

MINUTES

The Board of Councilmen of the Town of Rural Hall held their regular meeting on August 12, 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; Town Manager Megan M. Garner; Town Clerk Dora K. Moore; and Town Attorney D. Barrett Burge. Councilman Ricky S. Plunkett was absent.

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

Public Comment Period:

Frank James, 7290 Broad Street, thanked the Council for considering hosting a candidates' forum and he understood the Council's decision to not hold a forum at Town Hall. The candidates hope to find another location.

Approval of Minutes: Councilman C. Thomas Griggs made a motion to approve the July 8, 2019 regular meeting minutes and August 5, 2019 agenda 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 August 5, 2019 closed session minutes. Councilman Timothy M. Flinchum seconded the motion and motion passed unanimously.

Financial Reports: Manager Garner presented the February-May 2019 Town and Fire Department financial reports to the Council. Manager Garner noted the Town's side is generally lower than previous year and the Fire Department's side is higher than previous year. This is because the Town allocated the Fire Department their tax contributions on a monthly basis in the 2018-2019 fiscal year versus a yearly basis as had been the case in previous fiscal year. Manager Garner reported the June 2019 financial reports will be presented to the Council in September so the June financials could accurately reflect receipts and disbursements for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. Councilman C. Thomas Griggs made a motion, seconded by Councilman Timothy M. Flinchum, to approve the February-May 2019 Town and Fire Department financial reports as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & MEETING UPDATES:

Introduction of Lee Angell, Maintenance Technician I: Council introduced and welcomed Lee Angell as the Town's newest employee. Mr. Angell is a Maintenance Technician I in the Public Works Department.

Introduction of Joe Johnson, Community Policing Officer: Council also introduced and welcomed Forsyth County Sheriff's Deputy, Joe Johnson as the Town's newest Community Policing Officer.

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

In Memory

Jerry Grubbs

Rheumelle Tuttle

Purchaser

Dennis & Kathy Bennett

The Rural Hall Senior Citizens Club

August 2019 Yard of the Month: Council extended congratulations to Darlene King, 155 Church Street, for being named the August 2019 Yard of the Month by the Garden Spot of the World Club. *(A copy of the certificate is included with the minutes.)*

National Night Out Update: Mayor Williams shared that the National Night Out event held at Covington Park last week was the biggest thus far. Clerk Moore shared everyone in attendance had a good time and expressed their appreciation for the event. The event continues to grow, and Clerk Moore thanked the Council for allowing them to host the free community event. Mayor Williams extended thanks to the staff for all the work they put into the event.

Food Truck Tuesday: Manager Garner announced BJ's Fry Shack will be at Town Hall tomorrow from 11:30 AM until about 1:30 PM.

Movie Night: Incredibles II will be the Friday, August 16 free, family movie night at Covington Park. A food truck will be onsite for food purchases. Movie begins at dusk with food and fun beginning at 7:30 PM.

NEW BUSINESS:

Personnel Policy Revision (Drug & Alcohol Policy): Manager Garner presented a Drug and Alcohol Policy to be incorporated in the Personnel Policy under Conditions of Employment. The proposed policy was developed from a North Carolina League of Municipalities' (NCLM) template. It addresses pre-employment testing, which the Town is currently doing, reinstates the random testing for safety-sensitive positions, post-accident testing and reasonable suspicion testing. Supervisors will be trained by the NCLM. The City of King issued a request for proposals and the Town can piggyback if no substantial changes in service are made. Manager Garner noted that refusal to test will lead to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

Attorney Burge noted he would remove either "charge" or "conviction" in the last paragraph on page 4 and he suggested the Random Testing section be reworded for better clarification.

Mayor Pro Tem John N. McDermon made a motion, seconded by Councilman Timothy M. Flinchum, approving the proposed Drug and Alcohol Policy in the Personnel Policy as presented striking "conviction" on page 4 and clarifying the wording in random testing. Motion passed unanimously. *(A copy of the Drug and Alcohol Policy is attached to the minutes. It has also been placed in the Personnel Policy.)*

Animal Ordinance: Council discussed a set-back requirement for roads and rights-of-way in relation to horses at the agenda briefing. Some discussion was held about only permitting horses in the rear yard like the fowl restrictions. Council decided to discuss a potential rear-yard restriction in more detail at the September agenda briefing. Councilman C. Thomas Griggs made a motion to approve the revised Animal Ordinance #294 as amended to restrict horses within seventy-five (75) feet of any rights-of-way and/or public road. Councilman Timothy M. Flinchum seconded the motion and motion passed unanimously. *(Revised Ordinance #294 has been placed in the Ordinance Book.)*

There being no further business, motion was made by Councilman C. Thomas Griggs to adjourn at 7:33 PM.



Dora K. Moore
Town Clerk