

MINUTES

The Board of Councilmen of the Town of Rural Hall held their regular meeting on April 8, 2019 at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall Council Chambers. The following members were present: Mayor Larry T. Williams - presiding; Mayor Pro Tem John N. McDermon; Councilman Timothy M. Flinchum; Councilman C. Thomas Griggs; Councilman Ricky S. Plunkett; Town Manager Megan M. Garner; Town Clerk Dora K. Moore; and Town Attorney D. Barrett Burge.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Clerk Moore.

Public Comment Period: No comments were received.

Approval of Minutes: Councilman C. Thomas Griggs made a motion to approve the March 11, 2019 regular meeting and April 1, 2019 briefing minutes. Mayor Pro Tem John N. McDermon seconded the motion and motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tem John N. McDermon made a motion to approve and seal the February 11, 2019 closed session minutes. Councilman Timothy M. Flinchum seconded the motion and motion passed unanimously.

Financial Reports: Manager Garner reported the Town's September 2018 and October 2018 financial statements that were originally approved were incorrect due to a formula error associated with Powell Bill funds, which has since been corrected. Councilman Ricky S. Plunkett made a motion to approve the revised September 2018 and October 2018 financial reports as presented by Manager Garner. Councilman Timothy M. Flinchum seconded the motion and motion passed unanimously.

Manager Garner presented the November 2018, December 2018 and January 2019 Town financial reports to the Council. She noted the January 2019 receipts were significantly lower than January 2018 due to significantly lower ad valorem taxes. Councilman Ricky S. Plunkett made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem John N. McDermon, to approve the November 2018, December 2018 and January 2019 Town financial reports as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & MEETING UPDATES:

Recognition of Adam Groce: Mayor Williams introduced and Council welcomed Adam Groce as the Town's newest Public Works Maintenance Technician.

Recognition of Rural Hall Fire Department Firefighters Scottie Emerson, Charlie Hampton and Eric Stewart: Council recognized and congratulated Firefighter Charlie Hampton for receiving the Forsyth County 2018 Lifesaving Award along with other Old Richmond firefighters; Firefighter Eric Stewart for being named Forsyth County's 2018 Fire Officer of the Year; and Firefighter Scottie Emerson for being named Forsyth County's 2018 Instructor of the Year.

Mayor Williams also recognized Firefighter Eddie Bottoms regarding the recent Winston-Salem Journal article about his endeavors with the firefighting program at Walkertown High School.

Recognition of Community Policing Officers Brandon Jones and Rachael Spainhour: Council recognized and congratulated Community Policing Officer Brandon Jones on receiving Team Member of the Year 2018 for his contributions to the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office lip sync

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video. Council also recognized and congratulated Community Policing Officer Rachael Spainhour, who received the Atmosphere Changer Award for her recommendation to eliminate officers going to line up and allow them to begin work in their zone at their scheduled start time.

Mayor Williams stated these awards exemplifies the caliber of employees at the Town.

Helicopter Easter Egg Drop: The Town's first Helicopter Easter Egg Drop will be Friday, April 19 at 10 AM at Covington Park. The Town has partnered with Rural Hall Lifespan, Rural Hall Chapter of National Women of Achievement and several area churches. Jason Hill will ride along in the helicopter to drop the eggs onto the Covington Park ballfield. Manager Garner encouraged everyone to come observe the event.

March 2019 Flag Purchases: Mayor Williams reported the following flag purchases for March 2019:

<u>In Honor</u>	<u>Purchaser</u>
Pasquale & Lina Looz (Honor of Little Italy's 20 th Anniversary in Rural Hall)	Larry & Billie Williams
Domenico "Mimmo" Borredon (US Citizenship)	Larry & Billie Williams

Domenico "Mimmo" Borredon Day: Mayor Williams proclaimed April 2, 2019 as Domenico "Mimmo" Borredon Day in honor of him receiving his US citizenship. *(A copy of the proclamation is included with the minutes.)*

Historic Preservation Month: Mayor Williams proclaimed May 2019 as Historic Preservation Month. Carol Owens, Preservation Forsyth, encouraged everyone to visit www.preservationmonth.org to learn about the monthlong events throughout Forsyth County. The Rural Hall Historic Depot will have a free event on May 17 featuring a railroad folk singer. *(Proclamation is included with the minutes.)*

Food Truck Tuesdays: Manager Garner announced Food Truck Tuesdays begin tomorrow. They will be held the 2nd Tuesday of each month through October at Town Hall.

Shred Event: Mayor Williams shared the recent shred event was very successful with a tremendous turnout. Councilman Plunkett extended thanks to the staff who worked the event.

NEW BUSINESS:

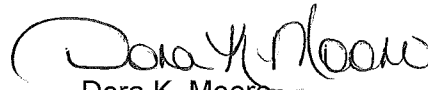
Audit Contract: The Town's current audit contract with Gibson & Co. expired last fiscal year so Requests For Proposals were issued. Six responses were received ranging from \$8,000 to \$14,560. Eddie Carrick, CPA, in Lexington was the lowest. His firm has extensive local government experience and his niche seems to be small municipalities. Several of his references were checked and all had great things to say. Bermuda Run is one of their customers. Councilman Ricky S. Plunkett made a motion to approve an audit contract with Eddie Carrick, CPA and authorize Manager Garner to sign the contract. Councilman Timothy M. Flinchum seconded the motion and motion passed unanimously.

Resolution to Retain First Citizens Bank: Mayor Williams presented a resolution to the Council opposing the reduction of services at First Citizens Bank Rural Hall and requesting them to reconsider their decision. Mayor Williams noted a copy of his letter to First Citizens Bank's Chairman Frank Holding, Jr. has been placed in the Council's Dropbox. Councilman Ricky S. Plunkett made a motion approving Resolution #796. Mayor Pro Tem John N. McDermon seconded the motion and motion passed unanimously. *(Resolution #796 has been placed in the Ordinance Book.)*

Councilman Timothy M. Flinchum made a motion to enter into closed session to discuss attorney-client privilege pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3) at 7:33 PM. Councilman C. Thomas Griggs seconded the motion and motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Williams reconvened the regular meeting at 8:13 PM with no action to report.

There being no further business, motion was made by Councilman Ricky S. Plunkett to adjourn at 8:13 PM.



Dora K. Moore
Town Clerk