

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

January 4, 2012

AGENDA

1. Call regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Invocation.
4. Consider approval of minutes of meeting(s) held December, 2011.
5. Approve for payment bills made in December, 2011.
6. Consider Budget Amendments
 - a. Administration
 - i. Increase 10-420-14 Travel & Training \$350
 - ii. Decrease 10-420-34 Office Equipment \$350
 - b. Sewer Fund
 - i. Increase 30-811-16 Maint & Repair Equip \$1,600
 - ii. Increase 30-811-33 Operating Supplies \$1,000
 - iii. Decrease 30-811-46 Contract Services \$2,600
7. Citizens Concerns.
 - a. Charles Harvey – Crime and Safety
8. Commissioners reports on activities in December, 2011.
9. Mayor's remarks.
 - a. Town Hall Open House
10. **Motion to enter into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a) (3) and (6).**
11. Adjourn.

Next regular meeting scheduled Monday, February 6, 2012 at 6:30.*
MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE LITTLETON SALES OFFICE.

Due to the New Year's Day Holiday, the Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting Wednesday, January 4, 2012, at 6:30 pm at the Littleton Sales Office. Commissioners present were Clara Debnam, Heidi Hogan, Jimmy Kearney, Terry Newsom and Diana Bobbitt.

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

Following Mayor Willis advising the Town Attorney may be running late, Commissioner Kearney made a motion seconded by Commissioner Debnam, to approve the minutes of meetings held in December as presented. The motion was voted and carried.

Commissioner Newsom made a motion seconded by Commissioner Bobbitt, to approve payment of bills as presented. In discussion, Commissioner Hogan questioned contacting Freddie Williamson to make water leak repairs as he had to rent equipment and Rightmyer had the necessary equipment on hand and Mayor Willis stated Keith Hamm, superintendent, had said to contact Williamson. Mr. Chichester, Town Attorney, arrived at 6:35 pm. In response to further questions, Mayor Willis reiterated that Keith had her call Williamson. The motion was voted and carried.

After brief discussion, Commissioner Newsom made a motion seconded by Commissioner Kearney, to approve the following budget amendments as presented.

- a. Administration
 - i. Increase 10-420-14 Travel & Training \$350
 - ii. Decrease 10-420-34 Office Equipment \$350
- b. Sewer Fund
 - i. Increase 30-811-16 Maint & Repair Equip \$1,600
 - ii. Increase 30-811-33 Operating Supplies \$1,000
 - iii. Decrease 30-811-46 Contract Services \$2,600

The motion was voted and carried.

Mayor Willis advised there was only one citizen signed up for the comment period and recognized Mr. Charles Harvey.

Mr. Harvey introduced himself and referred to the handout given to board members and stated his concern was humans and property first, and suggested reviewing how police calls are dispatched and the police needed to protect what citizens they have. Mayor Willis stated the board would take his concerns under consideration.

Commissioner Kearney advised the pot holes he had reported on last meeting had been patched a couple weeks ago and he was satisfied with the job.

Commissioner Hogan gave the budget report; Water/Sewer Fund revenues YTD \$294,492 or 52%, expenditures \$229,299 or 41%, and Water/Sewer Fund revenues YTD \$174,531 or 39% and expenditures \$142,273.

Commissioner Newsom gave the police report for December.

Commissioner Bobbitt reported she had received the cemetery maps and was in the process of putting together a spreadsheet to locate by plot or family.

Commissioner Debnam reported the Town had purchased 2,647,000 and sold 2,033,000 gallons of water, unaccounted for water was 5,010,000 and two bacterial tests were negative. The waste water system had no inspection, violations or spills.

Mayor Willis read a letter from the State advising an historical marker would be placed in honor of Ella Baker for her efforts in civil rights about a quarter mile east of Town. Mayor Willis reported the Martin Luther King, Jr. parade was scheduled the same as every year on MLK Day and there would be a reception after at Oak Grove Baptist Church. Mayor Willis read an invitation to Board Members from Halifax County for the Tillery Quilters Show. Mayor Willis reported she had received a call after 6:00 pm on December 23 from Mark Hurt that the generator for the new Town Hall had been canceled and they had started work on the roof but had to stop due to the Holiday and weather. They had found on sign of any problem with the downstairs under the Masonic Lodge and they would be working on the corner drain problem on the roof. She would plan a work session maybe in a couple weeks and wouldn't set a date for the open house tonight.

Commissioner Bobbitt made a motion seconded by Commissioner Newsom, to enter into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a) (3) and (6). The motion was voted and carried at 6:59 pm.

Mayor Willis advised regular session would resume following the closed session and called for a 5 minute break.

Regular session resumed at 7:51 pm.

Mayor Willis advised statute (a)(3) cited to enter into closed session referred to consulting with the attorney and (a)(6) personnel matters.

Commissioner Hogan made a motion seconded by Commissioner Bobbitt, to recess the meeting until January 12 at 10:00 am. The motion was voted and carried.

Commissioner Newsom made a motion seconded by Commissioner Bobbitt, to recess the meeting at 7:54 pm. The motion was voted and carried.

Mayor Willis called the recessed meeting back to order on January 12, 2012, at 10:02 am.

Commissioner Bobbitt made a motion seconded by Commissioner Debnam, to enter into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a) (3) to consult with the attorney and (6) to consider the qualifications and appointment of an employee and complaints against employees. The motion was voted and carried at 10:03 am.

The regular session resumed at 10:35 am.

Commissioner Kearney made a motion seconded by Commissioner Bobbitt, not to allow the Town police cars to be taken home due to budgetary considerations; the Town can no longer afford that perk. The motion was voted and carried with Commissioners Kearney, Bobbitt, Hogan and Debnam voting in favor and Commissioner Newsom opposing.

Following Commissioner Debnam explaining Lucy Shivers had paid \$2,700.00 for water and sewer taps and the work was less than anticipated, Commissioner Debnam made a motion seconded by Commissioner Kearney to refund Lucy Shivers \$10.20 on the water tap and \$694.86 on the sewer tap for a total refund of \$705.06. The motion was voted and carried.

Mayor Willis reminded everyone of the Martin Luther King, Jr. parade on Monday and the reception after at Oak Grove Baptist Church.

Commissioner Bobbitt made a motion seconded by Commissioner Kearney, to adjourn the meeting at 10:44 pm. The motion was voted and carried.

Clerk

General Account and Minutes of Closed Session Pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3) and (6).

Mayor Willis advised she and Commissioner Newsom had met with representatives of the NAACP and the Chief of Police and another police officer concerning a complaint. She reported she had stated it (the complaint) would be taken under consideration.

The board discussed the performance of the Chief and other officers, the police department's budget in relation to how many officers it would support, rehiring the former chief, restricting driving the police cars home and the possible consequences and reactions to changes within the department. Mr. Chichester advised weighing what to do and working out how they going to do it.

Commissioner Kearney made a motion seconded by Commissioner Newsom, to adjourn the closed session and resume the regular session. The motion was voted and carried at 7:51 pm.

Clerk

General Account and Minutes of Closed Session Pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3) and (6).

The board discussed complaints against officers, the board's responsibilities and the impact of its decisions, and again discussed the police department's budget in relation to how many officers it would support, rehiring the former chief, restricting driving the police cars home and the consequences and reactions to changes within the department.

Mr. Chichester asked to be excused from the meeting at 10:30 am.

Commissioner Kearney made a motion seconded by Commissioner Hogan, to return to regular session at 10:35 am. The motion was voted and carried.

Clerk