

**TOWN OF GRIFTON**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**WORKSHOP MEETING**  
December 4, 2012

**Present:** Mayor B.R. Jackson; Commissioners Mary Grace Bright, Richard Hill, Sammy Whitehurst, E.F. Albritton; Manager Joe Albright

**Absent:** Commissioner William Barnes, Jr.

Mayor Jackson called the meeting to order.

Mayor Jackson led the Board of Commissioners in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**Recognition of Persons to be Heard:**

None

**Discussion Items**

1. *Code of Ordinances Update- Ordinance No. 2013-03*

Manager Albright stated that periodically we give American Legal Publishing updates and amendments to our Code of Ordinances. The Board will need to adopt Ordinance No. 2013-03 to add these updates and changes to the current Code of Ordinances.

Manager Albright recommended this item be put on the consent agenda at the next regular meeting. The Board agreed.

2. *Town Hall Facade*

Manager Albright presented several renderings from Mammoth Sign Company for the lettering on the front of Town Hall. He also stated that, for some reason, it was hard to get any responses for this project. The Board asked Manager Albright to submit a proof at next week's meeting with the seal only. The Board felt it was redundant to have the words Town Hall on the building twice.

3. *January Workshop*

Manager Albright informed the Board that the January Workshop meeting would fall on January 1<sup>st</sup>. He recommended canceling the workshop meeting. He recommended this item be put on the consent agenda at the next regular meeting. The Board agreed.

Manager Albright stated that he has some late additions to add to the agenda.

4. *Pitt County Solid Waste Management Plan – Resolution No. 2012-13*

Manager Albright stated that North Carolina General Statutes require that we adopt and maintain a 10 year Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan. He stated that this plan is the same as last year and the only differences are the dates. Manager Albright

recommended this item be put on the consent agenda at the next regular meeting. The Board agreed.

5. *Letter of Request from David Burton for Helen Burton*

Manager Albright presented a letter from David Burton on behalf of Helen Burton. She had a substantial leak and he is requesting the Board to adjust the bill back to the minimum charge. Mr. Burton initially talked with Manager Albright and Clerk Angel Hudson. Ms. Hudson adjusted the bill according to the normal adjustment policy that is given to anyone that has had a leak and the leak has been repaired. Manager Albright told Mr. Burton that anything else was beyond his control and he would have to appeal to the Board. Mr. Burton is doing so via a letter written to Mayor Jackson.

Manager Albright stated that Mr. Burton said that most places adjust the bill back to the minimum and that Mrs. Burton has been paying the minimum bill for years without anyone being there. Therefore, he believes he has banked the usage. He also stated that he did not feel there was any way possible that much water went through the meter.

Manager Albright stated that he felt it was false that most places revert back to the minimum typically because the water has to be paid for by someone.

Commissioner Whitehurst stated that, by looking at the usage report presented, it seems that the water usage has continually been going up each month which means a small leak may have turned into a large one.

Commissioner Hill stated he felt we should treat this situation the same as the Church. Mayor Jackson agreed with Commissioner Hill.

Commissioner Bright suggested that Manager Albright recommend that Mr. Burton have the water turned off if no one was going to be living in the house.

The Board instructed Manager Albright to offer an easy short term payment plan to Mr. Burton.

6. *NR WASA Alternate member Appointment – Resolution No. 2012-14*

Manager Albright stated that the Board would need to appoint an alternate to the NRWASA. Manager Albright would like to talk with Dana Hill, our contracted ORC, to see if he is willing to fill the appointment. Manager Albright recommended this item be put on the consent agenda at the next regular meeting. The Board agreed.

### **Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Bright stated that she has noticed in the paper that we are foreclosing on properties in Grifton. Manager Albright stated that we are foreclosing on Forest Acres Pool and the property on the corner of Railroad and Main Street owned by Edward Smith. Manager Albright stated that he has not been informed by our attorney yet whether or not we own them now or if someone else has bought them.

Commissioner Bright asked if we have heard anything about the Country Club.

Manager Albright stated that all he knew was that it has been sold.

Commissioner Bright stated that in front of Saleeby Insurance there are some really rough places on the sidewalk that need attention.

Commissioner Bright also stated that in front of Angie's Hair Salon there is an old sign post that needs to be removed before it becomes a hazard.

Commissioner Hill asked about the status of the two houses on Tucker Street that are in bad shape. Manager Albright stated that these houses, along with the burned house on Queen Street and many others, were submitted as condemnable properties to the Pitt County building inspector. Manager Albright stated that he would follow up on this issue.

Commissioner Hill also stated that there are some deep holes in the streets.

Commissioner Whitehurst informed the Board and Citizens that Santa Claus is coming to Town on Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. He also stated that Santa is still having a canned food drive.

Commissioner Albritton asked about the plans for the Tennis Courts at St. David Street Park. Manager Albright stated that the Tennis Courts have been closed because of liability issues. Commissioner Bright stated that she would like to see this space used for dog park, outdoor exercise facility, etc.

Commissioner Bright made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Albritton. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted  
Angel Hudson  
Town of Grifton