

TOWN OF RICHLANDS
NORTH CAROLINA

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The Richlands Board of Alderman met in Regular Session Tuesday, September 14, 2010 at 6:00 pm at the Richlands Town Hall. Present for the meeting were:

Mayor Marvin Trott
Alderman Fran Pierce
Alderman Paul Conner
Alderman Hans Jacobsen
Alderman Tom Brown

Also present for the meeting were: Gregg Whitehead, Town Administrator; Keith Fountain, Town Attorney, Chief Thomas Bennett, Richlands Police Department; Johnathan Jarman, Public Works Director; Doreen Putney, Town Clerk; Willard (Skeeter) Johnson, Representative for Beck Disaster Recovery; and Jax Eddleman, Boy Scout.

Absent: Mayor Pro Tem, McKinley Smith

There were two (2) citizens present.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Mayor Marvin Trott called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Boy Scout, Jax Eddleman

INVOCATION: Alderman Hans Jacobsen

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman Paul Conner to adopt the agenda as written. The motion was unanimously carried.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman Hans Jacobsen to adopt the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of August 10, 2010, the Special Call meeting minutes of August 17, 2010, and the following Closed Session Minutes regarding litigation that involved the town of June 8, 2010; June 29, 2010; July 13, 2010; August 10, 2010; and August 17, 2010. The motion was unanimously carried.

PROCLAMATIONS: CONSTITUTION WEEK & SICKLE CELL AWARENESS MONTH:

Gregg Whitehead, Town Administrator, presented to the Board a Proclamation declaring September 17, 2010 through September 23, 2010 to be "Constitution Week". Mr. Whitehead also presented a Proclamation proclaiming the month of September to be "Sickle Cell Awareness Month".

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman Paul Conner to approve both the Proclamations for Constitution Week and Sickle Cell Awareness Month. The motion was unanimously carried.

DEBRIS MANAGEMENT CONTRACTS (BECK DISASTER RECOVERY):

Gregg Whitehead, Town Administrator, reported to the board on a MOU with Onslow County from 2006 that allowed Richlands to participate in the County's debris management contract with Beck Disaster Recovery, Inc. Mr. Whitehead stated that in order to ensure the Town is prepared to deal with a major storm event, the Board will need to review & approve if desired the presented Cooperative Agreement with Beck Disaster Recovery whom the County has approved a one (1) year extension. This agreement will be with Beck Disaster Recovery and one of the Debris haulers, CrowderGulf, who is the primary hauler under contract with Onslow County and AshBrit who is the secondary hauler. Mr. Willard Johnson, representative for Beck Disaster Recovery was present to answer any question the Board had. Mr. Johnson stated that Beck Disaster Recovery manages all aspects of the debris removal activities and specializes in making sure the proper documentation for FEMA eligibility.

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman Paul Conner to approve the Cooperative Purchasing Agreement between the Town of Richlands and Beck Disaster Recovery, Inc. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman Hans Jacobsen to approve the contract with CrowderGulf as the primary debris hauler. The motion was unanimously carried.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT APPOINTMENT:

Mr. Whitehead presented to the Board a Community Participation Application submitted by Ms. Jennifer Roby for the Alternate position with the Board of Adjustment. This would be a 3 year term if approved.

After review, a motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman Paul Conner to appoint Ms. Jennifer Roby for the three (3) year term as an Alternate for the Richlands Board of Adjustment. The motion was unanimously carried.

MUSEUM FEST 2010:

Mr. Whitehead reported that the Onslow County Museum is seeking permission to close the Pete Jones St. entrance to Wilmington St. as well as provide the usual traffic control services for the annual Onslow County Arts & Craft festival scheduled for Saturday, November 6, 2010 from 6:00 am until 7:00 pm.

A motion was made by Alderman Hans Jacobsen, seconded by Alderman Tom Brown to approve the request made by the Onslow County Museum to close the entrance of Pete Jones Dr. to Wilmington Street and provide needed traffic control services for the annual Museum Festival scheduled for November 6, 2010. The motion was unanimously carried.

WATER & SEWER EXTENSION ORDINANCE:

Mr. Keith Fountain, Town Attorney gave an update on the hearing and the Judge's order that would dedicate all lines to ONWASA. If there is failure to serve by ONWASA, the lines would be returned to the Town. Mr. Fountain stated that the litigation is over. Due to the courts decision regarding the dedication of the water & sewer lines, the Board will need to amend and/or repeal the town's existing Water & Sewer Extension Ordinance. Mr. Whitehead presented to the Board a rough draft of Ordinance 2010-004 which eliminates the language that pertains to the dedication of utilities as well as language that may appear to conflict with operating standards of ONWASA.

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman Hans Jacobsen to approve the Ordinance 2010-004.

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman Hans Jacobsen to reconsider the previous motion.

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman Hans Jacobsen to repeal the ordinance Chapter 3, Title 5 of the Water & Sewer Ordinance. The motion was unanimously carried.

Mr. Whitehead will prepare a revised Ordinance for the Board to review for the next Regular Board of Alderman Meeting.

ADMINISTRATOR NOTES & UPDATES:

The Town Administrator, Gregg Whitehead, presented a copy of notes and updates to the Board which are attached to these minutes. He also reported on the following:

- Johnathan is working on obtaining estimates for repairs on Foy St.
- Jax Eddleman gave an update on the Fountain project in the front of Town Hall.

- Board of Elections “One Stop Voting” will be located at the Town Hall from October 18 thru October 22, 2010.
- DOT stated that repairs on our state roads will probably not be until 2011. There still is considerable settling from the I&I project.

POLICE REPORT:

Chief Bennett presented a copy of the Activity Report for August, 2010 to the Board. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes. Chief Bennett also gave an update on the new police vehicle and that it may be ready for delivery mid October.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Grant Bourne, 100 Amberwine addressed the Board with concerns with vehicles speeding through the neighborhood and the increase in children playing. He requested for an additional 4-way stop and to have the speed limit reduced from 25 mph to 15 mph.

Mayor Trott referred the issue to the Public Safety Committee and to bring their thoughts to the next Board Meeting.

BOARD MEMBERS CONCERNS:

Alderman Tom Brown expressed concerns with people parking along the SE side of Hwy 258 during the Farmer’s Day Events. This created some very dangerous situations with people attempting to cross a five lane highway. Chief stated that he did address this situation before with the organizers of the event. He will look into contacting the DOT to block it and make it a no parking zone for next years event.

Alderman Brown also expressed his concerns regarding the developers removing too many trees with some of them being very old trees. He also stated that citizens are continuing to walk their dogs and allowing them to defecate on the sidewalks and not cleaning it up. He suggested to install signs in the downtown area.

Mayor Trott requested the Board to reschedule the October meeting from October 12th to October 5th, 2010.

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman Hans Jacobsen to reschedule the next Regular Board of Alderman Meeting from October 12, 2010 to October 5, 2010. The motion was unanimously carried.

PERSONNEL:

None

CLOSED SESSION:

None

ADJOURN:

With no further business, a motion was made by Alderman Hans Jacobsen, seconded by Alderman Tom Brown to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 pm. The motion was unanimously carried.

Respectfully carried,

Mayor Marvin Trott

Doreen Putney, Town Clerk