

SPENCER BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING
OCTOBER 12, 2010
7:00 P.M.

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

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

RECOGNITION – Alderman Walters commended the Historic Preservation Commission for their work so far on the Historic District Walk. Mayor Everhart thanked all Town employees who helped with the two “Thomas weekends”, both before and during the events.

STUDENT APPRECIATION AWARDS went to Trustan Belton, North Rowan Elementary School, and Jamone Kelly, North Rowan High School.

1. ADDITIONS / DELETIONS AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN FOWLER TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2010. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN AITKEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

4. TOWN MANAGER LARRY SMITH reported on major town projects and goals. The Board requested that he get information for wi-fi technology options and report back at the December Board meeting.

5. MAYORAL & COMMITTEE REPORTS – Mayor Everhart reported on meetings during the past month. Regarding recycling, Board members agreed to meet the night before the planning retreat to receive information to help make a decision.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT – Dan Patterson addressed the Board concerning the prohibition of placing piles of leaves in the street for pickup.

NEW BUSINESS

7. REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD – HOMETOWN HOLIDAYS GROUP

The Hometown Holidays Group has asked to borrow the Town's banner brackets to hang the winter banners on the light poles in Spencer Plaza, with property owner Henry Alexander's permission.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS TO EXTEND THE USE TO HOMETOWN HOLIDAYS GROUP OF THE BRACKETS FOR AFFIXING BANNERS TO LIGHT POLES ON THE PRIVATE PROPERTY OF SPENCER SHOPPES SHOPPING CENTER AND TO RETURN ALL PROPERTY BACK TO THE TOWN BY JANUARY 10, 2011, FURTHER THAT HOMETOWN HOLIDAYS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY DAMAGE TO, OR LOSS OF, TOWN PROPERTY WHILE IN THEIR POSSESSION, AND THAT THEY WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ANY ADDITIONAL ADAPTING HARDWARE THAT MIGHT BE NEEDED TO MAKE THE BRACKETS WORK FOR THEIR APPLICATION. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. PROJECT AUTHORIZATION – FALL SIDEWALK CAMPAIGN

The proposal is for sidewalk and handicap dormers on Harrison Street and Fourth Street. Three companies were contacted, but only one bid was received. The Board agreed to approve the project with the estimated cost but asked Public Works Director Bumgarner to get two more bids.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD TO APPROVE \$18,600 FOR HARRISON STREET AND \$3,500 FOR FOURTH STREET FOR SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MORRIS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. RESOLUTION – SUPPORT OF RCCC BOND

City of Salisbury's Mayor Kluttz has asked that the Board consider the resolution in support of the bond for improvements to Rowan Cabarrus Community College.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN FOWLER TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 10-05 IN SUPPORT OF THE ROWAN COUNTY BOND FOR

ROWAN-CABARRUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN WALTERS. During discussion, Alderman Morris made three points: 1) we are in a recession and bond money will have to be repaid, resolution doesn't say how; 2) resolution makes conclusory assertions with no supporting documentation of the specific needs for the quantity of funding necessary to accomplish what is minimally necessary; and 3) he personally cannot in good faith recommend to his constituents to vote in favor of what he believes will be a necessary tax increase to repay these borrowed funds. Alderman Fowler stated she talked to a Rowan County representative who explained that the tax increase would be very small, approximately \$8 to \$15 per year for most citizens in Spencer. She thinks our citizens will be willing to help provide a place for community members to go to get a low cost education. Alderman Smith inquired if any of the funds would go to the Kannapolis Research Campus, and was informed that all funds would go toward repairs at the North Campus of RCCC. Following discussion, **THE MOTION CARRIED BY A VOTE OF FOUR, WITH MAYOR EVERHART BREAKING THE TIE:**

AYES: AITKEN, FOWLER, WALTERS, EVERHART

NAYS: BENFIELD, MORRIS, SMITH

10. TOWN MANAGER EVALUATION

Mayor Everhart distributed packets to Aldermen containing the evaluation form for the Town Manager and asked that they be completed and returned to him by October 29. He also included the survey results from the staff's evaluation of the Town Manager and the Board of Aldermen. The Board of Aldermen's performance evaluation of the Town Manager will be placed on the agenda for the November meeting.

11. PROPERTY LIEN – ADAIR – 600 EIGHTH STREET

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD TO EXCUSE ALDERMAN MORRIS FROM VOTING. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN AITKEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN FOWLER TO APPROVE A LIEN AGAINST 600 EIGHTH STREET FOR \$406.00. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN SMITH AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE FIVE VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT.

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN WALTERS TO ALLOW ALDERMAN MORRIS TO RETURN. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. PROPERTY LIENS

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN AITKEN TO APPROVE LIENS AS FOLLOWS: 406 S ROWAN, \$243.50; 911 SECOND STREET, \$406.00; 907 SECOND, \$368.50; 913 SECOND, \$306.00; 700 FIFTH STREET, \$371.50; 801 SEVENTH STREET, \$243.50; 816 FIFTH STREET, \$243.50; 113 TENTH STREET, \$243.50; AND 300 EIGHTH STREET, \$306.00. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN SMITH AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

With no further business, Mayor Everhart adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa B. Perdue, CMC
Clerk to the Board