

TOWN OF RICHLANDS
NORTH CAROLINA

Office of the
Town Clerk
(910) 324-3301
(910) 324-2324 fax
richlandsclerk@embarqmail.com



Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 245
Richlands, N.C. 28574

The Richlands Board of Aldermen met in Regular Session Tuesday, October 5, 2010 at 6:00 pm at the Richlands Town Hall. Present for the meeting were:

Mayor Marvin Trott
Mayor Pro Tem McKinley Smith
Alderman Tom Brown
Alderman Paul Conner
Alderman Fran Pierce
Alderman Hans Jacobsen

Also present were: Gregg Whitehead, Town Administrator; Keith Fountain, Town Attorney; Lt. Ron Lindig, Police Department; Johnathan Jarman, Public Works Director; Doreen Putney, Town Clerk; and Rachael Jenkins, Advertiser News.

There were two citizens present.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Mayor Marvin Trott called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Pro Tem McKinley Smith

INVOCATION: Mayor Pro Tem McKinley Smith

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman Paul Conner to approve 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 September 14, 2010. The motion was unanimously carried.

VENTERS PARK (Ms. Kimberly Carpenter):

Ms. Kimberly Carpenter of 204 Fay Avenue, addressed the Board with her concerns on the outdated playground equipment and possible hazards to children at Venters Park. Ms. Carpenter expressed her willingness to participate in a committee to explore possible improvements and

funding for new equipment at the park. Mayor Trott appointed Alderman Paul Conner, along with Ms. Kimberly Carpenter to create a committee with one other Richlands citizen who is not on the board or family member and report updates back to the Board on their findings and progress of the committee.

STOP INTERSECTION ORDINANCE AMENDMENT (2010-05):

Gregg Whitehead, Town Administrator presented to the Board two (2) options from the Public Safety Committee to address traffic concerns in Trifield Estates. The third option would be to insert speed humps. Mr. Whitehead reported that according to a study completed by the Department of Transportation which concluded that there was no net gain in lowering the speed limit, he recommended for the speed limit to remain at the Town limit of 25 mph.

After further discussion from the Board, a motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman McKinley Smith to approve Option B Ordinance 2010-005 to Amend Title 6, Chapter 2, Article F of the Richlands Code of Ordinances in order to regulate stop intersections. The motion was unanimously carried.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT AMENDMENT (Tax Collection):

Mr. Whitehead, Town Administrator, presented to the Board an Interlocal Agreement Amendment which amend the existing Tax Collection Agreement between Onslow County Tax Department and the Town of Richlands. This amendment would enable the Onslow County Tax Department to recover nuisance abatement costs as lien attachments to an offending property.

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman Paul Conner to approve the Interlocal Agreement Amendment between Onslow County Tax Department and the Town of Richlands. The motion was unanimously carried.

The signed, approved amendment will be forwarded to the Onslow County Board of Commissioners for final approval.

VEGETATIVE NUISANCE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT (2010-06):

Gregg Whitehead, Town Administrator, presented to the Board an amendment to the Vegetative Nuisance Ordinance Amendment which establishes a 7 day nuisance abatement deadline instead of the current 10 day period. If in violation, the homeowner would have a tax lien placed on the property. In the event of the property being occupied by a renter and the renter is held responsible, then a civil penalty will be placed upon the renter.

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman McKinley Smith to adopt the Ordinance 2010-006 that amends Title 8, Chapter 4 of the Richlands Code of Ordinances in order to regulate weeds, hedges, tall grass and other vegetation nuisances. The motion was unanimously carried.

OFFICE COPIER UPGRADE:

Mr. Whitehead reported that the current lease on our copier with Toshiba expires at the end of this year 2010. Presented were three (3) copier proposals from three qualified copier vendors to upgrade the current copier to a more up to date color copier. Mr. Whitehead stated that Toshiba currently has offered the lowest price through state contract pricing and will be bringing a copier for us to use on a trial basis.

After further discussion and review of the proposals, a motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman Paul Conner to authorize Town Administrator, Gregg Whitehead to choose the vendor and enter into a lease agreement for a new color copier. The motion was unanimously carried.

BOARD OF ALDERMAN CODE OF ETHICS:

Mr. Whitehead stated that the Code of Ethics for the Richlands Board of Aldermen presented to the Board has been amended to “elected local government officials” and meets the requirements and guidelines established by the General Assembly in the 2009 legislative session.

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman McKinley Smith to approve the Richlands Board of Aldermen Code of Ethics as amended. The motion was unanimously carried.

ADMINISTRATOR NOTES AND 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:

- Alderman Pierce, Alderman Conner and Mr. Whitehead will be attending the NC League of Municipalities Annual Conference on October 24 thru 26th. The Board selected Mr. Whitehead to be the voting delegate for the Town at the conference.

POLICE REPORT:

Lt. Ron Lindig presented a copy of the Activity Report for September 2010 to the Board. A Copy of the report is attached to these minutes. Lt. Lindig reported that Halloween Trick or Treat will be Sunday, October 31, 2010 from 6:00-8:00 pm. The police department will have foot patrols along with road patrols in the town, Trifield Estates and Maidstone.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

BOARD MEMBERS CONCERNS:

Alderman McKinley Smith: Thanked Lt. Ron Lindig for patrolling Woodson Street during the AM hours for school traffic.

Alderman Hans Jacobsen: Inquired on the status of the new police vehicle. Lt. Lindig responded that the new vehicle should arrive within the next few weeks and will be utilized by the eight (8) reserve officers.

Alderman Tom Brown: Inquired on the town's website and possibility of regular updates. Mr. Whitehead stated that he will look into purchasing our own software to do the updates ourselves instead of depending on the design company.

Mayor Marvin Trott: Stated that he will be out of town from October 12 through November 2, 2010 and appointed Mayor Pro Tem McKinley Smith to fill in while he is absent. He also requested Mayor Pro Tem Smith to take his place in the Homecoming Parade for the Richlands High School on October 15, 2010.

PERSONNEL: None

CLOSED SESSION: None

ADJOURN:

With no further business, a motion was made by Alderman Paul Conner, seconded by Alderman Tom Brown to adjourn the meeting at 6:45pm. The motion was unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor Marvin Trott

Doreen Putney, Town Clerk