

SPENCER BOARD OF ALDERMEN
CALLED MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2014
6:30 P.M.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Aldermen: Scott Benfield
Kevin Jones

Also present were Town Manager Larry Smith and Town Clerk Lisa Perdue.

1. TOWN HALL DIALOGUE SESSION

Mayor Everhart explained the purpose of the meeting and obtained the sign-up sheet for those who plan to address the Board. He reviewed ongoing projects and referred to the posted updates about progress on each project. He thanked the citizens in the audience for their attendance, and thanked those who signed up to speak.

Mike Deal, 417 Carolina Avenue, addressed the application for a veterans' home at 418 Carolina Avenue, stating that applicants for permits need to be honest and up-front. Alderman Morris explained that material facts were misrepresented and the permit had been revoked.

Ron Gerlock, 519 Steeplechase Trail, spoke of the need for industrial development in Spencer and the surrounding area.

Dan McClerin, 215 N. Salisbury Avenue, is a new resident and feels blessed to be part of this community.

Terry Ruben, 2765 Grubb Ferry Road, Salisbury, is concerned about Iron Horse Bar & Grill sponsoring the cruise-in events.

Barbara Kemper, 414 Carolina Avenue, would like to see wi-fi made available.

Lou Novak, 501 Eighth Street, would like to see information about the budget published in the Town newsletter, so residents could see where their tax dollars are going. Alderman Morris advised that the budget is open to public inspection at Town Hall and budget meetings are open to the public.

Greg Oswald, 506 Carolina Avenue, inquired about the routes taken by the Code Enforcement Officer.

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Ron Kester, 504 Carolina Avenue, feels that people sometimes aren't appreciated when they try to help. He stated that Spencer could have applied for a loan for \$1 million to renovate the Library but chose not to do so.

Bob Oswald, 410 Seventh Street, would like to encourage citizens to recycle. He feels that the NC Transportation Museum and Spencer Little League are good organizations.

Laurie Wilson, 413 Carolina Avenue, would like to see festivals and cultural events in Spencer.

Brad McLawhorn, 707 Fourth Street, would like to see more shops in downtown to attract visitors from the Transportation Museum. He is concerned about houses in disrepair.

Howard Doby, 119 N Salisbury Avenue, received a code enforcement letter regarding an abandoned school bus on his property, but does not feel it is in violation.

Patsy Duncan, 804 Fourth Street, would like to see more "teeth" in the codes for enforcement. She also asked each individual Alderman their top priority for the planning retreat.

Dan Patterson, 504 Eighth Street, thanked Town staff for the posted details on the Board room wall about projects and visions.

Jody Vail, 600 Fourth Street, feels that code enforcement should be the top priority.

Audience members stated they would like to see another similar meeting in the future. Mayor Everhart stated that the Board would consider having another one in about six months.

Laurie Wilson mentioned that Students in Training might provide an intern to help with the web page.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa B. Perdue, CMC
Clerk to the Board