

**TOWN OF HARRISBURG, NORTH CAROLINA
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 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, Ron Smith, Christopher Barfield, John Booth, Rick Russo, Councilwoman Benita Conrad

1B.

INVOCATION

Dave Henderson of Venture Church conducted the invocation.

1C.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1D.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1E.

AGENDA CHANGES

1F.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Major Neal, 4669 Lucas Court, Harrisburg – Wants Lucas Court to become a Town maintained road. Currently a private road. Road is in terrible shape.
- Kater Cornwell, 4201 Alderwood Lane, Charlotte – speaking also concerning Lucas Court. Potholes are very large on that road, and it needs to be fixed. Harrisburg is a great place to live, but Council needs to put themselves in the place of the residents of that road. Hoping there is some way to make this work.
- Cheryl Almond, 510 School Circle – wants sign for closing of Robinson Church Road moved closer to Robinson Church.

2.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Consider the minutes of the July 11, 2016 Town Council meeting.
- B. Consider the minutes of the July 11, 2016 Closed Session.
- C. Set a public hearing to consider a voluntary contiguous annexation – Venture Church.
- D. Set a public hearing to consider a voluntary non-contiguous annexation – DR Horton.
- E. Set a public hearing to abandon portions of Galvan Way.
- F. Consider approval of the 2016 water line replacements contract.
- G. Consider budget amendment to FY2017 budget to account for Planning & Zoning encumbered funds from FY2016.
- H. Consider amending FY2017 budget for electrical installation work for gate at Stallings Road Park.

MOTION:

Councilman Baucom made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Second was made by Councilman Barfield. **The motion passed 7-0.**

3.
COMMUNICATIONS

None

4.
TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- Stallings Road at Robinson Church Road is back open. It was closed earlier today. The Robinson Church Road railroad crossing is now closed.
- NCDOT is looking at Thursday, August 18th for an official celebratory opening of Harrisburg Veterans Road and the Town is looking to do an event on Saturday, September 17th from roughly 11:00 am to noon with our local veterans and the folks from the American Legion to celebrate the veterans in town and the folks who led to getting that road named Harrisburg Veterans Road. There will be more details on these events as we get them. We are working to finalize the locations of these events. Once we have all that information we will get it out to Council and the public.
- We got the RFQs back today on the Public Works facility and we are finalizing the RFQs on the design and architectural services for the Fire Station to go out probably this week. Stay tuned on those big projects for the town. You will be hearing more about those in the coming months.
- The next Community Chat will be held on October 6th.
- The second public meeting concerning the Morehead West Small Area Plan will be held on September 6th here at Town Hall.

5.
MAYOR'S COMMENTS

- Traffic issues at intersection of Hickory Ridge and Stallings Road. We need to have DOT take a look at that, we may need a signal or something there to alleviate the problems.
- A lot of businesses have been impacted by all of the road closings and changes and we talked at the EDC meeting about helping them out in some way. Have some ideas that wouldn't cost us anything but might have a big impact for businesses. One thing is the sign amnesty that we have done in the past. Allow 90 days for businesses to put signs anywhere they want, knowing there is a start and stop date. Second, to promote them on our Facebook page on a rolling basis for those who are registered, to let them know that we are happy they are here. This is a way to get more of them registered as well. Just trying to come up with ideas that are inexpensive that would help the businesses out. Rich Koch stated that we need to make sure that we put a disclaimer on the website or Facebook if we choose to put businesses there stating that we are not promoting any business. Councilman Baucom suggested lowering the 90 day sign amnesty period to 60 days so it does not get too out of hand. Anna Lu Wilson stated that HBA is currently working on a business directory to put on their website.

6.
COUNCIL'S COMMENTS

Councilman Baucom

- Asked staff to reach out to the appropriate people or agencies to make the necessary changes so that GPS will reflect all the recent road changes in the area.

7A.
PUBLIC HEARING

H2016-04 (R) – Eastwood Homes. Public hearing was set last month for tonight, but was advertised incorrectly. Need to set a new public hearing.

MOTION:

Councilman Baucom made a motion to set a public hearing for Eastwood Homes to be held on September 12, 2016. Second was made by Councilman Russo. **The motion passed 7-0.**

7B.
PUBLIC HEARING

Consider changes to water, sewer and storm water ordinances. Lee Connor presented the background information. As some town ordinances were initially adopted, specific fees were part of those ordinances. In order to provide greater flexibility to modify these fees, the Town has been changing these ordinances to reflect the fees being in the annually adopted fee schedule. This public hearing will be to include replacing all language in these three ordinances, water, sewer and storm water, directing the fees to be part of the Town's adopted fee schedule. The sections of the ordinance that are affected are the following:

- 50.44 Water/Sewer Fees
- 51.31 Bills; Payments; Discontinuance of Service for Nonpayment
- 51.36 Water/Sewer Fees
- 53.095 Schedule of Fees and Charges

All reference to specific fees has been removed and replaced with the following statement: *The schedule of charges provided in the town's adopted budget ordinance will apply to water and sewer (storm water) fees. These charges will remain in effect until changed by the Town Council.*

Along with the above changes to the ordinance, the fees that are being removed need to be added to the fee schedule. These fees will be added to page 5 of the fee schedule. No changes will be made to the fees moved.

Staff recommends approval of the changes to the ordinance sections noted above, as well as approval of the fee schedule, page 5, which now lists those fee moved from the ordinance itself.

Rich Koch made a last minute change to the language seen in the packet and that was to add the work *annual* so that the new statement in the ordinance will now read: *The schedule of charges provided in the town's annual adopted budget ordinance will apply to water and sewer (storm water) fees. These charges will remain in effect until changed by the Town Council.*

The public hearing was opened.
Speaking: none
The public hearing was then closed.

MOTION:

Councilwoman Conrad made a motion to approve the changes to the water, sewer and storm water ordinances as proposed and incorporate them into the Town Code of Ordinances. Second was made by Councilman Baucom. **The motion passed 7-0.**

7C.

PUBLIC HEARING

Consider Changing Road Name – Millbrook Road. Josh Watkins presented the background information. Now that NCDOT has wrapped up the road closure at Millbrook Road associated with the Piedmont Improvement Project, Millbrook Road exists in two sections on either side of the railroad line. As this may cause issues with the delivery of emergency services, E-911 Addressing staff has informed the Town that Millbrook Road between University City Boulevard and the railroad tracks should be renamed. Since Galvan Industries is the primary business on this section of road, the Town is requesting that this portion of Millbrook Road be renamed to Galvan Way. For emergency services purposes, the street signs have already been posted with the new street name, and the businesses along the roadways affected have been contacted. A public hearing must be held to make the changes effective.

The public hearing was opened.
Speaking: none
The public hearing was then closed.

After some discussion, the following action was taken:

MOTION:

Councilman Baucom made a motion to approve the proposed name change of the portion of Millbrook Road from University City Boulevard to the railroad tracks to Galvan Way. Second was made by Councilman Phillips. **The motion passed 7-0.** (Resolution hereby incorporated by reference)

7D

PUBLIC HEARING

Consider Road Renaming – Portions of Robinson Church Road and Hickory Ridge Road. Josh Watkins presented the background information. Now that NCDOT has wrapped up the road closure at Hickory Ridge Road, and the closure at Robinson Church Road is expected imminently, both Hickory Ridge Road and Robinson Church Road exist in two sections on either side of the railroad line. As this may cause issue with the delivery of emergency services, E-911 Addressing staff has informed the Town that the roads on the north side of the railroad tracks will need to be renamed. Town staff held two neighborhood meetings to inform residents of the needed changes, and to get feedback on the proposed road names.

At the second neighborhood meeting, several residents indicated that they would like to see Hickory Ridge Road renamed to honor previous Mayor Martha Melvin, who resides on this road. Staff has checked with E-911 Addressing, and Martha Melvin Road is available for use.

Staff is including two options for consideration:

OPTION 1

Rename the portion of Robinson Church Road to Harris Depot Road, and Hickory Ridge Road would be renamed Railroad Avenue, and become an extension of existing Railroad Avenue.

OPTION 2

Rename Robinson Church Road to Harris Depot Road, and Hickory Ridge Road would be renamed Martha Melvin Road.

The public hearing was opened.

Speaking:

- Crystal Passmore, 6740 Hickory Ridge Road – for Option 2
- Anna Melvin, 418 School Circle – for Option 2

The public hearing was then closed.

After some discussion, the following action was taken:

MOTION:

Councilman Smith made a motion to approve the proposed road name changes using Option 2 as presented. Second was made by Councilman Russo. **The motion passed 7-0.** (Resolution hereby incorporated by reference)

8A.

OLD BUSINESS

Driver Feedback Speed Limit Signs. Continuation of the discussion from the August 8, 2016 Town Council meeting concerning the possibility of creating a policy to allow Driver Feedback speed limit signs in neighborhoods as an alternative to speed humps to try to slow traffic. There was also some talk of the Town and the neighborhoods sharing in the costs of the signs; possibly at 50/50 split. Tom Polito stated that the Cabarrus County Sheriff's Department ran their stealth radar as requested by Council and as of right now, the numbers do not warrant speed humps. Under our current policy if the numbers do not support the installation of speed humps, the Town will not allow them. So the discussion now is whether the Town is still willing to pay for half the cost of Driver Feedback speed limit signs as an alternative to speed humps if the numbers do not support them. After some discussion, Council directed staff to take a look at the speed hump policy and propose some changes that may help neighborhoods have the options for some sort of traffic calming device, and make those more attainable than they are currently. Mr. Polito stated that staff would bring the proposed changes back to Council next month.

Discussion then turned to the recent speed limit change on portions of Caldwell Road from 45mph to 35mph. Councilman Baucom would like to see more alerts on that road concerning that change.

Also, Council directed staff to bring a resolution next month to change a portion of Stallings Road from 45mph to 35mph. Currently the speed limit goes up and down along that road and this would make it more consistent.

**9A.
NEW BUSINESS**

**10.
ACTION ITEMS**

**11.
CLOSED SESSION**

MOTION:

Councilman Baucom made a motion to go into closed session for legal and personnel matters. Second was made by Councilman Booth. **The motion passed 7-0.**

Upon 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. Second was made by Councilman Russo. **The motion passed 7-0.**

**12.
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