

SPENCER BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING
MARCH 10, 2009
7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Jody Everhart
Mayor Pro-Tem Jeff Morris
Aldermen: Scott Benfield
Nick Bishop
Donnie Hinson
C. E. Spear

Also present were Town Manager Larry Smith and Attorney Rivers Lawther.

Mayor Everhart opened the meeting with prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

RECOGNITION – Mayor Pro-Tem Morris recognized all volunteer and paid firefighters, especially Ken Womble, who was injured this week while on a fire call. Morris also thanked Community Appearance Commission members for all their hard work. Mayor Everhart recognized Victoria Scheve, outstanding student from North Rowan Elementary School.

OLD BUSINESS

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN BISHOP TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 10, 2009. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MORRIS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. MAYORAL & COMMITTEE REPORTS – Mayor Everhart reviewed the meetings he had attended over the last month. Water/Sewer Chairman Spear reported that his committee had met with Jeff Jones, from Salisbury Rowan Utilities.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN BISHOP FOR THE BOARD TO ASK SALISBURY ROWAN UTILITIES TO DO A PRELIMINARY STUDY ABOUT POSSIBLE EXPANSION OF WATER AND SEWER ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE CORPORATE LIMITS AND AROUND INTERSTATE 85 (AT NO COST TO THE TOWN). MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN SPEAR AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS were given by Public Works Director Barry Pruett, Fire Chief Jay Baker, Land Management Director Dustin Wilson, and Town Clerk Lisa Perdue. Police Chief Robert Bennett reported that the school system has informed the Town that they will not fund a School Resource Officer at North Rowan Middle School next year.

4. TOWN MANAGER LARRY SMITH reported on major town projects. Dustin Wilson reported on the inventory of the condition of downtown buildings done by Land Management Department. Courtesy letters will be sent to businesses that need to re-point or repaint.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS TO DIRECT TOWN STAFF, WHERE FEASIBLE, TO FIND TIME WITHIN THE NEXT SIX MONTHS TO GET ROOF TOP PHOTOS OF DOWNTOWN BUILDINGS AS TIME PERMITS.
(Motion died for lack of a second.)

5. REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD – COMMUNITY APPEARANCE

Ed Robinette presented the planter box recommendation from CAC, showing recommended height of crape myrtles in each planter. The type of shrubs has not yet been determined, nor the type of crape myrtles. Annuals will be planted in the planters to suffice until plantings can be done in the fall. After plans are complete, the Town Manager will get bids and bring them to the budget workshop.

NEW BUSINESS

6. OPEN COMMENT

Beth Nance reported that she had received approval for a \$1000 grant for the mural at the Eighth Street ballpark. William Noles will provide her with a copy of the logo for the Little League. She will bring the Board a conceptual drawing when it is complete. She also presented the Board with a list of potential Library Project ideas. Jim Gobbel asked the Board to consider options to reinstate an annual cleanup week to pick up bulk items.

7. REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD – SPENCER JAYCEES

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS TO WAIVE THE RESERVATION FEES FOR THE SPENCER JAYCEES TO USE LIBRARY PARK FOR A PUBLIC EASTER EGG HUNT ON SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2009. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN HINSON AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Tommy Motley addressed the Board concerning the need for a recreational building in Spencer. The matter was referred to the Recreation Committee. Mayor Everhart will schedule a meeting and work with the Committee until a new Chair is appointed.

8. REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD – NC TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM

Elizabeth Smith updated the Board on projects and improvements at the Museum. The train ride will be using a new route by the end of May.

9. REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMM.

Randy Gettys explained that the revised by-laws for EDC will establish staggered terms.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD TO ADOPT THE REVISED BY-LAWS FOR SALISBURY ROWAN EDC AND AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER AND MAYOR TO SIGN THE AMENDED CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MORRIS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Randy also explained the marketability of industrial sites, as well as the criteria for a “certified site” to the Board. EDC is offering a higher level of participation to the Town. Spencer could appoint a representative that would not have voting power, but could attend the meetings and ask questions.

10. PROPERTY LIEN – 129 FIFTH STREET

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD TO APPROVE THE PROPERTY LIEN AGAINST 129 FIFTH STREET FOR \$11,053.70. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BISHOP AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

11. DISCUSSION – VACANCY ON BOARD OF ALDERMEN

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS TO APPOINT THE NEXT HIGHEST VOTE-GETTER FROM THE LAST ELECTION, DAVID SMITH, TO FILL THE SEAT ON THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN LEFT VACANT BY KEN WOMBLE’S RESIGNATION. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN HINSON AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

With no further business, Mayor Everhart adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa B. Perdue
Clerk to the Board