

**TOWN OF HARRISBURG, NORTH CAROLINA  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2016  
6:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

**1A.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Steve Sciascia called the meeting to order and the Town Clerk conducted the roll call.

PRESENT: Mayor Steve Sciascia, Councilmen Chad Baucom, Jeff Phillips, Rick Russo (arrived 6:04 pm), Ron Smith, Christopher Barfield, John Booth, Councilwoman Benita Conrad

**1B.**

**INVOCATION**

Pastor Mike Thevenin from Harrisburg Harvest Church conducted the invocation.

**1C.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**1D.**

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

**1. Black History Month Proclamation**

**1E.**

**AGENDA CHANGES**

- Add Item 6B, New Business – Discussion of Robinson Church Road sidewalks (Phillips).
- Remove Items C, D, and F from the Consent Agenda and move them to New Business (Baucom).

**MOTION:**

Councilman Phillips made a motion to approve the proposed changes to the agenda with a second from Councilman Baucom. **The motion passed 6-0.**

**1F.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Jenna Sue Taylor, 6919 Hickory Ridge Road, Harrisburg - concerned about the pond in front of her property that DOT created when they put pipe put there. It needs to be closed up so that no one gets hurt. Wants Council to see if they can get that moving. Tom Polito to look into.
- Al Miller, 1959 Stallings Road, Harrisburg – lives across from the church that is going in down there. Very much for it. Also very pleased with the people who put in the pipeline there

**2.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Consider the minutes of the January 11, 2016 Town Council meeting.
- B. Consider the minutes of the January 11, 2016 Closed Session.
- C. Appointment of two new members to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.
- D. Reappointment of Linda Thurman to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.
- E. Set a public hearing for the March Council meeting for new ordinance regarding NCDOT road closures for special events.
- F. Consideration of Change Order relating to existing pump station contract with R.H. Price, Inc.

### **MOTION:**

Councilman Baucom made a motion to approve items A, B and E of the Consent Agenda with a second from Councilman Phillips. **The motion passed 7-0. (Items C, D, F removed earlier)**

### **3A.**

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

##### **Town Manager's Report**

- Station 3 – We are hoping to get in there and start running out of there in the next month or so. Will continue to keep Council posted.
- Signal Light at Pepsi Way and Highway 49 – the lines have been strung and the lights should be up soon. They will need to blink for a week and then be activated. We should have no problem meeting the February 19 deadline.
- Gateway Signs Landscaping – When the original design was brought to Council, Brian Leopard thought there needed to be more than what was proposed. Now that the signs are up, staff contacted Brian Leopard for a conceptual design and he sent one to us at no cost. Would like some direction from Council on how to proceed. Councilman Baucom stated that staff should make the determination of who is awarded the contract for the landscaping since a former Councilman is involved. Discussion surrounded the scheduling of the landscaping, all now or part later, as well as how to work the RFQ for bids. After discussion the following action was taken:

### **MOTION:**

Councilman Russo made a motion to put out the landscaping of the Gateway Signs for bid. Second was made by Councilman Smith. **The motion passed 7-0.**

- Purple Heart Signs – We gave DOT our branded designs for approval, but they are telling us that we can only place the green and white signs under our Town limits signs. So we may have to look at other areas in Town to place the branded signs.
- Speed humps on Parallel – We added larger speed limits signs on Parallel, increased traffic patrols, and did a stealth radar study which showed the average speeds at 28-30 mph. Our current policy really would not allow for speed humps along that road.
- Thread Trail – We have been working with the Canterfield HOA to try to acquire easements behind them along Rocky River so that we can connect to the Thread Trail. We will be applying for an 80/20 grant that would allow for the acquisition of easements, construction, building a pedestrian bridge, etc. The total of that grant is \$125,000. Will bring more details later.
- Legislative update will be held at Kannapolis City Hall on February 23 at 7:45.
- The next Community Chat will be held here at Town Hall on February 24 from 6-8 pm.
- SOG Strategic Planning for Elected Officials in Chapel Hill on March 11.
- Cabarrus Chamber Annual Meeting will be held at the great Wolf Lodge on March 11 from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm.

### **3B.**

#### **Mayor's Comments**

- Asked Josh about the possibility of the Town building a pedestrian bridge and the costs that may be involved with that.
- Community Chat – we have School Board members attending to answer questions, and we will be discussing some Economic Development updates.
- Personnel Committee still reviewing resumes for Town Manager, and we have had a few more come in so we are working through those.

### **3C.**

#### **Council's Comments**

##### **Councilman Phillips**

- He and Benita recently attended the MPO meeting. DOT representatives were there and Scott Cole will be at our March Council meeting to give us some updates. They are hoping to complete the rail project by the end of December. Also the Raging Ridge Road project should be complete by then as well. Councilman Baucom questioned what the Town could do better to make DOT aware of our needs to that we are not being surprised by issues at the last minute.

### 3D.

#### Budget

- Lee Connor presented a proposed Budget Calendar to Council for approval. After some discussion the following action was taken:

#### **MOTION:**

Councilman Baucom made a motion to approve the proposed Budget Calendar with a second from Councilwoman Conrad. **The motion passed 7-0.**

- Compensation Study – the last one was done in 2008 with a limited update in 2012. These should typically be conducted every three to five years. Contacted three different firms for quotes and they run from \$9,000 - \$15,000. We would get the results in May or June so it would be a tight schedule with the budget, but we will get a preliminary report in May and that should give us some idea. They will help us to update our job descriptions and also our Personnel Policy Manual. As an additional service, we could have a Strategic Growth Plan developed for \$5,000 - \$7,000 extra. After some discussion, the following action was taken:

#### **MOTION:**

Councilman Barfield made a motion to select the MAPS Group for the Pay and Classification Study. Second was made by Councilman Russo. **The motion passed 7-0.**

### 4A

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

**H2016-01 (R) – Request to rezone approximately 5.38 acres from O/I, Cabarrus County Office-Institutional District, and LDR, Cabarrus County Low Density Residential District, to O/I, Office-Institutional District.**

Josh Watkins, Planning Director, presented the background information. The property owner for this parcel has requested a voluntary annexation into the Town of Harrisburg. As part of this annexation process, staff has initiated a rezoning petition to assign a Harrisburg zoning designation. The property is currently zoned O/I, Cabarrus County Office-Institutional District, and LDR, Cabarrus County Low Density Residential District. Staff is seeking a zoning of O/I, Office-Institutional District, as the entirety of the property is used as a religious institution, and there are no residential uses taking place on the property. The parcel is located at 2007 Stallings Road, at the intersection of Stallings Road and Rocky River Road. The Planning and Zoning Board voted unanimously to recommend approval of this request at their January meeting.

The public hearing was opened.

Speaking: none

The public hearing was then closed.

#### **MOTION:**

Councilwoman Conrad made a motion to approve H2016-01 (R). Second was made by Councilman Baucom. **The motion passed 7-0.**

The following Consistency Statement was then proposed:

#### **CONSISTENCY STATEMENT:**

Based on the application and the staff report and the staff presentation, while the proposed rezoning is not consistent with the provisions of the Harrisburg Area Land Use Plan it is nevertheless reasonable and in the public interest because it is consistent with uses in the surrounding community and the existing use of the property.

**MOTION:**

Councilman Baucom made a motion to approve the proposed Consistency Statement with a second from Councilwoman Conrad. **The motion passed 7-0.**

**4B.**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**H2016-01 (T) – Public Works Detail Amendments.** Josh Watkins presented the background information. Staff has been working with Public Works to include new details for water line installation, commercial driveway installation, and repair details for road repairs. The Planning and Zoning Board voted unanimously to recommend approval of this request to the Town Council at their January meeting.

The public hearing was opened.

Speaking: none

The public hearing was then closed.

**MOTION:**

Councilman Phillips made a motion to approve H2016-01 (T). Second was made by Councilman Russo. **The motion passed 7-0.**

**5A.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**6A.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Action Items.**

- Check into the pond issue on Hickory Ridge Road brought up by Jenna Sue Taylor.
- Continue working to get the Purple Heart signs up.
- Gateway Sign Landscaping bids.

**6B.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Discussion of Robinson Church Road Sidewalks.** Councilman Phillips spoke about concerns with the Robinson Church Road Bridge. Do we want to continue moving forward with this? It's going to cost a lot of money. Josh explained the history of the issue. The Town had shown DOT a couple of years ago the plans for that area and explained the need for a wider bridge with bike lanes and sidewalks. A year later, we see that the bridge has been designed with two lanes, bike lanes and sidewalks so we met with Scott Cole to discuss and they presented another option. The actual decking of the bridge stayed the same but they made it three lanes, but with sidewalks then only on one side. We had asked for three lanes with bike lanes and sidewalks on both sides. We were told that redesigning the bridge would cost about \$150,000 plus they would want the Town to pay for the additional construction costs as well. The Town also has the option to build a pedestrian bridge there. After some discussion the consensus of Council is to work with Representative Pittman to try to fight for what we need out there.

**6C.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Items C and D from Consent Agenda – Appointment of two new members to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, and the reappointment of Linda Thurman to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.** Councilman Baucom questioned who the new members would be, have they been vetted, etc. Parks and Recreation Director Eric Smallwood explained that there were two members who stepped down so they needed to be replaced. Two people applied for the open positions and they were vetted by the Board before coming to Council. Moving forward, Councilman Baucom stated he would like to see the applications and information in the council packets.

**MOTION:**

Councilman Baucom made a motion to approve the appointment of the two new members to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the reappointment of Linda Thurman to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Second was made by Councilman Russo. **The motion passed 7-0.**

**6D.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Item F from the Consent Agenda – Consideration of Change Order relating to existing pump station contract with R.H. Price, Inc.** Councilman Baucom questioned what led to the increase in price on this contract. Public Works Director Tom Polito explained that there were three pump stations to be dismantled but they did not have the necessary easements for one of them so they only put two out to bid. Now they have the easements and the project came in under budget, so he wants to add that third pump station to the contract.

**MOTION:**

Councilman Baucom made a motion to approve the Change Order relating to existing pump station contract with R. H. Price, Inc as requested. Second was made by Councilwoman Conrad. **The motion passed 7-0.**

**7.**

**CLOSED SESSION**

**MOTION:**

Councilman Baucom made a motion to go into Closed Session to discuss personnel, HR related issues, and potential litigation. Second was made by Councilman Russo. **The motion passed 7-0.**

After returning from Closed Session the following action was taken:

**MOTION:**

Councilman Baucom made a motion to come out of Closed Session and return to regular business with a second from Councilman Russo. **The motion passed 7-0.**

**7.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:**

There being no further business, Councilman Baucom made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Councilman Russo. **The motion passed 7-0.**

---

Steven J. Sciascia, Mayor

ATTEST:

---

Janet Rackley, Town Clerk