

Minutes Regular Monthly Meeting April 10, 2017 at 7:30PM

Mayor Reid called the meeting to order. Commissioners present were Mayor Pro Tem Lillian Holman, Councilmen Archie Aples and Sid Eley. Others present were Town Manager Brandon Shoaf and Town Clerk Cindy Sharber, Mary Vidaurri, Bert Webb, Barbara Morris, Edgar Salvo, Susan Cox, Billy Winslow, Linda Buck, Frank Norman, Gail Hill, Felicia Norman, Martina McClenney, Michael Vaughan, and Gilbert Vaughan. Councilman, Ed Lane was absent.

Mayor Horace Reid led the Pledge of Allegiance and had the prayer.

Motion by Sid Eley and seconded by Lillian Holman, and passed 4-0 to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion by Lillian Holman and seconded by Sid Eley, and passed 4-0 to approve the minutes of March 13, 2017 as corrected.

Scheduled Business Appointments

There were none.

Administrative Concerns

Archie Aples said Missing Mill Park was looking good. Lillian Holman said the cemetery looked good.

Citizen Concerns

Frank Norman said he mentioned last month that he couldn't hear council when they spoke and they should be mic'ed. He said he never got a written response from council meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Lillian Holman handed him the written response she had prepared, since she had presided over that meeting.

Continued Business

Brandon Shoaf said he had passed along the desires of the board not to continue with Minzie's Creek's sewer proposal.

Brandon Shoaf said he would have the electric rate study at the May work session.

Brandon Shoaf said two work programs are complete with the newest FEMA representative and we should receive reimbursement by fiscal year end.

New Business

Mayor Horace Reid opened the Public Hearing for ordinance amendment article III. Dogs and Other Animals.

Brandon Shoaf presented the changes.

Mayor Reid opened the hearing for public comment.

Barbara Morris was concerned about the language of "seeing eye dog" and also asked if they would allow bee hives for renters.

Linda Buck said that tethered dogs are a risk to the public & other animals. She asked who would enforce the ordinance?

Brandon Shoaf advised that enforcement would remain the same.

Mary Vidaurri thanked council for adding the language they had requested.

Edgar Salvo was concerned about enforcement issues. He said if we are using the county dog warden and county dog pound that the ordinance should represent that fact. He said if the town wasn't going to enforce the dog license that needed to be removed from the ordinance.

Sid Eley said the seeing eye dog needed to be replaced with service dogs.

Edgar Salvo suggested using language to permit service dogs if they were certified.

Linda Buck said there is no certifying agency for a service dog.

Hearing no more discussion, motion by Archie Aples and seconded by Sid Eley, and passed 4-0 to close the public hearing.

Motion by Sid Eley and seconded by Lillian Holman, and passed 4-0 to table the public hearing.

Motion by Sid Eley and seconded by Archie Aples, and passed 4-0 to set a public hearing on May 8th for ordinance amendment article III. Dogs and other animals.

Mayor Reid opened the public hearing.

Brandon Shoaf presented a proposal to amend the utility deposit policy to cap utility deposits at \$450.

Mayor Reid opened the hearing for public comment.

Felicia Norman said she doesn't want to see the utility deposit increased.

Mayor Reid told her that children don't always cut lights off when not in use and people have complained about their bills but most of the time the answer to their high bills are changes they can make. Mayor Reid said that the town also offers free residential energy audits.

Martina McClenney would like the cap to remain at \$350. Said she was trying to bring friends in town. She said electricity in town was outrageous. She said she had a \$800 bill but it was because of a leak.

Pastor Vaughan asked if the increase was to offset the losses. Archie Aples said it won't cover all losses but will help.

Gail Hill asked if the Town had a different rate for different areas? She was advised we have one residential rate for all areas.

Michael Vaughan asked why he couldn't get natural gas at his home. Brandon told him he probably could but he would have to contact Piedmont Natural Gas.

Frank Norman asked if you get the deposit back? He was advised of the process for returning deposits.

Brandon Shoaf explained that customers used their electric and water before they are billed for the usage.

Mayor Reid said the State made the town increase their water/sewer capacities and that was a costly project that caused the town to have to raise water/sewer rates to help pay back loans.

Hearing no more discussion motion by Sid Eley and seconded by Lillian Holman, and passed 4-0 to close the public hearing.

Motion by Archie Aples and seconded by Lillian Holman, and passed 4-0 to approved raising the cap on the utility deposits for residential customers to \$450.00.

Motion by Sid Eley seconded by Archie Aples and passed 4-0 to approve the Farmer's Market location request as long as the Lane's agree to allow them to use their facility and the town isn't liable.

Brandon Shoaf asked council to look at the intersection of Wynne Fork/Ballahack and Edenton Road Street with the NCDOT study results and recommendations in mind. The DOT would like to have a resolution of support before turning the intersection into an all way stop.

NCDOT crosswalks repainting has been rescheduled for warm weather.

Mayor Reid presented the ABC report showing a decrease of 1.01% over last March.

Motion by Lillian Holman and seconded by Archie Aples, and passed 4-0 to adjourn the meeting.