

MINUTES OF THE WHITSETT TOWN COUNCIL
June 13, 2017
Whitsett Town Hall Building

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The regular meeting of the Whitsett Town Council was held on Tuesday, June 13, 2017 at the Whitsett Town Hall. The following members of the Town Council were present: Mayor Richard Fennell, Mayor Pro Tem Andy Brown, Council Members Jerry Rice, Cindy Wheeler, and Lee Greeson.

Also present were Town Administrator Ken Jacobs, Planning Board Chairman Bob Maccia, Planning Board Vice Chairwoman Ella Efird, *Creekside Chronicle* reporter Tomas Murawski, and three additional residents.

Following the public hearing, Mayor Fennell called the Council meeting to order at 7:09 p.m., and noted that a quorum was present.

SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

Mayor Fennell asked for any speakers from the floor; and no one asked to be acknowledged.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Adoption of the Minutes

Mayor Fennell asked for any changes to the minutes from the May 9, 2017 regular monthly meeting; and hearing none, asked for a motion to adopt the minutes as written. Council Member Lee Greeson made a motion to adopt the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Council Member Jerry Rice; and by unanimous vote, the May minutes were approved.

2. Water System Fee Increases and Policy Implementation

Mayor Fennell asked for a motion to adopt the new rates, fees, and policies relative to the water system that were presented by Town Administrator Jacobs during the public hearing. A motion was made by Council Member Cindy Wheeler to adopt the changes as proposed; motion was seconded by Council Member Jerry Rice. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Adoption of Whitsett Town Budget for FY 2017-2018 and Budget Ordinance

Mayor Fennell asked for any further discussion or comment on the proposed operating budget for 2017-2018. With none offered, Mayor Fennell asked for a motion to approve the budget and adopt the budget ordinance as presented. Council Member Jerry Rice made a motion to accept the operating budget and adopt the ordinance; motion seconded simultaneously by Mayor Pro Tem Andy Brown and Council Member Lee Greeson. The motion carried by unanimous vote from Council.

4. Adoption of Proposed Revision of Article VI on Subdivisions

Mayor Fennell asked for any further comment on the proposed development ordinance on subdivisions, penned primarily by Guilford County planners and presented to the Town for review. Hearing none, Mayor Fennell asked for a motion to adopt the document. Council Member Lee Greeson made a motion to adopt the revisions as presented; motion seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Andy Brown. Article VI on subdivisions was adopted by unanimous vote.

5. Proposed Text Amendments to Article IX on Enforcement

Town Administrator Jacobs stated that the Town had never had a formal written policy for a citizen to register a complaint, and read the new policy for the purpose of those present. He added that the complaint form will be posted on the Town's website with copies also available at the Town Hall.

Mayor Fennell asked for any input from Council members on the proposed complaint procedures or violation penalties; and hearing none, asked for a motion to adopt the new policies. A motion was made by Council Member Jerry Rice to adopt the modifications as presented; motion seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Andy Brown. Amendments to Article IX carried by unanimous vote.

6. Proposed Text Amendments to Section of Ordinance on Fences

Mayor Fennell asked for any comments on the proposed text amendments on fences, and hearing none, asked for a motion to adopt the changes as presented. Council Member Cindy Wheeler made a motion to accept the fence insertions; motion seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Andy Brown. The text amendments to the ordinance were adopted by unanimous vote.

7. Any Other Old Business

Mayor Fennell asked if there were any other old business to be discussed; there was none.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Planning Board

Planning Board Chairman Bob Maccia reported that the Board had completed its major undertaking of formulating a Town-wide land-use plan with participation by all members of the Board and others in attendance; and the oversized exhibit was on display for Council's consideration for adoption later on the agenda.

2. Enforcement Committee

Enforcement Officer Ken Jacobs stated that there had been no committee activity this month.

3. Enforcement Officer

Enforcement Officer Jacobs reported that three cases of junked cars existed and violators had been notified. To date, two of the three had made progress; and the third will be sent certified notification that he has 10 days to comply before penalties will be imposed.

Jacobs reported that since last Council meeting, two Development Clearance Permit Certificates had been issued to: (1) K-Built Construction & Pools to construct an in-ground swimming pool at 6772 Kelsey Court, and (2) prospective buyer Pam Murphy to have a perk test on property at 7042 Crescent Road.

4. Town Administrator

Town Administrator Jacobs reported on various meetings he had participated in this month: (1) NC Rural Water Association with respect to grant funding, (2) Randy McNeill for progress on engineering study for sewer system, (3) ribbon cutting dedicating Howard Coble taxiway at PTI, (4) Rutkowskis for improved system for generating water billings, (5) Carolina Bank reps concerning offering credit cards, (6) Neptune water meters rep on feasibility of radio-read meters, (7) Mike Mills for updates on NCDOT issues in Town, and (7) City Manager Hardin Watkins on water/sewer possibilities at NC 61 and Interstate—meeting with Burlington and Town personnel to occur in future.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Presentation of Town-Wide Land Use Plan

Mayor Fennell commended the Planning Board for their product; and asked for any further discussion on the land-use plan. Hearing none, Mayor Fennell asked for a motion to adopt the plan, which would become the Town's formal supportive resource on which to base all future development proposals.

A motion was made by Council Member Jerry Rice to accept the land-use plan; motion seconded by Council Member Cindy Wheeler. The motion carried by unanimous vote of Council Members.

2. Discussion of Annual Financial Audit and Accounting Services

Town Administrator Ken Jacobs presented and recommended to Council members a proposal from the accounting firm of Cobb, Ezekiel, Loy & Company to provide accounting and auditing services for the budget year that will end June 30, 2017, and for the two years that follow. The time-sensitive submittal brought little discussion; and Council members indicated their concurrence with procedure, contingent on, however, immediate notification to CPA Bobby Massey that his services would not be renewed.

A motion was made by Council Member and Finance Officer Jerry Rice to accept the proposal as presented; motion seconded by Council Member Lee Greeson. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

3. Resolution to Establish Candidacy filing Fee for November 2017 Municipal Election

Mayor Fennell asked for a motion to adopt the resolution establishing the \$5.00 fee, as had been set in all previously elections. The motion was made by Council Member Jerry Rice; motion seconded by Council Member Lee Greeson. Motion passed by unanimous vote. The resolution will be forwarded to the Guilford County Board of Elections for posting. Two Council seats are available in 2017.

4. Any Items from Council Members

Mayor Fennell asked for any items from Council Members; and there were none.

5. Announcements

Mayor Fennell asked for any announcements and no one had any.

6. Speakers from the Floor

Mayor Fennell asked if there were any speakers from the floor; and there were none.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, Mayor Fennell invited a motion to adjourn. Council Member Jerry Rice made the motion to adjourn; motion seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Andy Brown. Motion passed by unanimous vote; and the June 13, 2017 Town Council meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:36 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Whitsett Town Council is scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 11, 2017 at the Whitsett Town Hall.

/s/

/s/

Jo Hesson, Town Clerk

Richard Fennell, Mayor

APPROVED: July 11, 2017