

MINUTES OF THE WHITSETT TOWN COUNCIL
February 12, 2019
Whitsett Town Hall Building

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The regular meeting of the Whitsett Town Council was held on Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at the Whitsett Town Hall. The following members of the Town Council were present: Mayor Richard Fennell, Mayor Pro Tem Andy Brown, Council Members Jerry Rice, Cindy Wheeler, and Lee Greeson.

Also present were Town Administrator Ken Jacobs, Planning Board Chairman Bob Maccia, and *The Alamance News* reporter Tomas Murawski. No public attended this meeting.

Mayor Fennell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., noted that a quorum was present; and asked Council Member Jerry Rice to offer the invocation.

SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

Mayor Fennell asked for any speakers from the floor, and no public was present.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Adoption of the Minutes

Mayor Fennell asked for any changes to the minutes from the January 8, 2019 regular meeting; and hearing none, asked for a motion to adopt the minutes. Motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Council Member Jerry Rice; motion seconded by Council Member Cindy Wheeler. The motion to adopt the January 8, 2019 regular meeting minutes passed by unanimous vote.

2. Any Other Old Business

Mayor Fennell asked if there were any other old business; and there was none.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Planning Board

Board Chairman Bob Maccia reported that at last week's meeting, a review of Article XII on Commercial Architectural Standards had been launched and would span several months of Board meetings. The Board was also brainstorming on parks and recreational projects for the Town Hall grounds that included the Town Hall building grounds and the newly-acquired acre adjacent to the ball field's third base line. A survey was also in the works to be sent to Town residents for their ideas. The suggestions from the public and the Planning Board would be incorporated into the final aerial site plan to accompany the Town's grant application to the state due by April 1.

2. Enforcement Committee

There was no Enforcement Committee activity this month.

3. Enforcement Officer

Jacobs reported that since last month's Council meeting, one development clearance certificate had been issued to Jerry Small for changing out furnace and A/C unit at the Fire Department, and installing mini split in sleeping room.

4. Town Administrator

This month, Town Administrator Jacobs reported primarily on informational items:

- Gearing up on mass mailing to residents for input on recreational ideas in preparation to apply for a Parks and Recreation grant.
- Guilford County's Assistant Tax Director Greg French will be retiring March 1, who had been a marvel to work with.
- Randall Sutton, the ball field contract signer, will be doing some electrical work at Town Hall.
- The condemned Belton property on NC 61 is due to be auctioned off by the county, and it is expected that Jim Griggs will be bidding.
- Guilford County building inspections will be notifying the owner of the derelict former store building on NC 61 of 90 days to either repair or remove the structure.
- Water service at the mini mart had been turned off and two weeks passed before the bill, including reconnect fees, had been paid in full and service restored.
- Continued pressure on NCDOT re safety concerns on Whitsett Park Road and improved traffic patterns at Rock Creek Dairy Road.

- Requested estimate from Jerry Small for additional gas pack to service the front part of the building and keep the existing one to service the back. Also asked him to inspect unit in cafeteria since gas bills running high.
- Reroofing of cafeteria section and south end, due to wind storm damage, is soon to begin for total of \$5,900.
- Five-year garbage/recycling contract with Republic due to expire June 30, 2019. Renegotiations to soon begin; and per Republic, the Town should expect minimal increase of \$1 to \$2 per month per household. By statute, this service contract can be renewed without soliciting competitive bids.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Repeal Greeson Road 40 MPH Speed Limit

Town Administrator Jacobs explained that the speed limit on Greeson Road had been studied by NCDOT and reduced to 35 MPH from 40 MPH; the new signs had also been erected. The Town would now be required to repeal the 40 MPH ordinance as a formality and matter of NCDOT record.

Mayor Fennell made a motion to repeal the ordinance; motion seconded by Council Member Jerry Rice. The motion carried by unanimous vote; and the proper paperwork would be completed and sent to NCDOT.

2. Renew 2019 Ball Field Contract

Town Administrator Jacobs said that Randall Sutton, the ball team leader/coach who had the ball field contract last year, would like to return this year as well. Electric bills were paid readily, the grounds were kept cleaned up, and best of all the field was used for practice sessions for a young girls team, which is far superior to adult leagues of the recent past.

Ryan Daniels, another girls team coach, who used the field occasionally last season would like to return again this year, but use the field more frequently. Although Sutton will be the prime responsible party for the contract, he and Daniels will coordinate scheduling the field's use. Both will be required to complete and submit to the Town the Hold Harmless release form.

Mayor Fennell asked for comments or to have a motion. Council Member Cindy Wheeler made a motion to renew the ball field contract with Mr. Sutton; motion seconded by Council Member Jerry Rice. The motion carried by unanimous vote; and the contract would be signed tonight by the Mayor and Randall Sutton would be notified to sign the contract and pay the \$250 deposit, refundable at the close of the ball season.

3. Approve Planning Board Appointments for 2019

The 2019 roster of those making up the Planning Board along with their terms had been provided to Council Members for formal annual appointment or reappointment. It was noted that three alternate vacancies had existed for years, and although filling those positions has often seemed futile, interest continues to be solicited.

Mayor Fennell asked for a motion to appoint the listed members and alternate. Council Member Jerry Rice made a motion to effect the appointments; motion seconded by Council Member Lee Greeson. The motion passed unanimously, and those listed would serve for another year.

4. Any Items from Council Members

Mayor Fennell asked for any items from Council members; and no one had any.

5. Announcements

Mayor Fennell asked for any announcements; and there were none.

6. Speakers from the Floor

Mayor Fennell asked for any speakers from the floor; and no public was present.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, Mayor Fennell invited a motion to adjourn. Council Member Jerry Rice made the motion to adjourn; motion seconded by Council Member Lee Greeson. The motion passed by unanimous vote; and the February 12, 2019 Town Council meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:42 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Whitsett Town Council is scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at the Whitsett Town Hall.

/s/

/s/

Jo Hesson, Town Clerk

Richard Fennell, Mayor

APPROVED: March 12, 2019