

**TOWN OF GRIFTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORKSHOP MEETING
December 7, 2010**

Present: Mayor Billy Ray Jackson; Commissioners Ardathy Spikes, Buddy Albritton, Richard Hill, Sammy Whitehurst; Manager Joe Albright

Absent: Commissioner Alton Clements

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:

Frederick Parker stated that he was the owner of the Church/Daycare located at 6905A Pitt Street. Mr. Parker came before the Board to express his concerns about the drainage of the ditch behind his property.

Mayor Jackson stated that he knew the ditch has been cleaned and maintained and that an open ditch will flow better than a ditch with a pipe in it.

Discussion Items:

First Item of Discussion: Facade Grant Applications

Manager Albright stated that we have received three facade applications from properties owned by Emily Exum. The project total is \$6,259 and the eligible grant amount would be \$3129.50. The STEP Committee has reviewed the applications and recommends approval. Manager Albright asked that this item be placed on the Consent Agenda for approval at the next regular Board meeting. The Board agreed.

Second Item of Discussion: Water Shortage Response Plan

Manager Albright stated that in accordance with NCGS any local governments that provide public water services are required to adopt a water shortage response plan. NCDENR has reviewed and approved our proposed plan. Manager Albright asked that this item be placed on the Consent Agenda to be adopted at the next regular Board meeting. The Board agreed.

Third Item of Discussion: Ordinance Amendment-Museum Commission

Manager Albright presented a draft ordinance that separates the Museum Board from the Civic Center Board for the oversight and management of the Museum. He crafted an amendment to our Code of Ordinances that creates such a Board. Manger Albright asked that this item be placed on the Consent Agenda to be adopted at the next regular Board meeting. The Board agreed.

Fourth Item of Discussion: Code of Ethics

Manager Albright presented a draft copy of a Code of Ethics for the Town of Grifton. NCGS requires that local governments adopt a Code of Ethics for municipal elected officials and legislation dictates that the

Code be adopted by the end of 2010. Manager Albright asked that this item be placed on the Consent Agenda to be adopted at the next regular Board meeting. The Board agreed.

Fifth Item of Discussion: Park Hours

Manager Albright stated that Police Chief, Bryan Cauley, has requested that the Board consider changing the park usage hours to end thirty minutes after sunset to try and curb vandalism and mischief. Manager Albright requested that this item be placed on the Consent Agenda for approval at the next regular Board meeting. The Board agreed.

Sixth Item of Discussion: Disposal of Town Owned Personal Property

Manager Albright presented a compiled list of non-useful, non-working electronic equipment that needs to be declared surplus so it can be disposed of properly. Manager Albright asked that this item be placed on the Consent Agenda for approval at the next regular Board meeting. The Board agreed.

Seventh Item of Discussion: Board of Commissioners Retreat

Manager Albright stated that in the past, the Board has held an annual retreat for the purposes of planning and preparing for the upcoming budget season. Manager Albright also stated that a date needs to be set for this retreat. After discussion of times, it was decided that Friday, February 18th, 2011 would be a good date for all Board members. Manager Albright asked that this item be placed on the Consent Agenda for approval at the next regular Board meeting. The Board agreed.

Commissioners Comments

Commissioner Spikes stated that she has had complaints from citizens who live in Forest Acres about the Florist running her business out of her home.

Manager Albright stated that he has spoken with the owner of the Florist and advised her that, with the proper permit, she is allowed to operate her business out of her home but can only have the one sign that is already in her yard.

Commissioner Hill stated that there is a sink hole in his yard that he believes is being caused by an old sewer line that has a hole in it.

Commissioner Whitehurst stated that the Candle Walk will be held Friday, December 10th at 7:00p.m. It will start at the Town Commons and end at the Christmas Tree.

Commissioner Whitehurst stated that several people have talked to him about dead animals on the streets.

Commissioner Albritton stated that he strongly recommends that the leash law be enforced.

Manager Albright stated that he received a request, from citizens on Lewis Dr., for us to take a look at and pursue anything that can be done to relieve the drainage problem on Buckleberry. The citizens think they have found the problem and they would like to see it addressed. Manager Albright informed the citizens that he wasn't in a position to pursue or spend any money outside the city limits without Board approval.

Commissioner Hill stated that with all the complaints inside the city limits about drainage, people would be angry if we went outside the city limits and spent money on drainage.

After further discussion, the Board asked Manager Albright to see if this would benefit the Town's drainage problems and how much it would cost to do what needs to be done.

Mayor Jackson stated that there is a water line exposed, with no insulation, in the ditch that crosses Church St. between Casey Dr. and Village Dr.

Commissioner Hill stated that he feels there needs to be some rules on how many Churches and the distant one Church needs to be from another.

Commissioner Spikes made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Hill. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted
Angel Hudson
Town Clerk