

SPENCER BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING
MARCH 8, 2011
7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Jody Everhart
Mayor Pro-Tem Scott Benfield
Aldermen: Delaine Fowler
Jeff Morris
David Smith
Reid Walters

MEMBERS ABSENT: Alderman: Tracy Aitken

Also present were Town Manager Larry Smith and Attorney Rivers Lawther. Mayor Everhart opened the meeting with prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

RECOGNITION – Alderman Morris recognized the good attendance and thanked residents for their interest. Alderman Walters recognized the NRHS basketball team for winning the Western Regionals and now preparing for the state championship. Mayor Everhart recognized City of Salisbury employee, Larry Lyerly, for attending Spencer's Board meetings, and thanked Public Works Director Bumgarner for the street repairs on Charles Street.

STUDENT APPRECIATION AWARDS – Veronica Leasure was present to receive her award from January. March awards went to: Dillon Temple, North Rowan Elementary; Marissa Wood, North Rowan Middle; and Wendy Castro, North Rowan High School.

1. ADDITIONS / DELETIONS AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS TO TABLE #11 - RFQ / FACILITIES ASSESSMENT & SPACE NEEDS UNTIL THE APRIL MEETING OR WHENEVER BUDGET FIGURES ARE AVAILABLE. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN FOWLER AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN WALTERS TO ADD DISCUSSION – BIKE TRAIL ON HWY 29 AS #11. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MORRIS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MORRIS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING ON FEBRUARY 8, 2011

AND THE CALLED MEETING ON FEBRUARY 24, 2011. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN SMITH AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS were given by Sgt. Eric Ennis, Fire Chief Gray Grubb, Public Works Director Jeff Bumgarner, Land Management Director Dustin Wilson, and Town Clerk Lisa Perdue.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS TO ASK LAND MANAGEMENT TO EXPLORE ADDING PAWN SHOPS AS A PERMITTED USE IN CENTRAL BUSINESS AND HIGHWAY BUSINESS AND REFER THAT TO PLANNING BOARD. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. TOWN MANAGER LARRY SMITH reported on major town projects and also discussed the tax base assessment and projected figures for “revenue neutral”.

5. MAYORAL & DELEGATE REPORTS – Mayor Everhart reported on his activities since the last Board meeting. Alderman Walters reported on the TAC meeting. He also reported that approval had been received for the disc golf course at North Rowan Elementary School and donations would be solicited for that course.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT - Bob Oswald, 410 7th Street, addressed the Board concerning public comment, staggered terms, and a grant writing meeting. Billy Pless, 215 9th Street, expressed concern about downtown buildings in disrepair.

NEW BUSINESS

7. PRELIMINARY FAÇADE GRANT APPROVAL – GREEN GOAT GALLERY

Jon Palmer asked for preliminary approval of a façade grant for new awnings for the Green Goat Gallery, 516 S Salisbury Avenue.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD TO APPROVE PRELIMINARY FUNDING FOR A FAÇADE GRANT FOR GREEN GOAT GALLERY, 516 S SALISBURY AVENUE. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MORRIS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. PROCLAMATION – ARBOR DAY

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN FOWLER TO ADOPT THE ATTACHED PROCLAMATION CONCERNING ARBOR DAY. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT – COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD TO APPOINT JODY VAIL, 600 4TH STREET, TO THE COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION TO FILL THE SEAT FORMERLY HELD BY RODNEY JESTER. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN WALTERS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. STAGGERED TERMS - The Board discussed staggered terms of Aldermen seats at the January 2011 planning retreat and requested information on implementation and the history of the 2004 referendum.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS TO REJECT ANY NOTION OF EXTENDING TERMS FOR MAYOR AND ALDERMEN BEYOND THE CURRENT TWO YEARS. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN WALTERS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

11. DISCUSSION – BIKE TRAIL - Alderman Walters suggested asking NC Department of Transportation to add bike lanes on the Wilcox bridge when they restripe the road in that area. This could connect the bridge to the sidewalks on the north end of town, and might eventually be part of the Yadkin River Trail. The consensus of the Board was to approach DOT and ask that they investigate the possibility and estimated cost of adding two bike lanes on the east side of the northbound lane.

12. CLOSED SESSION: LITIGATION

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS MEDIATION OF SNIDER AND SNIDER V. TOWN OF SPENCER. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN SMITH AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Following the closed session, **MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS THAT AFTER CONSULTING WITH THE TOWN'S ATTORNEY IN REGARDS TO SNIDER V. TOWN OF SPENCER LITIGATION CIVIL SUPERIOR COURT FILE # 10 CVS 763, THAT WITH RESPECT TO THE DOBY PROPERTY THAT FRONTS SNIDER STREET THAT WE SEND THAT PARTICULAR PARCEL BACK TO THE PLANNING BOARD FOR PUBLIC HEARING IN REGARDS TO POSSIBLY CHANGING THAT PROPERTY BACK TO R-6. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN SMITH AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

With no further business, Mayor Everhart adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa B. Perdue, Clerk to the Board