

**SPECIAL CALLED WORKSHOP MEETING
6:00 P.M. @ TOWN HALL
DECEMBER 16, 2008
MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Doc Davis. In attendance were all councilmen and staff. Wesley Hutchins, Fire Department liaison was also present.

Discussion included:

1. **PARKS AND RECREATION** – IN GENERAL
 - RE-ESTABLISH PARKS & REC COMMITTEE?
 - STATUS OF WICKENHAM PARK
 - 2009 FALL FESTIVAL PLANNING
 - TOWN HALL PARK UPDATE
2. **“OLD” FIRE DEPARTMENT BUILDING**
3. **BOOE HOUSE**

Mr. Hutchins briefed the town on “Knox boxes” which are boxes similar to what real estate agents use, that are to hold keys to buildings so that firefighters can enter commercial buildings in the event of a fire (or in instances where alarms are triggered). The fire department would be the sole keeper of the key. The boxes runs about \$400 each. Mr. Hutchins said that at some point in the future, an ordinance would be requested requiring any commercial building owner who lives more than thirty minutes away to provide a Knox box with a key to the building to the fire department.

Mr. Hutchins spoke on the Fire Department’s need for new equipment, specifically an “elevated stream” type of truck. This type of truck costs from \$500,000 to \$1million – depending on the specifications. Mr. Hutchins’ set of criteria for a new truck includes:

1. Ease of operation
2. Ease of set-up
3. Make it to where folks can train on it.

The council was asked if it was committed to helping the Walkertown Volunteer Fire Department in purchasing a truck and it was unanimous agreement to do so.

The council was requested to set up an appointed, advisory committee for Parks and Recreation to include a cross-section of appointees – young and old, professional and not, etc.

Maps should be forthcoming on Wickenham Park.

In response to community comments, Town Hall Park updates include a consolidated playground area; change of band shelter to a gazebo, added bathrooms to picnic shelters, more parking spaces, and the dog park was deleted.

The “old” fire department building should not be included in this first grant request. Mayor asked that the doors on the building be fixed pronto.

Booe house was discussed for possible usage.- could be used for 25 people or less – such as Garden Club, etc. – gas logs would look good in the living room fireplace – needs more furniture, one room at a time – biggest cost would be handicapped access and upfitting bathroom for handicapped.
The council decided furniture should be purchased as it comes available.

4. RETENTION POND

- Discussion ref: ordinance

The council decided that an ordinance requiring fences around any new retention pond should be written up and presented at a future council meeting.

5. STREET UPDATES

Melvin Lane and Sell Road were discussed – with manager being asked to discuss with D.O.T. taking them into town maintenance system.
Maplebrook and Camellia were discussed concerning potholes. Randy Mendenhall was requested to make a list of potholes and then get patched.

6. SPRING “RETREAT” ??

- Getting ready for 2009-2010 budget

This issue is to be put on the January work session agenda for more discussion.

7. ANYTHING ELSE.....

Festival – check to see if there are any conflicts (other festivals, etc.) for the weekend of September 18th and 19th. Festival would be held the mill east to Main Street down to Sullivantown Road. Vendor spots should be sketched out. County needs to be contacted regarding our use of a stage – either one or two. Bands should be contacted.

Conference Room – A clock should be purchased for the conference room at town hall. A plaque should be purchased for the door reading:
“HORACE G. WARNER CONFERENCE ROOM”

This room should be fixed up and completed.

Planning Board Appointments – Ms. Martin stated that she had spoken with Don Whitaker and he has agreed to continue serving on the Planning Board.

On a motion by Marilyn Martin, seconded by Randy Mendenhall, and unanimously agreed to – Closed Session was opened at 8:05 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION:
In accordance with:

[N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1)]
Prevent the disclosure of privileged information

[N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5)]

To establish or instruct the staff or agent concerning the negotiation of the price and terms of a contract concerning the acquisition of real property located at _____.

On a motion by Sarah Welch and seconded by Randy Mendenhall, and unanimously approved council went back into Regular Session at 8:39 p.m.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN THE WORKSHOP SESSION AT 8:39 P.M.
BY: WAYNE HESTER
SECOND: MARILYN MARTIN
VOTE: MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Submitted by:

Lynn McKinnie, CMC
Town Clerk