

TOWN OF GRIFTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARCH 11, 2008

Present: Mayor Billy Ray Jackson; Commissioners Bill Smith, Richard Hill, Buddy Albritton, Johnny Craft, Ardathy Spikes; Manager Shawn Condon, Clerk Angel Hudson.

Absent: None

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Billy Ray Jackson.

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

Commissioner Craft made a motion to accept February minutes as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Spikes. Motion carried unanimously.

RECOGNITION OF PERSONS TO BE HEARD:

Dale Hancock with Media Cast Cable come before the Board to answer any questions the Board may have concerning cable service. Mr. Hancock informed the Board that they are in the process of doing preventive maintenance in order to provide quick, immediate relief to customers. Mr. Hancock said the channel capacity needs to be increased in order to provide channels the customers are requesting and they are in the process of doing what needs to be done to provide these channels.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Hill. Motion carried unanimously for the following items:

5. Approval of accepting transfer of property from Mr. and Mrs. Newby to the Town of Grifton.
6. Approval of resolution endorsing Town application to the NC Museums Council's FOCos Program.
7. Approval of Budget Adjustments and Amendments.

CONSIDERATION/ACTION ITEMS

Commissioner Smith made a motion to give the second reading to amend the Town of Grifton Ordinance 50.03 (B) regarding Placement and Removal of Garbage and Recycling containers. Seconded by Commissioner Spikes. Motion carried unanimously.

Manager Condon stated that River Road needs maintenance in order to get it into good condition so it can be shaped off with a crown in order to maintain the drainage.

Commissioner Spikes made a motion to accept W.A. Gaskins proposal #2 for River Road in the amount of \$16736.00 and to omit seeding and mulching. Seconded by Commissioner Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Spikes made a motion to approve Request For Proposals for engineering and design consultation services for Grifton Downtown Streetscape Project. Seconded by Commissioner Albritton. Motion carried unanimously.

Ed Meeks, with the Grifton Fire Department, came before the Board to discuss changes to the Fire Department that are required by the State Department of Insurance. Mr. Meeks and other Fire Department members suggested combining the two Fire Departments into one department. He stated this would be more cost effective and by having one department it should make the insurance rating better.

Commissioner Craft made a motion to combine the 2 Fire Departments into one department for economical and financial reasons and for the betterment for the fire service for the community. Seconded by Commissioner Spikes.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to table Commissioner Craft's motion until more information is received. Seconded by Commissioner Hill. Motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

First Update:

Manager Condon informed the Board that the Planning Board discussed a proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance regarding the age of mobile homes. Currently article 6 section 66G age of units says that no manufactured unit more than 8 years from the present date shall be moved into the Grifton planning area. The proposed amendment will change the age requirement to no manufactured unit no more than 10 years shall be moved into the Town limits or it's planning area. However, the planning board may consider a variance for manufactured homes that are older than 10 years but in good condition. The Planning Board approved this proposal but would look at the age of the manufactured home and condition of the unit before decisions are made. Any evidence submitted to request a variance for an older unit would come in the form of photographs and the VIN #. Photographs would show both exterior and interior of the unit. In order for the town Board to take action on this proposed change a public hearing would have to be scheduled.

Commissioner Craft made a motion to hold a public hearing April 1 at 6:15 to hear public comment on the proposed amendment change. Seconded by Commissioner Albritton. Motion carried unanimously.

Second Update:

Manager Condon has some rough cost estimates for the tap replacements on Dupont St., that were discussed earlier, from the Wooten Company. The cost for these replacements will be \$750.00 to \$1000.00 per tap. Cost range with these changes would be \$87,700.00. This estimate is the higher side and could be less.

Commissioner Spikes made a motion to go ahead and pave Dupont St.. Seconded by Commissioner Smith. Motion carried 4 to 1 with Commissioner Hill voting against due to cost concerns.

Final Update:

There will be a special CMSD meeting on March 17, 2008 at 7:00 at the Ayden Community Building.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Albritton stated that Mr. Condon is doing a good job.

Commissioner Smith expressed the importance of the Board member's attendance at the CMSD meeting on Monday night.

Commissioner Craft asked Manager Condon about the progress on closing Short Street. Manager Condon responded by saying that this project will be in the works within the next 2 weeks.

Commissioner Hill asked Jennifer Barr, from the Times Leader, to explain the reason for his opposed vote when printing the paper.

Commissioner Spikes said there have been complaints made to her about the traffic by the school when ball games are taking place.

There being no further business the meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted
Angel Hudson
Town Clerk