

TOWN OF GRIFTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OCTOBER 9, 2007

Present: Mayor Billy Ray Jackson; Commissioners Bill Smith, Richard Hill, Al Clements, Johnny Craft; Manager Shawn Condon, Clerk Angel Hudson.

Absent: Commissioner Ardathy Spikes

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 United States of America.

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

RECOGNITION OF PERSONS TO BE HEARD:

None

Mayor Jackson made an announcement that the Town of Grifton has received approval from the Clean Water Management Trust Fund for grant funding in the amount of \$201,000. This grant money will assist in the construction of a retention pond on Town property along Bill Tucker Drive. The purpose of the retention pond is to hold stormwater and trap sediment and other debris as well as provide treatment before it is discharged into Contentnea Creek.

Mayor Jackson thanked Mr. Charles Johnson, Representative Marian McLawhorn, and Pitt County Commissioner Kenneth Ross for their efforts in helping Grifton to receive the much needed grant funding.

Mayor Jackson also thanked the Town Board and Manager Condon for the quick response in moving forward with this item.

Mr. Johnson, co-chairman of the wastewater committee for the Clean Water Management Trust Fund, came before the Board to say that the grant funding is on a very competitive basis and for every \$1 awarded there was a \$3 request. The grants are given according to the way they are written and Grifton submitted a grant that could be considered. Mr. Johnson also mentioned that in addition to the Town of Grifton receiving \$210,000 CMSD was also awarded \$232,000.

Representative Marian McLawhorn came before the Board to let them know that she feels that with the ditching work that is already in progress and the grant funding it will put Grifton in a position that it has not been in for many years. She thanked Shawn for writing an acceptable grant and the Town Board for their appreciation.

Commissioner Kenneth Ross came before the Board and thanked them for what they are doing to try and improve the water system.

Mayor Jackson allowed Mr. Linwood Thorbs to speak to the Board.

Mr. Linwood Thorbs expressed his concern about the absence of activities for young people. He wanted to know how he could help the Town develop activities for the youth in Grifton.

Mayor Jackson stated that he felt things need to be used that are already in place such as the Library.

Mr. Thorbs stated that the library hours are an issue and need to be extended.

Mayor Jackson said he would bring it up before the Library Board.

Chuck Smith, manager of CMSD, came before the Board to say that he is honored and humbled to be a recipient of the Clean Water Management Trust Fund.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the consent agenda excluding #8 for further discussion. Seconded by Commissioner Clements. Motion carried unanimously for the following items:

5. Action to approve proposed Town of Grifton Safety Policy.
6. Action to approve NC State-Wide Emergency Management Mutual Aid Agreement.
7. Action to approve ordinance amending Section 50.03(B) of the Town of Grifton Code of Ordinances regarding placement and removal of garbage and recycling containers.
9. Action to approve resolution directing the Town Clerk to investigate and certify the sufficiency of a petition for voluntary annexation submitted by Faith Baptist Church.
10. Action to approve the purchasing of an additional 10 town banners to be placed on Highland Blvd. from Contentnea Drive to River Road.
11. Action to approve a preventive maintenance agreement with Forest Services, Inc. to perform preventive maintenance on the 5 Town of Grifton generators.
12. Action to approve the rescheduling of the November Board of Commissioners workshop meeting from Tuesday, November 6th to Thursday, November 1st at 6:30PM.

CONSIDERATION/ACTION ITEMS

After a lengthy discussion Commissioner Smith made a motion to amend Section 91.09 (A) of the Town of Grifton code of Ordinances stating that no more than four dogs over six months old shall be kept on any residential or commercial parcel of land in the Town; and no dog pen or enclosure shall be within 30 feet of the dwelling house of any person other than the dog's owners, unless by permission of such neighbor in writing. Seconded by Commissioner Clements. Motion carried unanimously. The motion was passed on the condition that any person with more than four dogs prior to the date of passage of this ordinance be grandfathered in.

Commissioner Craft made a motion to approve the Town of Grifton policy governing the use of Town owned property by non-Town employees. Seconded by Commissioner Hill. Motion Carried unanimously.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the re-codification agreement with American Legal Publishing to perform re-codification update of the Town of Grifton Code of Ordinances. Seconded by Commissioner Hill. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion of approval of purchasing more stone for River Road and doing road maintenance was tabled until the next meeting in order for Manager Condon to obtain an estimate for resurfacing the road instead of putting out more stone.

Commissioner Craft made a motion to set a date of Tuesday, November 13 at 7:15 p.m. for a

public hearing regarding the Town of Grifton adopting the Pitt County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Seconded by Commissioner Hill. Motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

Manager Condon gave the following updates:

He would be meeting with Marie Peaden, with the Wooten Company, to discuss an arrangement where they can help with the repair and resurfacing of Dupont Street. He felt it was prudent to have an engineer's advice on this project.

Public works crew has replaced street signs in a variety of locations and are also working on replacing damaged stop signs. They have also started trimming trees around town especially at intersections that limit drivers vision.

DOT has resurfaced portions of Wall Street and he will continue to work on them to do S. Highland Blvd.

CSX has been contacted to work on the Railroad crossing on Queen Street to make the crossing smoother for traffic.

The Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting ceremony are progressing. The parade is scheduled for Saturday, December 8th at 4:00 and the Tree Lighting will be at 5:30.

Work should begin on the Arboretum Project some time next month.

He will be meeting with Jennifer, at the Times Leader, to discuss the Grifton Magazine.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Clements thanked Mr. Johnson, Representative McLawhorn and Commissioner Ross. He also thanked Chuck Smithwick for the fine job he is doing at CMSD.

Commissioner Smith mentioned that there is alligator weed in the fall out ponds that needs to be taken care of before we have a storm.

Commissioner Craft thanked Mr. Johnson, Representative McLawhorn and Commissioner Ross.

Commissioner Hill thanked Mr. Johnson, Representative McLawhorn and Commissioner Ross.

There being no further business the meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted
Angel Hudson
Town Clerk