

TOWN OF GRIFTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
November 14, 2017

Present: Mayor B.R. Jackson; Commissioners Will Barnes, Mary Grace Bright, Mike Coles, Johnny Craft, Raymond Oakes; Manager Joe Johnson, 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 accept October Workshop & Regular Meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barnes. The motion was carried unanimously.

Recognition of Persons to Be Heard

Mark Steven Andrews II of 685 Wall Street came before the Board to ask if there are any incentives or plans to help new businesses come to Grifton. He would like to see these plans put into place in order to pull people towards Grifton and to see it grow. Mr. Andrews thanked the Board for their time.

The Board thanked Mr. Andrews for his comments and concerns.

Mayor Jackson introduced the new Police Chief Brian Silva.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Barnes made a motion to accept the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bright. The motion carried unanimously for the following items;

1. Set Public Hearing Date for Re-Zoning of parcel #77136 on December 5, 2017.
2. Budget Amendment: Fund 41 Transfer \$5606.00 from fund balance to revenues 4139700000 (Fund Balance Appropriated) and Expenses 4163007400 (Capital Outlay).
3. Employee Christmas Gifts

Discussion/Action Items

1. Water Rates

Manager Johnson stated that he reached out to Mike Hill from NCRWA to check his figures but Mr. Hill stated that he has not had a chance to review the numbers yet. Manager Johnson recommended tabling this item until the next meeting.

Commissioner Craft made a motion to table this item until the next meeting.
Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Interlocal Agreement with Pitt County for the provision of animal control services.
Manager Johnson answered several questions the Board raised at the last meeting.
After a lengthy discussion between Manager Johnson and the Board the Board instructed Manager Johnson to continue to work on an ordinance for cats and to check into the ultra-sonic device the animal shelter mentioned.
Commissioner Bright made a motion to accept the Interlocal Agreement with Pitt County for the provision of animal control services. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Coles. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Earmarking of Electronic Funds

Manager Johnson stated that the Board has asked about earmarking sweepstakes donation funds for recreation and downtown improvements. He recommends that the miscellaneous revenue line item exceed the amount budgeted before funds are disbursed to other areas. Mayor Jackson agreed that the funds should exceed the budgeted amount before money is allocated. The Board had a lengthy discussion on the uses for these funds such as: façade grants, downtown improvements and demolition of properties. It was decided that no funds would be spent until the Board gave approval for the distribution of the funds.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Craft expressed his appreciation for the tree finally being removed from the Pitt Street lot.

Commissioner Oakes asked about the Grocery Store.

Manager Johnson stated that they are stocking the shelves and hope to open next week.

Commissioner Coles expressed his desire to check into charging the gaming businesses per machine.

Commissioner Coles stated that he thought the police department should have maid service.

Commissioner Coles volunteered to help improve the looks of the department as well.

Manager Johnson stated that he has made contact with someone who is interested in cleaning the police department.

Commissioner Bright expressed her sincere appreciation to the Fire Department for the trunk or treat event. She has heard only positive comments.

She also commented that the Holiday show was a great success as well.

Commissioner Bright reminded the Board that the Parade and the Christmas Tree lighting will be on December 2nd and she feels the Board should support this event. She also commented that the Catch the Vision Committee will be having a Christmas Village with vendors and such on the same day down at the Depot. She commented that the Catch the Vision Committee is now meeting the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00pm at the Baptist Men Ministries.

Mayor Jackson would also like to express his sincere appreciation to the VFW Ladies Auxiliary for the Veterans Day Event.

Commissioner Bright made a motion to enter into closed session to discuss a personnel matter as authorized by G.S. 143-318.1(a)(6). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Coles. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Bright made a motion to exit the closed session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Coles. The motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Angel Hudson presented to the Board the October Budgetary Status Report and stated that if they had any questions to please 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