

**MINUTES OF THE WHITSETT TOWN COUNCIL**  
**January 9, 2018**  
**Whitsett Town Hall Building**

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Whitsett Town Council was held on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 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, two representatives from the accounting firm of Cobb Ezekiel Loy and Company, *The Alamance News* reporter Tomas Murawski, and three additional residents. Absent was Planning Board Chairman Bob Maccia.

Following the public hearing, Mayor Fennell called the Council meeting to order at 7:06 p.m., and noted that a quorum was present.

**SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR**

Mayor Fennell asked for any speakers from the floor; and Becky Loy of Cobb Ezekiel Loy and Company, P.A. came to the floor to give a presentation to Town Council Members on the annual financial audit for the year ended June 30, 2017. (A copy of the audit is part of the official file for this meeting.)

**OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Adoption of the Minutes**

Mayor Fennell asked for any changes to the minutes from the December 12, 2017 regular monthly meeting; and hearing none, asked for a motion to adopt the minutes as written. Council Member Jerry Rice made a motion to adopt the minutes as written; motion seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Andy Brown. By unanimous vote, the December minutes were approved.

## **2. Adoption of Text Amendment Modifying Front-Yard Setbacks**

Mayor Fennell asked for any further discussion on the text amendment being proposed; and hearing none, asked for a motion to adopt modifications to the ordinance on front-yard setbacks. Council Member Jerry Rice made a motion to adopt the changes as presented; motion seconded by Council Member Lee Greeson. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Front-yard setbacks requirements would now reflect the following:  
For residential and AG districts (with the exception of Burlington Road), the front-yard setback shall be 65 feet from center of road or 40 feet from the property line, whichever is greater. For commercial and residential districts along Burlington Road, the front-yard setback shall remain at 100 feet from center of road.

## **3. Paving Project for Town Hall Grounds – Ruston Paving**

Town Administrator Jacobs explained that he had solicited various vendors for bidding on the paving project; but, to date had only received one written proposal—Ruston Paving. Jacobs will continue to follow up on proposal submissions to have at least three by next month's Council meeting.

## **4. 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**

The January Board meeting had been cancelled.

### **2. Enforcement Committee**

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

### **3. Enforcement Officer**

Jacobs reported that he was made aware of the likelihood of junk cars existing on a property on Whitsett Park Road; and had sent the resident a letter with the pertinent ordinance explaining Town regulations.

In addition, Jacobs requested county zoning administrator assistance on the chronic violation in Dow Acres that has worsened. The resident was told that if the junk car situation persisted, the county would be involved for enforcement; and it has come to that.

#### **4. Town Administrator**

Town Administrator Jacobs reported that total replacement of the ball field backstop had been completed with some additional work on the playground. Job was completed in a prompt, timely manner for an exemplary product.

Jacobs reported that the Town Hall and the Fire Department are without water due to probable well problems; and will be contacting Willie Saul for assessment and repair or replacement. In line with this, Jacobs will be formulating a revised Town Hall/Fire Department agreement for a more equitable split of costs for repairs such as this. Currently, the parties are operating under a gentlemen's agreement of a 50/50 split; when in actuality, the Fire Department uses about 95% of the water supply.

Jacobs stated that we have an amended sewer agreement with the City of Burlington, whereby we can now hook on to Gibsonville in two places. Gibsonville now needs to have an agreement to be able to receive our sewage, as well as an amended water agreement whereby we can sell water to Gibsonville. Parties representing Gibsonville and Whitsett will meet to develop a fair, comprehensive agreement to delineate responsibilities and other logistics of how the system and arrangements will work. Agreements are expected to be completed by February 6.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **1. Any Items from Council Members**

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

#### **2. Announcements**

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

#### **3. Speakers from the Floor**

Mayor Fennell asked if there were any speakers from the floor; and Becky Loy made mention that the Local Government Commission (LGC) does request that the Council formally accept the financial statement, and that it be noted in the minutes. Council Member Jerry Rice asked if this could be done next month to allow perusal by Council Members; and Loy replied yes.

**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 January 9, 2018 Town Council meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:42 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Whitsett Town Council is scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at the Whitsett Town Hall.

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Jo Hesson, Town Clerk

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Andy Brown, Mayor Pro Tem

**APPROVED:** February 13, 2018