

SPENCER BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2014
7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Jody Everhart
Mayor Pro-Tem Jim Gobbel
Aldermen: Scott Benfield
Mike Boone
Kevin Jones
Jeff Morris
Reid Walters

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

RECOGNITION – None.

STUDENT APPRECIATION AWARD – Mayor Everhart presented an award to Alexis Luther, North Rowan Elementary School.

1. ADDITIONS / DELETIONS AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN GOBBEL TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 12, 2014 AS PRESENTED. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BOONE AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. PUBLIC HEARING – MAILBOXES IN THE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Mayor Everhart opened the public hearing. Dan McClerin, 215 N. Salisbury Avenue, was the only citizen who spoke. Mayor Everhart closed the public hearing.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS TO APPROVE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT 14-10, PROHIBITING THE INSTALLATION OF CURBSIDE MAILBOXES WITHIN THE HISTORIC DISTRICT, FINDING THAT IT IS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THE GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES OF THE TOWN OF SPENCER LAND USE PLAN 2025, AND BEING REASONABLE WITH THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH, SAFETY AND GENERAL WELFARE, HEREBY VOTES FOR ITS APPROVAL, BASED UPON THE REASON THAT CURBSIDE MAILBOXES WITHIN THE HISTORIC DISTRICT ARE INCONSISTENT WITH THE HISTORIC

CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT AS THEY INTERFERE WITH ALREADY LIMITED OFF STREET PARKING. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. PUBLIC HEARING – SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS LEVELS 2 & 3

Mayor Everhart opened the public hearing. Barbara Kemper, 414 S. Carolina Avenue, was the only citizen who spoke. Mayor Everhart closed the public hearing.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN GOBBEL TO APPROVE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT 14-12, ALLOWING THE INSTALLATION OF SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS LEVELS 2 & 3, FINDING THAT IT IS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THE GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES OF THE TOWN OF SPENCER LAND USE PLAN 2025, AND BEING REASONABLE WITH THE PUBLIC’S HEALTH, SAFETY AND GENERAL WELFARE, HEREBY VOTES FOR ITS APPROVAL, BASED UPON THE REASON THAT THE SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS ORDINANCE WILL FACILITATE INDUSTRIAL OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN SPENCER AND PROMOTE SOLAR ENERGY AS AN ATTRACTIVE ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCE. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MORRIS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS were given by Public Works Director Joel Taylor, Police Chief Mike James, Assistant Fire Chief Terry Smith, Land Management Director Kathryn Clifton, and Town Clerk Lisa Perdue.

6. TOWN MANAGER LARRY SMITH reported on major town projects. The Board of Aldermen set Tuesday, September 30 at 6:30 p.m. as the date for the next work session on housing strategies.

7. MAYOR EVERHART reported on meetings and events he had attended.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT – Sylvia Chillcott, 804 4th Street, commended new Code Enforcement Officer Jason Greer and Land Management Director Kat Clifton. Patsy Duncan, 4th Street, complained of people walking in the streets. Pat Schmidt, B & P Antiques, gave a letter to Aldermen concerning problems with their building and the property owner. Constance Johnson, Barbara Kemper, and Jinx Ulrich reiterated the maintenance problems at B & P Antiques. Bob Oswald addressed the Board about the memorial in Spencer Woods.

NEW BUSINESS

9. REQUEST FOR NONPROFIT FEE WAIVER – MICHAEL YANG FOUNDATION

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN WALTERS TO WAIVE THE RESERVATION FEE FOR THE USE OF LIBRARY PARK BY THE MICHAEL YANG FOUNDATION

ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MORRIS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. SMALL TOWN MAIN STREET UPDATE – JON PALMER

Jon Palmer updated the Board on membership changes and potential art theme projects.

11. REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD – DAN MCCLERIN

Dan McClerin, 215 N. Salisbury Avenue, addressed the Board concerning several items, including: Spencer's newsletter and motto, drainage problems on N. Salisbury Avenue, kudzu in the N. Salisbury Avenue area, and minutes of Town committees.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS THAT THE BOARD TAKE NO ACTION AND RECEIVE MCCLERIN'S COMMENTS AS INFORMATION ONLY. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN GOBBEL AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. CAROLINA THREAD TRAIL – PROPOSED MAP

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN GOBBEL TO APPROVE THE DRAFT THREAD TRAIL'S MAPPED ROUTES THROUGH SPENCER'S LIMITS. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MORRIS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

13. PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN

Derek Williams, the consultant with Site Solutions, gave an overview of the plan and process. The plan includes an assessment of present facilities and a plan of action for improvements. The process included input from a community survey and stakeholders' meeting.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS TO ADOPT THE 2014-2024 PARKS & RECREATION COMPREHENSIVE PLAN. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

14. ORDINANCE AMENDMENT-MAILBOXES – OUTSIDE THE HISTORIC DISTRICT

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS TO ADOPT ORDINANCE AMENDMENT 14-09, PROHIBITING THE PLACEMENT OF CURBSIDE MAILBOXES ALONG EITHER SIDE OF SALISBURY AVENUE BETWEEN JEFFERSON STREET AND 17TH STREET, FINDING THAT THE AMENDMENT IS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THE GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES OF THE TOWN OF SPENCER LAND USE PLAN 2025, AND BEING REASONABLE WITH THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH, SAFETY AND GENERAL WELFARE, HEREBY VOTES FOR ITS APPROVAL. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN WALTERS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

15. AMENDMENT – HISTORIC PRESERVATION GUIDELINES

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS TO ADOPT ORDINANCE AMENDMENT 14-11 REMOVING THE LANGUAGE RELATED TO INSTALLATION OF CURBSIDE MAILBOXES AS A MAJOR WORKS FROM THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION DESIGN GUIDELINES, FINDING THAT THE AMENDMENT IS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THE GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES OF THE TOWN OF SPENCER LAND USE PLAN 2025, AND BEING REASONABLE WITH THE PUBLIC’S HEALTH, SAFETY AND GENERAL WELFARE, HEREBY VOTES FOR ITS APPROVAL. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN GOBBEL AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

16. STORMWATER UTILITY

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN GOBBEL TO ADOPT THE DRAFT TIMELINE AND PROCEED WITH DEVELOPMENT OF A STORMWATER UTILITY MODEL FOR SPENCER, WITH AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE BEING DONE IN-HOUSE BY TOWN STAFF. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MORRIS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

With no further business, Mayor Everhart adjourned the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa B. Perdue, CMC
Clerk to the Board