advised that the Powell Bill Bank account is down to \$400 and we will withdraw \$25,000 of a \$50,000 Powell Bill CD maturing this week to cover the cost of cleaning ditches on Powell Bill streets.

Commissioner Robinson moved to go into Closed Session under G.S.143-318.11(a)(5) to discuss a contract. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bachmann and it carried unanimously.

Back in Open Session, Commissioner Robinson moved to hold a Special Closed Session Meeting on Monday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 7:30 in the Conference Room at the town hall to negotiate a contract.

Being no further business, Commissioner Meacombs moved to adjourn.

Jennifer Lambert  
Clerk

Mayor Luther H. Lewis, Jr.  
Commissioners  
Harold Meacombs  
Fred Hough  
Luke Robinson  
Dale Bachmann  
J.W. McClenny