

TOWN OF GRIFTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
July 9, 2019

Present: Mayor B.R. Jackson; Commissioners Will Barnes, Johnny Craft, Angela Gay, Claude Kennedy, Raymond Oakes; Interim Manager Mark Warren, 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 Craft made a motion to approve June Workshop and Regular meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barnes. The motion carried unanimously.

Recognition of Persons to Be Heard

*Glen Johnson of 459 Williamston Drive Winterville came before the Board to state that he appoints himself an advocate for better living. He explained how and why Eastern NC dramatically improved his life. He also stated that he promotes all of Eastern NC and that includes Grifton. He thanked the Board.

*David Conway of 7043 Church Street Grifton came before the Board to ask permission to open a car lot in the old ABC Building.

Mayor Jackson informed Mr. Conway to set a meeting with the Town Manager to discuss this issue.

*Mary Newton Moore of 6931 Pitt Street Grifton came before the Board to express her desire for something to be done about the vacant and abandoned houses on Water Street.

Discussion/Action Items

1. *Resolution to approve Local Water Supply Plan*

Commissioner Craft made a motion to approve the Local Water Supply Plan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barnes. The motion carried unanimously.

2. *Amendments to Town Code related to parking penalties.*

Commissioner Craft made a motion to approve the Amendments to the parking penalties. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barnes. The motion carried unanimously.

3. *Re-appointment of Mark Warren to Neuse Regional Water & Sewer Authority*

Commissioner Craft made a motion to appoint Mark Warren to the Neuse Regional Water & Sewer Authority. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barnes. The motion carried unanimously.

Manager's Report

* On June 19th, the Town was approved for the funding through the Vidant Health Community Benefits Program in the amount of \$ 10,000 for the Grifton Initiative for natural play areas for active youth program. The funding will be used to install nature play items at St David Street Park and Mattie's Mini Park. Manager Warren also expressed his appreciation to Vickie Kennedy for assisting him in preparation of this application.

* On June 28, the Town was approved for an economic development grant for downtown from the Pitt County Municipal Support Program in the amount of \$ 4125.00. The grant will provide a wall mural on the side of the Grifton Police Station on the Pitt Street side. Joe and Jewell Grimes will provide the labor and materials and the mural. Manager Warren gave the Board a copy of the mural for their review.

* Construction plans have been submitted for the permanent flood mitigation wall for the Duke Progress Substation in Eagle Swamp. Manager Warren also indicated that after discussions with Duke today that things are on schedule to be completed as advised.

* We are in process of replacing the damaged masonite wall panels on the Grifton Museum exterior wall. This is mostly completed except for the painting.

* NCDOT has agreed to replant and replace the landscaping at the all three entrance signs into Grifton. Landscape plans will be submitted to the Town for approval prior to the planting in October. This will be done at no cost to the Town.

* The International Economic Development Council through E.D.A. will be providing Mr. Daryl Phillips, CEEd EDPF with over 20 years' experience, to work with the Town from July 22nd through July 26th in preparing a follow up report from the recently completed vision study.

*We have begun preparing for Hurricane Season.

*The Detention Pond on Bill Tucker Drive has been cleaned.

*On Tuesday of next week we plan to install the additional drain pipe on Lewis Drive to help Dogwood Lane and Cottonwood Lane drainage issues.

*The leak on Church/Casey drive will be repaired next week in lieu of this week because of meter reading and Billy Raynor's mother being hospitalized.

Manager Warren recommended that the Board vote to accept the Grants indicated in items 1 and 2 of the Manager's report.

Commissioner Barnes made a motion to accept the Vidant health Community Benefits Program grant in the amount of \$10,000 and the Pitt County Municipal Support Program grant in the amount of \$4125.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gay. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jackson stated that we have two Centenarians in Grifton, one being Ms. Margie West and the other Ms. Eva Peterson. Ms. Peterson is the mother of former Commissioner Billy Kornegay who passed away many years ago. Ms. Peterson passed away this weekend. Mayor Jackson stated that Ms. Peterson was an outstanding person and he will mourn her loss. He commented that he felt that it was fitting for her to be recognized at this meeting.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Craft acknowledged the Town utilities crew for their hard work in the heat on the water line last week.

Commissioner Barnes asked if the houses on Water Street have been reviewed.
Manager Warren stated that those houses are scheduled for demolition by Pitt County and will most likely take place in the fall.
Commissioner Barnes noted there is one on Main Street as well.

Commissioner Oakes asked if the ditch behind Carolina Vinyl has been reviewed.
Manager Warren stated that conversation has been had concerning taking a look at this ditch. He commented that he had someone look at it last year and, in their opinion, it was not in the shape that would hinder drainage. However, it will be looked at again this year.
Commissioner Oakes thanked the utilities department for taking care of the limbs that were obstructing the view of the signs on Pitt Street.
Commissioner Oakes thanked Billy Raynor.
Mayor Jackson commented to give Billy Raynor regards on his mother.

Commissioner Kennedy stated that we should keep Benny Cox and his family in our prayers due to medical issues within the family.

Commissioner Gay asked to be notified if water was going to be cut off when repairing the water line on Casey Drive.

Clerk Angel Hudson presented the Board with a Budget Revenue & Expense Report ending June 30, 2019 and stated if there were any questions to let her know.

There being no further business Commissioner Barnes made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Craft. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted
Angel Hudson
Town of Grifton