

SPENCER BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING  
DECEMBER 13, 2011  
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 Fowler thanked the citizens and staff for their support and dedication during her tenure. Alderman Walters recognized Hometown Holidays for the 2011 Home Tour.

STUDENT APPRECIATION AWARDS were presented to: Conner Vriesema, North Rowan Elementary; Vanessa Privette, North Rowan Middle; and Taylor Rivers, North Rowan High School.

OLD BUSINESS

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN FOWLER TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON NOVEMBER 15, 2011. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN SMITH AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mayor Everhart presented plaques to outgoing Aldermen: Tracy Aitken and Delaine Fowler, after which he declared a short recess prior to the swearing-in ceremony.

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THE HONORABLE MARSHALL BICKETT, DISTRICT COURT JUDGE,  
ADMINISTERED THE OATH OF OFFICE TO THE FOLLOWING GOVERNING  
BODY:

MAYOR JODY EVERHART  
ALDERMEN: SCOTT BENFIELD                      JEFF MORRIS  
                    JIM GOBBEL                              DAVID SMITH  
                    KEVIN JONES                                REID WALTERS

COPIES OF SIGNED OATHS ARE ON FILE IN TOWN OFFICE.

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NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Everhart thanked the new Board for their commitment of time required to serve as Aldermen for the Town of Spencer.

2. SELECTION OF MAYOR PRO-TEM

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD TO NOMINATE JIM GOBBEL AS MAYOR PRO-TEM. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MORRIS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.** (Alderman Gobbel's abstention counts as an affirmative vote.)

JUDGE BICKETT ADMINISTERED THE OATH OF OFFICE FOR MAYOR PRO-TEM TO JIM GOBBEL.

3. ADDITIONS / DELETIONS & ADOPTION OF AGENDA

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN WALTERS TO ADD AGENDA ITEM #12 – RESOLUTION REGARDING THE UWHARRIE REGIONAL RESOURCES COMMISSION IN RESPECT TO THE FORMER FINISHING COMPANY SITE AND ALLOW ANN BROWNLEE AND JASON WALSER TO APPROACH THE BOARD REGARDING THAT RESOLUTION. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. APPOINTMENT – NCDOT MPO – TAC / TCC REPRESENTATIVES

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD TO APPOINT JIM GOBBEL TO SERVE ON THE MPO. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN SMITH AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS TO NOMINATE REID WALTERS TO SERVE ON THE TAC. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD TO NOMINATE KEVIN JONES AS ALTERNATE DELEGATE TO THE TAC. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MORRIS.**

Following discussion and clarification, Aldermen Benfield's previous motions were withdrawn.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD TO APPOINT JIM GOBBEL TO SERVE AS THE ALTERNATE DELEGATE TO THE TAC (WITH WALTERS AS DELEGATE). MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MORRIS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN WALTERS TO APPOINT LARRY SMITH AS DELEGATE TO THE TCC AND DUSTIN WILSON AS THE ALTERNATE. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN GOBBEL AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5. CENTRALINA COG APPOINTMENT

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS TO APPOINT JODY EVERHART AS THE TOWN'S CENTRALINA COG DELEGATE AND SCOTT BENFIELD AS THE ALTERNATE. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN WALTERS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS were given by Police Chief Mike James, Interim Public Works Director Joel Taylor, Land Management Director Dustin Wilson, and Town Clerk Lisa Perdue. Fire Department report was presented in writing.

7. TOWN MANAGER LARRY SMITH reminded new Aldermen of the upcoming Essentials of Municipal Government course.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS TO AUTHORIZE THE NECESSARY SIGNATURES TO EFFECTUATE THE PART F GRANT. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN GOBBEL AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8. MAYORAL & DELEGATE REPORTS – Mayor Everhart reported on his activities during the past month. Alderman Walters updated the Board on the TAC meeting.

The Aldermen discussed Board committees and whether there was a need to appoint standing committees.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN SMITH TO ABOLISH THE PREVIOUSLY APPOINTED COMMITTEES. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD.**

Following further discussion, **ALDERMAN SMITH AMENDED HIS MOTION TO TABLE APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES UNTIL A NEED ARISES. ALDERMAN BENFIELD SECONDED THE AMENDED MOTION.** After additional discussion, this motion was withdrawn.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN SMITH TO DEFER DISCUSSION OF COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS TO NEXT MONTH'S MEETING. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BENFIELD AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Oswald encouraged Board members to attend Hometown Holidays events, and spoke against the Voter Identification Resolution (#11 on tonight's agenda).

10. OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL REPORT – EDDIE CARRICK

Eddie Carrick, CPA, gave a brief overview of Spencer's audit report for fiscal year 2010/11. He advised Board members to remain conservative and be opportunistic in looking for new sources of revenue.

11. RESOLUTION – JEFF MORRIS, DAVID SMITH

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN MORRIS TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO N.C. VOTER IDENTIFICATION ACT OR ANY LOCAL BILL TO IMPOSE VOTER IDENTIFICATION ACT IN ROWAN COUNTY. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN SMITH AND CARRIED BY A VOTE OF FIVE:**

**AYES: GOBBEL, JONES, MORRIS, SMITH, WALTERS**

**NAYS: BENFIELD**

12. RESOLUTION – UWHARRIE REGIONAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

Alderman Walters explained that he had drafted the proposed resolution following a discussion with Ann Brownlee of the Trading Ford Historic District Preservation Association. Jason Walser explained that he had no comment; the LandTrust Board has not reviewed the resolution. Ann Brownlee reminded Board members of the contaminants on the former Finishing Company property and suggested possible uses for the site. She stated that something meaningful could be done with even 20 acres of that parcel, such as a heritage tourism site. Alderman Morris suggested that the URRC discuss the proposed resolution at their January 18 meeting.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN WALTERS TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION, STRIKING THE LANDTRUST FROM THE "RESOLVED" PARAGRAPH, BUT STILL SENDING THEM A COPY OF THE RESOLUTION. MOTION SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MORRIS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

PAGE -5- BD. MINUTES 12/13/11

With no further business, Mayor Everhart adjourned the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa B. Perdue, CMC  
Clerk to the Board