

TOWN OF GRIFTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
March 12, 2013

Present: Mayor Billy Ray Jackson; Commissioners Buddy Albritton, Sammy Whitehurst, Mary Grace Bright, William Barnes, Jr. Richard Hill; Manager Joe Albright, Clerk Angel Hudson

Absent: None

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.

Commissioner Whitehurst made a motion to accept the February minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Albritton. The motion was carried unanimously.

Recognition of Persons to be Heard:

Mae McMillian of 395 McCrae Street came before the Board with 3 separate issues.

1. Ms. McMillian stated that a large tree on the ditch bank fell in her yard back in September of last year and damaged 25 feet of shrubs and a bird bath. She stated that Manager Albright said the Town would replace the shrubs and the birdbath but as of today's date she has been unable to pin Mr. Albright down on a time frame of when this will happen. She stated that she had asked for a letter of intent but he would not write it because the Town was doing her a favor by replacing the shrubs and bird bath. She was upset that he had relayed the message through another Town employee. She says her Attorney feels differently. She complained in a calm manner about the way this has been handled and the way she was spoken to by personnel of the Town of Grifton.

Manager Albright stated that he did tell Ms. McMillian that the Town would replace the shrubs and the bird bath. However, it is not the Town's responsibility to do so. He also stated that red tips have been ordered from Lowes but will not be here until the middle of March which is planting season.

The Board agreed to replace the shrubs and bird bath but did let Ms. McMillian know that it was really not the Town's responsibility to do so.

2. Ms. McMillian expressed her displeasure that Manager Albright told her tenant that her rental house located at 381 Queen Street was a dump and he shouldn't rent it. She stated that he never followed up with the minimum housing code enforcement and had no way of knowing if the repairs had been made.

Manager Albright responded by saying that he did not say her house was a dump. He simply let the new tenants know that there had been minimum housing code problems when the previous tenants were living in her rental house.

3. Ms. McMillian complained about the shooting behind her house.

Manager Albright stated that he did not know if anyone was shooting behind her house or not and there very well could be but her property is not far from property outside the city limits. He stated that the shooting may be occurring in that area where it is legal and the echo is what she is hearing but he will have the Police Department check on the issue.

Action Items

1. 2003 Doubtful Utility Account Write-offs

Commissioner Albritton made a motion to write off the 2003 Doubtful Utility Accounts. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bright. The motion was carried unanimously.

Manager Albright commented that it is Budget time and he would like to schedule a Budget workshop before the regular May workshop meeting. The Board agreed.

Manager Albright stated that he had written another letter to D.O.T. concerning the cave-ins on Queen Street.

Manager Albright stated to the Board that he had nothing against Ms. McMillian and he admitted fault in having Alicia Arnold to relay the message.

Commissioner Bright asked about the Pan Handling Ordinance.

Manager Albright stated that he and Chief Cauley need to set down together and draft one.

Commissioner Hill stated that he did not believe Manager Albright meant any ill will towards Ms. McMillian.

Commissioner Barnes stated that he felt the Board went over and above what they needed to do.

Commissioner Whitehurst suggested having Chief Cauley call the NC Wildlife about the shooting issue.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Bright stated that the sign on the front of Town Hall looks great.

Commissioner Bright stated that something needs to be done about the drainage on McCotter Drive. She feels if we pave this street it will not last long because the water will erode the pavement in no time.

Commissioner Bright stated that she was very uncomfortable with the personal attacks against Town employees and feels that for future reference we should not allow citizens to talk about anything but the issue at hand.

Commissioner Bright made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hill. The motion was carried unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

Angel Hudson

Town of Grifton