

**TOWN OF GRIFTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
September 11, 2018**

Present: Mayor B.R. Jackson; Commissioners Will Barnes, Mary Grace Bright, Johnny Craft, 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 Kennedy made a motion to approve August Workshop and Regular Meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bright. The motion was carried unanimously.

Recognition of Persons to Be Heard

None

Guest Speakers

1. Georgia Smith

Ms. Smith came before the Board to discuss the possibility of opening up a Drug and Rehab Life Center in the old Lil Tots Building. She came to ask for the Board's approval. She stated that she is the President of House of Refuge Life Center.

Ms. Smith gave a lengthy presentation of why she would like to open this center.

After the presentation Commissioner Bright asked several questions about licensing and such and stated that although she feels what Ms. Smith is trying to do is admirable she should check into the licensing.

The Board directed Ms. Smith to do more research on the types of license she will need and come back to the Board at that time.

Adoption of Agenda and Consent Items (Motion Needed)

Mayor Jackson read the items for the consent agenda.

Commissioner Bright asked who was going to man the booth at the Fair.

Commissioner Kennedy stated that Phyllis Ross stated that the booth could be manned or unmanned.

Commissioner Bright stated that we should have a good presentation.

Commissioner Kennedy stated that we need time to do a good presentation which we have not had at this point. He suggested we just pay the \$200.00 and not have a booth.

1. Budget Amendments related to new Police Car purchase from the Village of Simpson and SRO Officer.
2. Approval of \$200.00 to utilize booth at Pitt County Fair September 18th to the 23rd.

After further discussion Commissioner Bright made a motion to remove consent agenda item #2 from the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barnes. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Bright made a motion to adopt consent agenda item #1(Budget Amendments related to new Police Car purchase from the Village of Simpson and SRO Officer). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kennedy. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items

1. CSX Lease (Depot and Mattie's Mini Park)
Manager Warrant stated that he and the Town Attorney have reviewed the lease. The Attorney has red lined some items in the lease that concerns the Depot. Manager Warren suggested sending the lease back to CSX to see if they will approve it with the changes.
Commissioner Kennedy made a motion to table this item until the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barnes. The motion carried unanimously.
2. Consideration of approval of Sewer Jet Vac purchase from the Town of Winterville.
Manager Warren informed the Board that he has researched this item and the service records for this piece of equipment. He stated that the purchase price is \$82,500. There will be a \$15,500 down payment made and \$8000.00 upon possession of the equipment. Thereafter, the yearly payment for the next 4 years would be \$14,750 with no interest being added to the loan. He stated that there are multiple uses for this piece of equipment and recommends the purchase.
Commissioner Kennedy made a motion to purchase the Sewer Jet Vac truck from the Town of Winterville. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Craft. The motion carried unanimously.
3. Resolution to apply for N.C. Water Infrastructure funds for financing cost of improvements at Well#2 (Estimated cost \$60,000) per Wooten Company.
Manager Warren stated that he recommends that the resolution be approved. He added there is no commitment at this point. However, this may be a good opportunity to look at this due to more grant funds being available.
Commissioner Barnes made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Oakes. The motion carried unanimously.
4. Consideration of Ordinance to demolish structure at 462 Water Street.
Manager Warren asked that this item be tabled due to the fact that the Attorney has not completed the review.

Commissioner Bright made a motion to table this item. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barnes. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Consideration of quotes for painting the Depot roof.

Manager Warren recommended tabling this item due to the impending storm.

Commissioner Craft made a motion to table this item. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barnes. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Approval of \$200.00 to utilize booth at Pitt County Fair September 18-23.

Commissioner Bright made a motion to not have a booth at the Fair this year but to look at it next year. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barnes. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jackson read the State of Emergency Resolution for the Town of Grifton.

Commissioner Bright made a motion to approve the resolution with the correct wording. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kennedy. The motion carried unanimously.

Manager's Report

Manager Warren made the following statements concerning Hurricane Florence:

- a. We are preparing the best we can.
- b. Generator has been installed at the Police Department that was loaned by the Fire Department.
- c. All Town generators are being topped off with fuel and serviced.
- d. Duke Energy and Senator Don Davis were contacted upon the request of the Mayor concerning the power substation. Steps are being taken by Duke Energy to try and keep the substation from flooding. Duke Energy also added that they have been trying to relocate the substation for the last 18 months but due to property owners and acquiring land they have been unsuccessful.
- e. He and Billy Raynor have looked into the ditches. Al Cannon was contacted concerning the Buckleberry Canal and someone was called in and removed the Beaver Damns in this ditch. They have ridden the main canal and it seems to be clear. He commented that they also looked at and cleaned out the main catch basins.
- f. Angel continues to post on Facebook as information is received.
- g. Garbage only will be picked up early Thursday morning.
- h. Trucks and Backhoes have been reserved if needed after the storm.
- i. DOT has been contacted concerning cleanup of the State Right of Ways
- j. The bathhouse has been removed from the RV Park to Hwy 118 staging area.
- k. Equipment from the Utilities has also been moved.

Commissioner Oakes asked when the shelters for the evacuees will be opened.

Chief Silva responded that they would be open on Wednesday at 6:00p.m. The shelter will be Ayden Middle School.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Craft asked people that are evacuating to be mindful of keeping your dog chained up when you leave. They are unable to run if they are chained.

Commissioner Barnes thanked Manager Warren for being pro-active with the impending storm. He also thanked the Police Department for a job well done. He then commented that he would like to thank all first responders on this day.

Mayor Jackson stated that Manager Warren is very punctual.

Commissioner Oakes thanked the Chief of Police and Manager Warren for their hard work. Commissioner Oakes is concerned about the house up on Queen Street that keeps flooding.

Mayor Jackson stated that Mr. Raynor and his department have been on the ball as well as Chief Silva.

Commissioner Kennedy thanked Manager Warren, Chief Silva and his staff and Billy Raynor and his staff.

Commissioner Bright thanked Manager Warren, Chief Silva and his staff as well as Billy Raynor and his staff.

Commissioner Bright asked that the State of Emergency Resolution be posted on Police Department Facebook page and the Town Facebook page.

The Mayor asked for a moment of silence in memory of the people that lost their lives on September 11th.

Clerk Angel Hudson presented the Board with a Budget Revenue & Expense Report ending August 31, 2018 and stated if there were any questions to let her know.

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

Respectfully Submitted
Angel Hudson
Town of Grifton