

MINUTES OF THE WHITSETT TOWN COUNCIL
November 13, 2018
Whitsett Town Hall Building

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The regular meeting of the Whitsett Town Council was held on Tuesday, November 13, 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 Cindy Wheeler and Lee Greeson. Absent was Council Member Jerry Rice.

Also present were Town Administrator Ken Jacobs, *The Alamance News* reporter Tomas Murawski, and four area residents. Planning Board Chairman Bob Maccia was absent.

Mayor Fennell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., noted that a quorum was present; and asked all those present to observe a moment of silence.

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 October 9 regular meeting; and hearing none, asked for a motion to adopt the minutes. Council Member Cindy Wheeler made a motion to accept the minutes as written; motion seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Andy Brown. The motion to adopt the October regular meeting minutes passed by majority vote; Council Member Lee Greeson abstained since he had been absent at last month's meeting.

2. Update on Hudson Way Development on Burlington Road

3. Update on Parks and Recreation Initiatives

Mayor Fennell looked to Town Administrator Jacobs for updates who opted to defer his reporting until Board and Committee Reports.

4. Any Other Old Business

Mayor Fennell asked if there were any other old business; and there was none.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Planning Board

In the absence of the Board Chairman Bob Maccia and last week's meeting having been cancelled, there was no report.

2. Enforcement Committee

Enforcement Officer Jacobs reported that there had not been any committee activity this month.

3. Enforcement Officer

Enforcement Officer Jacobs reported that he was contacted by a resident on NC Hwy 100 who asked if a huge tent that had been erected on a 25-acre parcel were permissible and approved. Jacobs investigated the activity, and discovered that it was for a wedding. So, even though the structure was in violation of the Town ordinance, the event took place provided the tent would be removed as soon as possible.

Jacobs reported that since last month's Council meeting, one development clearance certificate had been issued to Griggs Associates, LLC for general repairs to the detached barn building belonging to residence and principal dwelling at 714 NC Highway 61.

4. Town Administrator

Town Administrator Jacobs reported that with respect to the proposed project for 7232 Burlington Road ("Hudson Way"), the rezoning process would be a third-party rezoning, since developer Paul Milam is not yet the owner of the 24.5 acre parcel. Being a first-time experience for the Town, Jacobs tapped various sources to understand procedures, namely Town attorney Joe Kalo, NCLM, School of Government at UNC, and Burlington's Director of Planning and Community Development Amy Nelson, who recommended the expertise of Burlington's Zoning Administrator Joey Lea.

Mr. Lea gave explicit steps to follow, including proper completion of the application; and assured that Burlington uses the third-party mechanism often. This information, in turn, was also relayed to Guilford County planners who verified it would conform to Guilford County standards.

Jacobs stated that Paul Milam had submitted the rezoning application and paid all associated fees totaling \$4,650; and the formal rezoning process of notifying adjacent property owners, signage display on the affected property, and proper newspaper advertisement would launch, culminating in the public hearing and vote on the request in December.

Jacobs reported that concerning the Parks and Recreation grant, NCSU recreation consultant Kyle Smith met at Town Hall to walk through the application process for a state matching grant, the stringent requirements, and the assignment of priority point values to steps taken by the Town in justifying its efforts. Smith mentioned that the biggest point getter, according to the state, is community input. Jacobs replied that the Town had already planned to canvass townfolk for ideas on the utility of the monies. Smith gave assurance that he would usher the Town through the procedures step-by-step, and offer further guidance and feedback on progress.

In addition, re-elected State legislators Jon Hardister and Senator Rick Gunn both stopped by the Town Hall to extend their thanks for Town support during the recent campaign and election and pledged to lend support with letters of recommendation to accompany the Town's parks and recreation grant application submission to Raleigh.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Any Items from Council Members

Mayor Fennell introduced items from Council Members with the reading of a letter from re-elected NC Representative Jon Hardister expressing continued allegiance to the 59th district, the privilege to represent the Town of Whitsett, and gratitude to Council for its service to the community. [A copy of his letter is part of the official file for this meeting.]

Council Member Lee Greeson raised a danger-zone issue at the intersection of Brightwood Church Road and Kivette House Road due to vegetation overgrowth. Town Administrator would look into the matter and would resolve.

2. Announcements

Mayor Fennell asked for any announcements; and with none being made, extended a "Happy Thanksgiving" to everyone.

3. Speakers from the Floor

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

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, Mayor Fennell invited a motion to adjourn. Council Member Lee Greeson made the motion to adjourn; motion seconded by Council Member Cindy Wheeler. The motion passed by unanimous vote of those present; and the November 13 Town Council meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:24 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Whitsett Town Council will follow the public hearing scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at the Whitsett Town Hall. [Due to inclement wintry weather, the December 11 public hearing and regular meeting were rescheduled for Tuesday, December 18.]

/s/

Jo Hesson, Town Clerk

/s/

Richard Fennell, Mayor

APPROVED: December 18, 2018