

**MINUTES OF THE WHITSETT TOWN COUNCIL**  
**April 9, 2019**  
**Whitsett Town Hall Building**

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Whitsett Town Council was held on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at the Whitsett Town Hall. The following members of the Town Council were present: Mayor Richard Fennell, Mayor Pro Tem Andy Brown, Council Members Jerry Rice, Cindy Wheeler, and Lee Greeson.

Also present were Town Administrator Ken Jacobs, *The Alamance News* reporter Tomas Murawski, and two Town residents. Absent was Planning Board Chairman Bob Maccia.

Mayor Fennell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., noted that a quorum was present; and asked Council Member Jerry Rice to offer the invocation.

**SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR**

Mayor Fennell asked for any speakers from the floor, and no one asked to be acknowledged.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Adoption of the Minutes**

Mayor Fennell asked for changes to the minutes from the March 12, 2019 regular meeting; and hearing none, asked for a motion to adopt the minutes. Motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Council Member Cindy Wheeler; motion seconded by Council Member Jerry Rice. The motion to adopt the March regular meeting minutes passed by unanimous vote.

**2. Any Other Old Business**

Mayor Fennell asked if there were any other old business; and there was none.

## **BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **1. Planning Board**

In the absence of the Board Chairman Bob Maccia and last week's meeting having been cancelled, there was no report.

### **2. Enforcement Committee**

#### **3. Enforcement Officer**

Enforcement Officer Jacobs reported that there had been no Enforcement Committee activity this month; and no development clearance certificates (DCCs) had been issued since last month's Council meeting.

### **4. Town Administrator**

Town Administrator Jacobs reported the following informational items:

- Town Properties: (1) Met with Rex Tuggle, owner of the derelict property (former store) at 814 NC Hwy 61, to evaluate circumstances and learn of plans for the structure. Well and septic rehab and locations are major consideration; and Tuggle indicated his objective to neaten the one-third acre property and rehabilitate the building. Tuggle is to keep the Town informed on progress. (2) The Belton property at 578 NC Hwy 61 is close to auction once the county can establish a selling price.
- Town Hall responsibilities and improvements: (1) We are currently compiling information for our annual Water Quality Report (CCR) due to DEQ's Public Water Supply Section by July 1 each year. The report is required to be made available to all water customers by the June water service billing. (2) As a result of the late March meeting with First Bank, we are implementing a central depository checking account and merging existing General Fund and Water Fund money market accounts into a central money market account. We agreed to the purchase of a digital check scanner for remote deposits, which will negate the need to physical trips to the bank for check deposits. In addition, we opened a new credit cards account that affords rewards for purchases. (3) A new state-of-start fire protection/security system was installed yesterday in accordance with a new contract from Johnson Controls, which involves no increase in cost to the Town. The new system is no longer a landline connection, which is the past caused signal problems; but, is not activated through mobile connection.

- Meetings: (1) Prior to the new budget year, will be meeting with Regional Rep from Republic Services to physically ride through the Town to audit the number of households on record eligible for solid waste and recyclables collection. (2) Volunteered to serve on the Metropolitan Transportation Plan Committee to be able to have input on future plans of the Burlington-Graham MPO. (3) Have registered to attend the NC Rural Water Association (NCRWA) annual conference to gather information on radio-read meters and software. (4) Attended the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting in Burlington.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Proposed 3-Year Renewal Contract with Republic Services**

Town Administrator Ken Jacobs that the 5-year contract with Republic for regular household garbage and curbside recycling services with expire June 30. A renewal contract for a 3-year term will soon be submitted by Republic to be incorporated into the 2019-2020 operating budget.

In discussions with Republic reps, Jacobs learned that the now \$14.00 charge per household per month for both solid waste and recycling pickups will increase to \$16.65, primarily due to the added surcharge for processing recyclables. The agreement is a mutual consent service contract extension that also includes a CPI increase of 3.5%.

The contract should be in hand by the May Council meeting with adoption following in June, along with the proposed 2019-2020 Town operating budget.

### **2. Any Items from Council Members**

Mayor Fennell asked for any items from Council members; and Council Member Lee Greeson asked about the results from the Town-wide survey and March 14 subsequent meeting on Parks and Recreational initiatives for Town grounds. Town Administrator Jacobs presented the following ranked preferences from residents: (1) walking track, (2) picnic shelter, (3) playground and equipment, and (4) restrooms.

### **3. Announcements**

Mayor Fennell asked for any announcements; and there were none.

### **4. Speakers from the Floor**

Mayor Fennell asked for any speakers from the floor; and no one asked to be recognized.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the Council, Mayor Fennell invited a motion to adjourn. Council Member Jerry Rice made the motion to adjourn; motion seconded by Council Member Cindy Wheeler. The motion passed by unanimous vote; and the April 9, 2019 Town Council meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:37 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Whitsett Town Council is scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at the Whitsett Town Hall.

/s/

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Jo Hesson, Town Clerk

/s/

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Richard Fennell, Mayor

**APPROVED:** May 14, 2019