

**TOWN OF SEAGROVE
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
June 28, 2013**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Mayor Hale. Commissioners in attendance were: Edmonds, Hewitt, Luther, and Mullin. Commissioner Latham was not present.

A. Approval of Minutes and Treasurer's Report

Items approved by motion were:

1. Minutes for June were presented for review. After review, motion to accept the June minutes was made by Commissioner Mullin with second by Commissioner Hewitt. Motion carried unanimously. Minutes will be posted on the Town website within a few days.
2. Treasurer's Report for June was presented for review. After review, a motion to accept the June report was made by Commissioner Edmonds with second by Commissioner Mullin. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Police Report:

Police Chief Maness gave the Police report. He detailed the number of miles driven (738), hours worked during June were 184 with 5.5 hours special assignment. 7 field interviews, 10 traffic citations were given with 2 written and 13 verbal warnings. There were 3 motorist assists, 1 traffic direction. There were 3 alarm calls and 1 miscellaneous call. There were 2 incident reports, and 15 miscellaneous reports filed. There were 62 business checks. Chief Maness mentioned that there had been some break-ins at the storage buildings lately and asked that anyone who sees anything suspicious, contact either himself, Officer Auman or 911. Concerns were mentioned regarding security issues for the Centennial Celebration.

C. Committee Reports:

Commissioner Edmonds reported that he was made aware of an issue of water running over street in heavy rains. The culvert needs to be opened up in order to allow for better flow of water. Commissioner Edmonds to investigate whether or not a larger culvert needs to be installed. Also, there is a hole in the street that needs to be patched as well. Motion was made to allow Commissioner Edmonds to handle the repairs to the street. Commissioner Hewitt seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Mullin's had nothing new to report.

Commissioner Luther reported on the Centennial Celebration. The committee met last month and split up the sponsor drive between members, still in the fund raising process. Have had more items brought in. The Pottery Center has stated an interest in participating in the celebration activities including possible demonstrations and food. An interview was completed with Outreach NC Magazine for a feature on the Centennial Celebration; information was given and several pictures were taken of the artifacts that have been collected so far. The next meeting is set for July 9th at the Seagrove Library. Mayor Hale recommended that flyers be made up regarding the parade and get out to the churches, schools, pottery shops, etc. so they can begin working on floats.

Commissioner Hewitt announced that Evelyn Harris, a past member of the zoning board, has passed away. A card for the family was sent around for signatures.

Zoning committee met prior to the meeting. Chairman Fernandez noted that the committee approved new signage for a new Church that has moved into the former Sweepstakes building.

Jeff Potts has submitted an application for rezoning his property from commercial to residential restrictive. Paperwork and payment were presented. The rezoning will need to be advertised and signs posted prior to a public hearing. Will schedule a public hearing before approved.

Dollar General submitted a request for a sign for the new building. The free standing sign is more than 2 ½ times what zoning will allow. This request was denied. Chairman Fernandez has been in contact with the sign company and made them aware of the zoning laws. The maximum size allowed is 32 square feet. Chairman Fernandez advised that they could go to the council and request a special use permit to allow for up to 64 square feet. They have also requested a sign outside on the building but it again is too large. David will work with Dollar General to finalize the sign.

Commissioner Hewitt began discussion on the issue of Privilege License fees. There are approximately 70 businesses in the Town. Business owner David Fernandez suggested that the fees be raised to \$50.00. Commissioner Mullin made a motion to increase Privilege License fees from \$15.00 to \$50.00. Mayor Pro-Tem Luther seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Raising Vendor Booth fees was also discussed. Commissioner Edmonds made a motion to raise the booth fees from \$15.00 to \$30.00. Commissioner Mullin seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Variance fees will remain \$75.00. Special Use permits are currently set at \$10.00. Commissioner Mullin made a motion to increase to \$25.00. Mayor Pro-Tem Luther seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Rezoning fees will remain \$100.00.

Clerk Morse had nothing to report.

D. Public Hearing:

Commissioner Mullin made a motion to temporarily adjourn as a council and go into session as board of adjusters. Commissioner Edmonds seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Charlotte Wooten of Humble Mill Pottery has requested a variance for a set-back of 17 feet for new bathrooms she wants to build. Currently the set-back is set at 25' per planning and zoning. Ms. Wooten will also be looking into hooking up to the sewer in the future. No opposition was made by her neighbors for this variance. Commissioner Mullins made a motion that they adjourn the public hearing and return to the council session. Commissioner Edmonds seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Once back in council session, Commissioner Edmonds made a motion to accept the variance for Ms. Wooten with Commissioner Mullins seconding. Motion passed unanimously.

E. Budget/Public Hearing:

The 2013-2014 Budget was presented by Budget/Finance Manager Berry. David Fernandez recommended that since there will be an increase in revenue of approximately \$4,000 due to the increase in fees could those funds be donated to the Centennial Celebration. Upon further discussion regarding using a portion of those funds for the Christmas lighting for the streets as well, there is a need to replace several of the lights due to being burned out and change over to more efficient LED Lights. Mayor Pro-Tem Luther made a motion to designate \$3,500 for the Christmas lights and any remaining funds go to the Centennial Celebration. Commissioner Mullins seconded the motion. Motion passed with a majority vote of 3 – 1 with Commissioner Edmonds voting against.

Budget manager Berry addressed the council asking again to increase the pay for the Town Clerk position due to the frequency of times needed to ensure that all job functions are completed properly. She also requested that since she will no longer be completing the quarterly payroll reports that Upton Accounting begin to prepare these reports along with the W-2's. Mr. Upton has agreed to do this for a fee of \$250.00 per year which can be taken out of the miscellaneous expense for administration in the budget. Commissioner Edmonds made a motion to accept Upton Accounting for preparing the Quarterly Payroll Reports and W-2 with the understanding that a formal contract will be forthcoming. Commissioner Mullins seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

In regards to the Town Clerk salary, Commissioner Edmonds made a motion to table this request for a later time. Commissioner Mullins seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Police Commissioner Mullins stated that the Police Department came in under budget this past year. Police Officer Auman presented information on the vehicle that the Police Department is looking to purchase. It is a 2013 Dodge Charger including the complete Police Package for a

total of approximately \$28,000.00. First Bank has agreed to do the financing of the new vehicle at a rate of 2.9% with no down payment for a period of five years. The yearly payment will be approximately \$6,000 - \$7,000. Police Commissioner Mullins stated that they will look into selling one of the current vehicles. Commissioner Edmonds made a motion to sell one of the older police vehicles and that the money be earmarked back into the Equipment funds for the Police Department. Commissioner Mullins seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

There being no other discussion regarding the budget, Commissioner Edmonds made a motion to close the Public Hearing on the Budget. Mayor Pro-Tem Luther seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Edmonds made a motion to accept the 2013-2014 Budget to include the changes agreed to. Commissioner Mullins seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

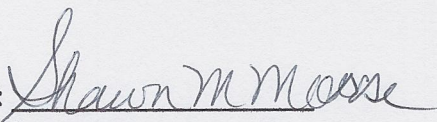
Mayor Hale thanked Budget/Finance Manager Berry for her work on preparing the new budget and the council for their work in accepting.

F. Business of the Community:

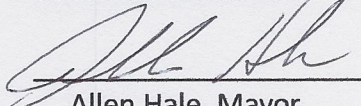
Officer Auman suggested that some of the signs around town need to be replaced due to fading. Mayor Hale suggested that a list of which signs need to be replaced and Commissioner Edmonds will check with the DOT to get these replaced.

Commissioner Mullins announced that she will be running for re-election this year. Mayor Pro-Tem announced that she will be running for re-election as well. Commissioner Edmonds announced that he will be running for Mayor and Mayor Hale announced that he will place all of his support behind Commissioner Edmonds and will not be running for re-election this year.

There being no other business to address, motion to adjourn was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Luther and seconded by Commissioner Hewitt. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

ATTEST: 
Shawn Morse
Town Clerk

TOWN OF SEAGROVE


Allen Hale, Mayor