

SPENCER BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING
DECEMBER 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 – Alderman Jones recognized the NC Transportation Museum for the Polar Express event. Mayor Everhart thanked the public works department and the police department for their extra work with the Holiday Caravan.

STUDENT APPRECIATION AWARDS were presented to Marissa Craig, North Rowan Elementary School; and Nuna Her, North Rowan Middle School.

1. ADDITIONS / DELETIONS AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN GOBBEL TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING ON NOVEMBER 10 AND THE HOUSING STRATEGIES WORK SESSION ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN JONES AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS were given by Police Chief Mike James, Fire Chief Jay Baker, Public Works Director Joel Taylor, Land Management Director Kathryn Clifton, and Town Clerk Lisa Perdue.

4. TOWN MANAGER LARRY SMITH reported on major town projects and distributed a handout from the Spencer Literacy Group asking for volunteers to tutor at North Rowan Elementary School.

5. MAYORAL & DELEGATE REPORTS - Alderman Walters reported that signage had been discussed at the MPO meeting. He plans to talk to Pat Ivey, NC Department of Transportation, at the next meeting. Mayor Everhart reported on his activities over the past month.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Dan McClerin thanked the Town for the abatement of the storm drains on North Salisbury Avenue. Linda Miller thanked the Board and the Town for their support of children in the community.

NEW BUSINESS

7. OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL REPORT – EDDIE CARRICK

Eddie Carrick, CPA, gave an overview of the audit report for 2013/2014. Revenues increased, and expenditures only had a slight increase. The increase to the fund balance was more than the previous year. He urged Board members and staff to remain conservative.

8. REVIEW OF ORDINANCE – STORMWATER UTILITY MANAGEMENT

Land Management Director Kat Clifton reviewed the draft ordinance. A single-family residence will pay a basic flat fee. A non-single-family residence will pay according to the comparison of their square footage of property to the average single family charge. The ordinance proposes for the fees to be paid annually on the tax bill.

Alderman Walters expressed his concern that the proposed timeline does not allow enough time for educational purposes to allow for citizen “buy-in”. The establishment of a stormwater utility is not yet a federal or state mandate. The proposal is a result of the Board’s direction from the planning retreat. Citizens will be encouraged to participate in the public hearing.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN GOBBEL TO RECEIVE THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE FOR REVIEW, AND SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE JANUARY BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MORRIS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. APPOINTMENT – NCDOT MPO – TAC / TCC REPRESENTATIVES

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS TO REAPPOINT REID WALTERS AS THE TAC DELEGATE AND JIM GOBBEL AS THE TAC ALTERNATE, AND TO REAPPOINT ED MUIRE (ROWAN COUNTY) AS SPENCER’S TCC DELEGATE AND SHANE STEWART (ROWAN COUNTY) AS SPENCER’S TCC ALTERNATE. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – WI-FI

Wi-fi service is in place and operational at Spencer Library as of November 25th. Spencer can now partner with the Rowan Salisbury Schools and Community Literacy Initiative if the Board so chooses.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS TO APPROVE OF THE LIBRARY AS A PARTNERED COMMUNITY TUTORING SITE WITH THE ROWAN SALISBURY SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY LITERACY INITIATIVE AND IF FURTHER BAND WIDTH IS NECESSARY THE BOARD AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE BE SUBMITTED WITH A PROPOSAL FOR ANY BUDGET INCREASES THAT MAY BE NECESSARY. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN GOBBEL AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

11. PROPERTY LIENS

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN WALTERS TO APPROVE LIENS AS FOLLOWS: 611 S ROWAN, \$368.50; 611 S ROWAN, \$368.50; 611 S ROWAN, \$368.50; 816 5TH STREET, \$243.50; 816 5TH, \$243.50; 700 4TH STREET, \$243.50; 604 3RD STREET, \$243.50; 314 N YADKIN, \$368.50; 610 S YADKIN, \$368.50; 725 LONG FERRY ROAD, \$743.50; AND 320 S SALISBURY, \$243.50. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MORRIS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. CLOSED SESSION – TOWN MANAGER COMPENSATION

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION TO CONSIDER THE TOWN MANAGER’S COMPENSATION. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

After the meeting resumed in open session, **MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD THAT THE TOWN MANAGER BE GIVEN A 5% PAY INCREASE. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MORRIS AND CARRIED BY A VOTE OF FOUR:**

**AYES: BENFIELD, BOONE, JONES, MORRIS
NAYS: GOBBEL, WALTERS**

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN WALTERS THAT ALL FULL TIME EMPLOYEES BE GIVEN A \$1000 BONUS FOR THIS FISCAL YEAR TO BE PAID AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE. EMPLOYEES WITH LESS THAN A YEAR OF SERVICE WILL BE PRORATED ACCORDINGLY. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN GOBBEL AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

With no further business, Mayor Everhart adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa B. Perdue, CMC, Clerk to the Board