

TOWN OF GRIFTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
October 10, 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 September Workshop & Regular Meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bright. The motion was carried unanimously.

Recognition of Persons to Be Heard

Mary Newton Moore of 6931 Pitt Street came before the board to ask when the people are provided with the information to the questions raised during public comment since the Board could not respond when the questions are raised. She also asked where the minutes are so they may be able to see them without asking for them and why are they not attached to the agenda. She feels the people should have a full agenda and wants to be recognized as citizens.

Consent Agenda

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

1. Electronic Gaming Ordinance – Amendment
2. Appointment of Mayor B.R. Jackson as the alternate Town representative for NRWASA

Discussion/Action Items

1. Water Rates

Manager Johnson presented the Board with the 2 examples asked for at the last meeting with a 10% across the Board increase and explained each example.

Manager Johnson recommended example 8 with 10% across the Board.

Commissioner Barnes stated that this example looks much better.

Mayor Jackson thanked Commissioner Barnes for the suggestion of the 10%. He thanked Manager Johnson for his diligence in getting the information prepared. He thanked the Board for asking for another example before a decision was made. He also stated that he feels more comfortable with this example than any of the others.

Mayor Jackson asked the Board if there was anything they would like to add. Commissioner Bright noted that with the 10% we are \$33,000 over the goal we were striving for in the beginning.

Manager Johnson stated that with the possibility of having to buy a new backhoe in the near future the extra revenue would help.

After a lengthy discussion between Board members Manager Johnson was instructed to leave the base rate at 0 to 2000 for \$22.00 and start backing down the % and get as close to the goal as possible then bring those numbers back to the Board at the next meeting.

2. Budget Amendment: Revenues 10.3350.0000 +5,000 (Grant Funds)

3. Budget Amendment Expenditures: 10.4200.4500 +5,000

Manager Johnson explained the grant funds and their purpose. He stated that this will help update our website and give us the ability to post things ourselves verses having to contact someone else to do this service.

Commissioner Oakes made a motion to approve Items #2 and #3. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Coles. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Barnes asked Manager Johnson if the sink hole by the sidewalk at the school has been taken addressed. He is concerned about safety issues for the kids.

Manager Johnson stated that he could not say for sure and they are reading meters this week but he will check on it to make sure it is done.

Mayor Jackson suggested putting sand in the hole verses dirt to keep voids from forming.

Commissioner Barnes also addressed the trash along the fence at the school.

Manager Johnson will talk to the principal of the school.

Commissioner Oakes asked if we could cut the lots on Casey Drive back to make it look better for potential sales.

Mayor Jackson stated that the plan was to go natural but if we keep cleaning it we will continue to clean it.

Commissioner Coles stated that beyond the 100ft buffer you would need a bulldozer to clean the Casey Property because it was not a clean log. He talked with a contractor that said there were 8 lots (100x100) facing Casey he would develop and not sale the lots for less than \$12,000 each. He commented that on another note we don't want to bull doze the property because we planted trees in that area.

Commissioner Bright requested that the trellis on the Town lot be trimmed back so people could see in and out.

Commissioner Bright reminded the Board and encouraged them to attend Lawson Days on October 27th and 28th.

Commissioner Bright reminded the Board and encouraged them to attend the Fireman's Day Parade on Saturday, October 14th.

Commissioner Bright informed the Board that the Fire Department will have a trunk or treat at the Fire Department on October 31st.

Mayor Jackson stated that the ditch behind the houses on St. Joseph Street has a log in it that the loggers dropped and he asked that it be removed.

Mayor Jackson also stated that the ditch off of Casey Drive behind Jim Davis's house needs to be opened up and The Davis' have given permission for us to access it from their property.

Commissioner Bright thanked Manager Johnson for the removal of the limb in the ditch behind her office.

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 Craft. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Commissioner Barnes addressed the fact that the questions are not answered during public comment. He feels the public should be given some kind of answer.

Commissioner Bright commented that the verbiage was put in the public comment section to prevent deliberation and debate between folks and if we answer for one person we have to answer for all. She suggested that after public comment the Manager gives the answers or lets the person know that he will get back with them with an answer to their question.

Commissioner Bright mentioned that in regards to the minutes they are not official until the Board votes on them and that is why they are not in the agenda packet.

Clerk Angel Hudson presented to the Board the September 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