

TOWN OF LITTLETON
P. O. BOX 87
LITTLETON, NORTH CAROLINA, 27850
TELEPHONE (252) 586-2709

April 4, 2011

AGENDA

1. **Call Public Hearing to order at 6:15 pm.**
 - a. Halifax County Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan
2. Call regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
3. Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Invocation.
5. Consider approval of minutes of meeting(s) held in February and March, 2011.
6. Approve for payment bills made in March, 2011.
7. Consider adoption of **Halifax County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update (R-11-001)**.
8. Citizens Concerns
 - a. Tony Martin – Internet Café
 - b. Gabrielle Pamer – Internet Café
 - c. Don Spragins – Internet Café
9. Commissioners reports on activities in March, 2011.
10. Mayor's remarks.
 - a. Consider requesting Halifax County waive 100,000/gallons of water per day minimum charge for water.
11. Adjourn.

Next regular meeting scheduled Monday, May 2, 2011 at 6:30.*
MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE LITTLETON SALES OFFICE.

The Board of Commissioners held a public hearing on Monday, April 4, 2011, at 6:15 pm at the Littleton Sales building office at 114 E. South Main Street. Commissioners present were Patrick McAtee-MacRae, Heidi Hogan, Clara Debnam, and Terry Newsom. A list of citizens present is incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Mayor Willis called the meeting to order and read the notice published in the Lake Gaston Gazette-Observer, a copy of which follows;

TOWN OF LITTLETON
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ON THE HALIFAX COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL 2010 HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Littleton Board of Commissioners will conduct a public hearing on Monday, April 4, 2011, at 6:15 pm at the 114 E. South Main Street (Littleton Sales Office) to discuss the Halifax County Multi-Jurisdictional 2010 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update. Following the public hearing, the Council will consider adoption of the plan. All citizens are encouraged to attend.

A copy of the plan is available for public review at the Town Hall. The public is encouraged to review the draft plan.

For questions and/or additional information, please contact Sheila Taylor at 252 586-2709

Commissioner Hogan asked if the NIMS training was tied to the Hazard Mitigation Plan and was told the two were separate. In discussion it was brought out the plan adoption was necessary to be eligible for FEMA money.

There were no comments from citizens.

Mayor Willis closed the public hearing at 6:20 pm.

Clerk

The Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting April 4, 2011, at 6:30 pm at the Littleton Sales building office at 114 E. South Main Street. Commissioners present were Patrick McAtee-MacRae, Heidi Hogan, Clara Debnam, Terry Newsom and Jimmy Kearney.

Mayor Willis opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by an Invocation.

Commissioner MacRae made a motion seconded by Commissioner Debnam, to approve the minutes of the meetings held February 4, March 7 and March 28, 2011. The motion was voted and carried.

Commissioner Debnam made a motion seconded by Commissioner Newsom, to approve payment of bills as presented. The motion was voted and carried.

Following Mayor Willis advising she had sent the contact updates to Halifax, Commissioner Hogan made a motion seconded by Commissioner MacRae, to approve adoption of the **Halifax County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update (R-11-001)**. The motion was voted and carried and a copy is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Tony Martin, owner of two businesses in Town, addressed the Board concerning the opening of an Internet Café/Sweepstakes business. His concerns included parking, hours of operation and the availability of police officers to police this type of business. He suggested the Board consider 30 minute parking spaces to allow for parking for the other businesses.

Gabrielle Pamer stated she opposed the business as a homeowner, the internet café would be in front of her property and she felt it would pose a safety threat to her and the neighborhood. It could also be a nuisance due to late hours and the nature of the business. She had spoken with others who thought the business would be good because of revenues coming to the Town, but after contacting the Department of Revenue she found that wouldn't be the case as the business would just be subject to income tax paid directly to the State.

Don Spragins, owner of the hardware store, stated his main concern was security and parking, as well, and would like to see the Town come up with 30 minute parking as suggested. He also advised he felt some of his concerns had been handled by Chief Suggs.

Mayor Willis advised the Board would take all their statements into consideration.

Commissioner Newsom gave the police report for March and commented it was a good report.

Commissioner MacRae had no cemetery report.

Commissioner Hogan reported bulbs had been replaced at the library. A free energy assessment would be conducted, the results of which would be added to the Library project package. Commissioner Hogan gave the budget report; General Fund revenues YTD \$380,058, or 62%, expenditures \$353,237 or 57%, Water/Sewer Fund revenues YTD \$270,386 or 69% and expenditures \$252,221 or 65%.

Commissioner Kearney reported he was working on ways to save costs and wanted to have a work session so he could get bid notices out. Mayor Willis advised there would be a work session on the third Monday of April (April 18th).

Commissioner Debnam reported there had been an inspection at the WWTP, there had been no violation, or spills. The Town had purchased 2,500,000 gallons and sold 1,630,000. Mayor Willis advised they would be working with Dennis Patton at UCPCOG on updating the Capital Improvement Plan. Also discussed was asking the Halifax Board of Commissioners to waive the 100,000 gallons of water per day minimum in the water purchase contract as the Town was working on conserving water.

At the recommendation of Town Attorney Gilbert Chichester, Commissioner Newsom made a motion seconded by Commissioner Kearney, to enter into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-18.11(a) (3) to consult with Town Attorney. The motion was voted and carried at 6:58 pm.

The regular session resumed at 7:53 pm.

Mayor Willis advised the consensus of the Board was to have Michael Love complete the steps (for his internet café to operate as a gaming room) and to reconvene the meeting on Thursday (April 14) at 10:00 am.

Commissioner MacRae made a motion seconded by Commissioner Debnam, to reconvene the meeting on Thursday at 10:00 pm. The motion was voted and carried at 7:58 pm.

The regular April meeting was reconvened at 10:00 am on Thursday, April 7, 2011.

Mayor Willis advised that after the closed session the Board had decided Mr. Love would complete the steps. Discussion followed on parking, whether to hold a public hearing on a special use permit and whether it was necessary, whether the current nuisance ordinance would be effective. Also discussed was Mr. Chichester's email concerning obtaining a special use permit and whether to have the Planning Board meet, updating the ordinances to address internet sweepstakes and the lack of complaints to date. Commissioner Newsom made a motion to approve the permit and discussion continued. Commissioners Kearney and MacRae referenced Mr. Chichester's email several times and other members expressed they wished it was clearer. Commissioner MacRae suggested allowing Mr. Love to operate until the Board could consult with the Town Attorney and Commissioner Newsom's motion failed due to no second. MacRae made a motion seconded by Commissioner Hogan to allow Mr. Love to operate for 14 days to allow for consulting with the Town Attorney. The motion was voted and carried. More discussion ensued including recessing the meeting

Commissioner Kearney made a motion seconded by Commissioner Hogan, to table the decision until Tuesday, April 12, at 9:00 am. The motion was voted and carried and the meeting recessed at 10:58 am.

Clerk

General Account and Minutes of Closed Session Pursuant to NCGS 143-318(a) (1),(3),(4),(6)

Town Attorney Gilbert Chichester advised the Town Board on the legal issues of an internet café/sweepstake business and the Board discussed and questioned Mr. Chichester on various aspects of those issues.

Commissioner MacRae made a motion seconded by Commissioner Hogan, to adjourn the closed session and resume the regular session. The motion was voted and carried at 7:52 pm.

Clerk