

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Wade met in regular session April 10, 2012 at 7:00 P.M. at the Wade Town Hall.

Board Present

Mayor Huell Aekins
Commissioner Noelle Kendrick
Commissioner Joseph Dixon
Commissioner John Nunnery
Commissioner Raymond Edwards
Commissioner Johnny Lanthorn

Visitors

Mr. John Jackson, Town Attorney
Mrs. Denise Sykes, JPB
1 Wade Citizen

Mayor Aekins called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

Agenda Adoption

Commissioner Dixon made a motion seconded by Commissioner Nunnery to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

Commissioner Dixon made a motion seconded by Commissioner Lanthorn to approve the Minutes of the March 13, 2012 regular session. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Reports

Commissioner Nunnery made a motion seconded by Commissioner Lanthorn to approve the Reports as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Water Department

Commissioner Nunnery made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dixon to approve the March Water Report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Business Items

Speakers from the Floor

Mayor Aekins informed the Board that no one had signed up to address the Board under the Speakers from the Floor agenda item.

Committee Reports

Beautification – Commissioner Lanthorn reported that the project to extend the irrigation system at the park had been completed; however, there were a few leaks that needed repair. He explained that Mr. Christian would take care of the repairs. Commissioner Lanthorn explained that he was gathering pictures and maps to submit to the landscape architect for assistance in landscaping the Town Hall and Maintenance Facility. He also stated that the project of planting flowers at the Town Hall and Park would soon need to be completed.

Park – Commissioner Edwards stated that there were still holes that needed to be filled and the mulch under the swings needed to be raked again. He also stated that there was a box near the backstop with wires exposed, that there was still debris that needed to be removed, the fence had not been cleaned out, and there was another dead tree that needed to be removed. He also reported that he was not pleased with how the park was left when Parks and Recreation finished the mowing. Town Attorney John Jackson informed the Board that he had sent a letter including pictures and information on a similar case to the property owner regarding their tree that was leaning on the Town's tree at the park. A general discussion was held regarding this issue.

Streets – Commissioner Dixon stated that it was time to spray the streets. A discussion was held regarding the speed limit for Hwy. 301. Mayor Aekins reminded the Board that this issue had been brought to the attention of DOT and that Mr. Lee Jernigan informed him that the matter of where the 45 mph limit signs should be placed was being addressed by the DOT in Raleigh.

2011-2012 Budget Amendments

General Fund – Commissioner Lanthorn made a motion seconded by Commissioner Nunnery to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 1-12. The motion passed unanimously.

Water Fund – Commissioner Lanthorn made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dixon to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 2-12. The motion passed unanimously.

2012-2013 Budget

Mayor Aekins explained to the Board that the 2012-2013 budget worksheets for the general fund and water fund had been prepared for them. Commissioner Edwards questioned the amount of funds that were available in the Restricted Tank Fund for maintenance of the water tank. A general discussion was held regarding the timeline for the maintenance of both the inside and outside of the tank. Mayor Aekins asked that Board Members consider a 5% pay increase for Town Clerk Cindy Burchett. Mayor Aekins also asked the Board to consider the fact that the decision would eventually have to be made to raise the tax rate. He stated that a tax increase as well as a water rate increase was inevitable. The Board discussed the issue of the increase in expenses for the water system and the increase in customer base. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett reminded the Board that there was a 10-cent increase for the 2011-2012 budget and so an increase may not be needed until the next fiscal year.

Board Members discussed projects that they would like to consider for the 2012-2013 fiscal year. Commissioner Edwards questioned whether or not the office was in need of any new equipment or software. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett reported that she was not aware of any equipment or software that was needed for the new year. Mayor Aekins stated that he would like to have fencing or additional landscaping in front of the Town Hall.

Commissioner Lanthorn stated that this issue could be considered while working with the landscape architect. Mayor Aekins informed the Board that Mr. Christian had expressed a desire to complete the project of filling the cracks and sealing the black top surface at the park where the shelter was located. Board Members agreed that this could be an in house project and that the area should also be sprayed. Commissioner Lanthorn stated that the walking trail also needed to be sealed.

Commissioner Kendrick questioned if there were any street improvement projects planned for the new year and if funds had been expended during the current year. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett explained that there had been some funds expended for a portion of Mr. Christian's salary, for chemicals and for tractor maintenance and repair. She also explained that the Town could have on hand a 10-year accumulation of funds before new funding would be in danger. Commissioner Dixon explained that the bids that had been received by the Town were so high that it would take a large portion of the Town's funds to do the minor repairs that were needed and that the hope was that prices would decrease at a later date. A general discussion was held regarding contracting with the DOT to get needed repairs completed.

Town Clerk Cindy Burchett thanked the Board for their input and stated that she would begin working on the budget with no change in the tax rate or water rates. She stated that preliminary figures would be presented at the May meeting.

Proclamations

National Day of Prayer - Commissioner Dixon made a motion seconded by Commissioner Lanthorn to approve a Proclamation making the first Thursday in May, 2012 as a Day of Prayer in the Town of Wade. The motion passed unanimously.

Municipal Clerks - Commissioner Dixon made a motion seconded by Commissioner Lanthorn to approve a Proclamation for Municipal Clerks Week. The motion passed unanimously.

Founder's Day

Commissioner Dixon informed the Board that he had begun making contact with people regarding the parade and that he was also working on getting the shirts ordered. He also asked that Board Members talk up Founder's Day to people they meet. Commissioner Dixon also explained that KOSS MotorSports was promoting the event on several websites and at several other events that were being held. Commissioner Kendrick stated she had begun coordinating promotions with the newspaper and other media. A discussion was held regarding the fact that the Town's website contained all the necessary forms for vendors, the parade, cake bake, corn hole tournament as well as link to KOSS MotorSports for anyone interested in entering a car in the show. The Founder's Day committee will meet again April 17, 2012. Commissioner Dixon confirmed that the Fire Department would be available to assist with first aid and traffic control.

Announcements

Mayor Aekins reminded everyone that the National Day of Prayer would be held at the park on May 3, 2012. Commissioner Edwards expressed a concern with the fact that the help Mr. Christian was receiving was out of place on the golf cart. Mayor Aekins asked the Board to watch what the employees were doing and if there was a concern to report it to the Town Hall immediately. Commissioner Nunnery asked that when the Town mower and tractors were being moved from one location to another that this be used as an opportunity to mow the shoulders of the road. Board Members discussed the issue of attending a webinar ethics training session at the Town of Spring Lake on May 16, 2012. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett explained that this was a good opportunity for the Board to get the required training. She explained that the Town could also pay the \$150 to participate in the webinar or buy the recorded version for the same price if the Board did not want to go to Spring

Lake. Board Members agreed to attend the webinar. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett will RSVP for the Mayor and the Board.

Adjournment

Commissioner Dixon made a motion seconded by Commissioner Edwards to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Huell Aekins, Mayor

Cindy C. Burchett, Town Clerk