

TOWN OF GRIFTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORKSHOP MEETING
July 3, 2012

Present: Mayor Pro-Tem Buddy Albritton; Commissioners William Barnes, Jr., Mary Grace Bright, Richard Hill; Manager Joe Albright

Absent: Mayor B.R. Jackson, Commissioner Sammy Whitehurst

Mayor Pro-Tem Albritton called the meeting to order.

Mayor Pro-Tem Albritton 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. *Conditional Use Permit Request- Set Public Hearing Date*
Manager Albright stated that we have received a request from Robert Dixon for a Conditional Use Permit to place a Mobile Home on Sherry Lane. Manager Albright recommended setting the date for the public hearing for August 7th at the next workshop meeting. Manager Albright recommended this item be put on the consent agenda at the next regular meeting. The Board agreed.
2. *Street Improvements Project- Timeline*
Manager Albright presented a Street Improvement Project timeline leading up to a Bond Referendum which would be placed on the November 2013 ballot. Manager Albright stated that this timeline is flexible and any questions or comments are welcomed. Commissioner Barnes stated that he feels we should be talking to people face to face in order to decide which choice of options for financing and paving should be put on the ballot. Commissioner Bright stated she would also like to talk with the citizens and see which option they would be willing to accept before deciding. Commissioner Hill also asked how long it would take to pay the bond off. Manager Albright replied by saying usually it is 20 to 30 years. Commissioner Albritton stated that he felt we shouldn't finance anything for longer than the roads will last. Commissioner Barnes suggested giving out flyers to people at the window when they come in to pay their utility bill.

Manager Albright presented a letter of interest to provide services for the utility department from W.A. Gaskins, Inc. Mr. Gaskins stated in his letter that after reviewing salary and benefit information he feels he could provide labor to the Town for the services that the utilities

department provides at a savings of around 20 to 30%. Manager Albright recommended discussing this option further with Mr. Gaskins. He stated this would be taking over the jobs of 6 employees employed by the Town. Commissioner Bright asked if he had the expertise to do the job. Commissioner Barnes asked what would happen if something happened to Mr. Gaskins and the business was forced to close. Commissioner Hill asked what would happen to the employees. Commissioner Hill stated that he is not in favor of this option. Commissioner Barnes asked about licensing. Commissioner Albritton asked what would happen to employees' retirement. Commissioner Bright stated that she thinks Mr. Gaskins needs to come to the Board with an in depth business proposal including what is going to happen to the current employees. Commissioner Hill asked how the Town would benefit. Manager Albright responded by saying that 20 to 30% savings represents \$60,000 to \$80,000 dollars. The Board was in agreement that it would not hurt to listen to the in depth proposal. Commissioner Hill asked if there were any other companies interested. Manager Albright stated that W.A. Gaskins is the only one that had approached him with this type of interest.

Commissioner Comments

Mayor Pro-Tem Albritton asked for Commissioner Comments.

Commissioner Bright asked if there had been a follow up concerning the ball field concerns. Manager Albright informed the Board that the lights had been finished and he had talked to Doug Coley in reference to the list of concerns brought to the Board last month. Mr. Coley stated that they had a good year and is anticipating putting some of the funds towards the scoreboard.

Commissioner Bright stated that she wants the Board to support Recreation but she wants to be focused.

Commissioner Hill stated that there is a business in Grifton that has no air conditioning and wanted to know if there was anything that could be done from the Board's standpoint.

Manager Albright stated that because it is a private business there is nothing the Board can do.

Mayor Pro-Tem Albritton asked Manager Albright about the issue on the news concerning the Town's having to pay the State back the sales tax and how it would affect our budget.

Manager Albright stated that he would be able to absorb the amount within the current budget.

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

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted
Angel Hudson
Town of Grifton