



## Town of Walkertown, North Carolina

Website: [townofwalkertown.com](http://townofwalkertown.com)

Walkertown Town Council Meeting

Walkertown Library Auditorium

THURSDAY 7:00 P.M. MARCH 27, 2008

### **DRAFT MINUTES**

Mayor Doc Davis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were the mayor, Sarah Welch, Randy Mendenhall, Wayne Hester, Marilyn Martin, and Clerk Lynn McKinnie.

Councilman Hester said a brief invocation after which Councilman Mendenhall led the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion by Marilyn Martin, seconded by Wayne Hester and unanimously approved by the council, the Agenda was approved as presented

On a motion by Wayne Hester, seconded by Randy Mendenhall, the minutes for

- February 28, 2008
- March 18, 2008 – Special Called Workshop
- March 18, 2008 – Workshop Closed Session

were unanimously approved.

#### **PUBLIC SESSION**

THIS SESSION IS FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY AND IS LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER WHEN SPEAKING TO ANY ITEM, PLEASE RESTRICT YOUR REMARKS TO THE SUBJECT AT HAND.

Public Session was opened and closed at 7:03 p.m. with no speakers.

#### **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:**

1. **FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:**

AWARD AUDITOR CONTRACT TO AUDIT ACCOUNTS 2007-2008

#### **DISCUSSION:**

MAYOR: This is for auditing all the town accounts for the audit period, fiscal year 2007, which ends June 30, 2008. Correct me if I'm wrong, Ms. McKinnie, we did a three-year commitment with this firm. This is our third year – I just wanted to make sure the council understood it since most of them were not on when the Gibson Company came on. LYNN: You committed to this but you are not obligated – you can get someone else to audit if you put out the bids.

MAYOR: Gibson has done a good job but we are not obligated to maintain this third year. This is to accept or to reject this and if we were to reject it, we would have to go out to get other bids. This is the bid that you have before you. Is there a motion to accept? They have worked well in the past with Ms. McKinnie.

**MOTION: TO ACCEPT GIBSON & COMPANY'S BID TO AUDIT THE TOWN OF WALKERTOWN ACCOUNTS FOR THE TOTAL COST OF \$14,460 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008**  
**BY: RANDY MENDENHALL**  
**2<sup>ND</sup>: SARAH WELCH**  
**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

2. **FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:**  
WALKERTOWN SIDEWALK RECOMMENDATIONS  
TO SUBMIT TO LYNDA SCHWAN

**DISCUSSION:**

MAYOR: If you will remember, Lynda Schwan came out at our last meeting and we've had some proposals. We've looked at this at the workshop – look at your proposed recommendations to submit to Lynda Schwan, who is supposed to be able to either get majority of the money, or at least partial amount of the money for matching funds.

LYNN: Lynda is leaving April 16<sup>th</sup> for Oklahoma so I wanted to get everything in way before then....

MAYOR: I don't know that she can get all this done by then ! That's a lot of sidewalks to pour.....

MR. HESTER: Is she coming back after that? Is she going to be gone.....?

LYNN: ..... She took another job – she'll be gone!

MAYOR: We need to get this finalized. Council members, if you would, look at this and see if it's what we had in mind – If this is what we discussed.

MR. HESTER: This is what we discussed at the workshop and the ones that we called out then.....

MAYOR: .....This is what we discussed at this last meeting – we refined it at the workshop – and here is the list. I'll read the streets. It's

- Avalee
- Darrow
- Depot
- Friendly
- Harley
- Main
- Martin
- Morris
- Highway 66 – in two different places
- The new Poindexter
- Rock Lane
- Rocky Branch
- Ruxton
- Swain
- US-311, between Harley Drive and Main
- Wickenham, from Sullivantown to the park

These are the streets that are being recommended in this round. Is there any questions or is there a motion to proceed with this recommendation and get these... We have six or seven streets that were put on hold due to other

construction projects that will be taking place between now and then. We didn't want to put down sidewalk and have to tear it up again.

**MOTION: TO MOVE FORWARD AT PUTTING SIDEWALKS ON ONE SIDE ONLY ON THE STREETS AS LISTED**  
**BY: WAYNE HESTER**  
**2<sup>ND</sup>: MARILYN MARTIN**  
**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

MAYOR: This will be in the top on your list. The bottom will be on hold – will not be furnished with sidewalks until further notice.

3. **FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:**  
**PLANNING - JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> "HOT DOG DAY"**  
**DARROW PARK NOT AVAILABLE 4<sup>TH</sup> OR 5<sup>TH</sup>**

**DISCUSSION:**

MAYOR: This is the 4<sup>th</sup> of July special celebration. We have a kink in our normal plan. We find that the park is rented, both on the 4<sup>th</sup> and the 5<sup>th</sup>.

LYNN: ....But could be Love's Church? Like last year, they had the park rented.....?

MS. WELCH: .....They traded with us.

MR. HESTER: Do you have that, Wesley?

MAYOR: Ya'll don't have that rented, do you Wes?

WESLEY HUTCHINS: Not that I know of. Did they not tell you, Lynn?

LYNN: No. They wouldn't tell me the name of the church – only that a church had already reserved the park.

MR. HESTER: Do you think they went ahead and did that.... Just for you?

MR. HUTCHINS: No. I don't think so.

MAYOR: In the event – I feel like it's *not* them. Usually it takes a little pro-active action. I wouldn't think she would just reserve it if ya'll hadn't decided, would you, Wes? So we need to be thinking:

1. Do you want to have it?

2. And, if so, where?

The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> are tied up at the park – the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> is not available at the park. The 4<sup>th</sup> is on Friday and the 5<sup>th</sup> is on Saturday. The 4<sup>th</sup> is what we did last year. What's your thoughts, Council?

MR. HESTER: I think we need to have it. We just have to figure out where. We'd like to go ahead and start making plans on it.

MAYOR: Was that a motion to have it?

**MOTION: TO HAVE A JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> CELEBRATION**  
**BY: WAYNE HESTER**  
**2<sup>ND</sup>: RANDY MENDENHALL**  
**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

MAYOR: Okay. So the plan is to have it.

MS. MARTIN: Do we have to do it on the 4<sup>th</sup>? Could we do it some time else?

MAYOR: So, could we have it some place else?  
 MS. MARTIN: We could have it on our property, I guess – the town's?  
 MAYOR: What about the Center Town Park?  
 MS. WELCH: Is it going to be level enough for that time?  
 MAYOR: .....Is it going to be level enough?  
 MR. HESTER: It's level.  
 MAYOR: It's grassy.  
 MR. HESTER: As good as the park was..... We could do it in the back yard of the Booe house. We'd have some shade. It was rather hot over there last time and without some kind of shade, we'd have to have a tent or something.....  
 MAYOR: Are you recommending that we have it at the park and use part of the facilities there at the Booe house?  
 MR. HESTER: Yeah – if we could work it out, I think that would be great! Make good use of it.  
 MS. WELCH: Be fine.....  
 MS. MARTIN: The biggest thing would be parking but isn't the lot beside.....  
 MAYOR: It is parking, that is correct.  
 MR. HESTER: And all of that area could be parking. We'd have plenty of parking.  
 MAYOR: Yes. Everything that we could park – around the Sheriff's Office, the back, and the lot adjoining.

**MOTION: TO PROCEED WITH THE PLANS TO HAVE THE JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> CELEBRATION AT THE TOWN CENTER PARK**  
**BY: RANDY MENDENHALL**  
**2<sup>ND</sup>: MARILYN MARTIN**  
**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

MAYOR: We'll have to work out some committees and details and we'll get back to everyone on that. Okay. Fourth of July celebration on the 4<sup>th</sup> at Town Center Park. And that is around Town Hall, including the Booe house and the property all around. Reckon you can get somebody to put up some horseshoe pits by then?  
 LYNN: Ooooh, yeah! That's a good one. I've already started talking to others about donations....and other.....  
 MS. MARTIN: She's already ahead of you, Doc!  
 MR. HESTER: Maybe even a volleyball net! We'll do a lot of planning on it. We'll set up committees that can do that. Lynn'll be in charge of them ☺

4. **FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:**  
**PLANNING – BUDGET INFORMATION - 2008-2009**

**DISCUSSION:**

MAYOR: All right – budget time. Do you have any numbers – oh, you do! If you'll look under Tab 4, council, there is a budget worksheet – that's the budget for '07, the variance, and the year-to-date – and month-to-date.

This would be through 03-24 ---- Expenditures. We need to work – when do we need to finalize this, Ms. McKinnie?

LYNN: June.

MAYOR: Have you finished up any of it?

LYNN: Yes. And I have even cleaned up the sheets in your notebook. This has been such a hectic year, because we've had so many things going on that we hadn't planned on – I went through and cleaned this BUDGET VS. ACTUAL report up (I had already copied this older version for the agenda packet so you don't have the cleaned up version.) The budget – I have preliminary figures – I need some fire department numbers and a few more things.....but it is very preliminary.

MAYOR: Okay. I'll have to talk to someone about that!

Speaking of that, we do have with us tonight – Wesley Hutchins has agreed to take on the task of Fire Administrator. Wesley, would you stand to be sure everyone knows who you are. Wesley is also the Fire Chief of Walkertown and he will be coordinating the efforts of the fire service in the town and with the other surrounding departments. He'll be working on the contracts, fire safety, and quite a few other issues involving the town and fire service. Thank you, Wesley, for being here. Does the council want to set a date for the budget meeting or do you think it's necessary at this time?

LYNN: Well, I think you all should so you have some kind of input into the budget. And I'd like to say something about maybe getting a new recording system???

MAYOR: I don't think it's in this budget?

LYNN: It's gonna be!!

MAYOR: But it's not in this budget!! (laughter)

At this time, everyone checked their calendars to decide on a date for the budget meeting. A Special Called Workshop had already be set up for April 10, 2004 – a Thursday, at 5:30 p.m. A budget workshop could be held at 6:30. Mr. Hutchins was asked to attend. The council agreed on the date and time of April 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at Town Hall.

5. **FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:**

**STATUS - BARRICADE AT RUXTON DRIVE AND WHITEHALL  
SUBDIVISION**

**DISCUSSION:**

MAYOR: Status of barricade at Ruxton Drive. I hope it's sitting on the ground. Whose item is this, Ms. McKinnie?

MS. MARTIN: That's mine. I guess, really, it doesn't matter now because they're working in front of Whitehall and they're having to use that exit on to Ruxton Drive – but I don't know if ya'll remember.... But, when Mr. Sowers came out, he did say it would be a permanent barrier across there and the Fire Department would have a key and right now, it's a cut-through for everybody to get out of one-way traffic. Of course, they can't now because it's blocked. But I sat in one lane traffic last week and one car in front of me and four behind me just went through and I guess they just moved the barricades because they were just pushed to the side. So I do think we need to stay on top of this. It was never meant to be open to the public because of the danger with the school there and the traffic situation and.....

MS. WELCH: .....Maybe we need to take a vote.....

MAYOR: There's quite a few of the neighbors who originally opposed it seem to be in favor of opening it now – so I don't know.....

MS. WELCH: .....Well, one down Ruxton told me “no” --- I mean, they're down Lakawanna! He said, ‘When you gonna get it up?’ And I said as soon as Mr. Scott says he's found a way.

MAYOR: Tom, do you have any orange barricades out there or is it just those yellow barricades?

TOM LANE: Just the yellow ones, I think.

MS. MARTIN: Well, I'm talking about a permanent solution. I know they're there!

MS. WELCH: And they go around them.

MS. MARTIN: They go around them. They move them. What we said in the beginning – was said here – that there would be a chain across that road and no through traffic would come through. Emergency vehicles, such as fire truck or ambulances would go down. They could go in at that entrance. They'd have a key.....

MS. WELCH: .....It was a gate.....

MAYOR: .....There was two types of traffic. It was supposed to be *gated*. It was supposed to be emergency and pedestrian traffic only. And I don't think we ever addressed bicycle traffic but I do know the wording was *emergency and pedestrian traffic*. And I'm still under the assumption that nothing's changed on that. Could you put us up some big orange barrels? Don't we have plenty of those? Put a row of them. And then, Ms. McKinnie, would you check with Keystone Builders? Aren't they the ones that's now in charge?

LYNN: And Scott Wallace....

MAYOR: Okay. Would you check with him and follow up on the proposed? I guess the council would like to see the proposed – what they're going to put there? Is that correct?

MS. MARTIN: Yes.

MR. HESTER: I'd like to get a response from them stating that they are going to do that – that's still in the plan.

MAYOR: That was part of the agreement of the plan...

MS. MARTIN: .....Well..... it was --- but at that time, Mr. Sowers was the one that promised that.....

MAYOR: .....That would not change our plan, though.....

MS. WELCH: .....No. It was not changed.....

MAYOR: ....No. That hasn't been changed. That has not been changed. I think it's just like they're building the brick columns. That just hasn't got done yet. I can see why that wouldn't be a priority. But, Tom, if you will, go ahead and make sure the barricades are covering the road and put out some of the big orange so it wouldn't be so easy to remove.

LYNN: We did have a resident come in Monday morning – and I don't know his name, but you all would. He was very verbal about that particular problem – he said he would fix it to where it wouldn't be moved. He said all the residents on Ruxton do not want the barricade removed.

MAYOR: The barricade would have to stay until the council approved to remove it and that's the way it was agreed to, so..... I know it's been a problem. I watch it in the mornings – people cut down and go through

there to avoid – and I can understand why but that’s not what was agreed to when it was approved. So..... Is everybody in agreement with that, those two things?

1. Adding additional barricades, for temporary; ;and
2. Ms. McKinnie check on the permanent solution.

The council, by unanimous consensus agreed to this.

MAYOR: Okay. I just wanted to be sure I wasn’t trying to take it out of your hands, Council.

MS. MARTIN: I just wanted to be sure it got on because some of the citizens thought we’d forgotten about it.

6. **FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:**  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for FEBRUARY, 2008

**DISCUSSION:**

MAYOR: These are our financial statements for February. If you’ll look at the financial reports – course, we do know that with the sidewalks, a good chance that we have a lot of matching, or whatever, we could be pulling down a good bit of the Powell Bill funds on this. Mr. Hester, you got anything to tell us?

MR. HESTER: No. The Powell Bill funds was the only thing I was thinking about – like you said – because if we spend the money on the sidewalks, and then any paving we may do. But we have the money to do it and the council has these – have any questions?

**MOTION: TO ACCEPT THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY, 2008, AS PRESENTED**  
**BY: WAYNE HESTER**  
**2<sup>ND</sup>: RANDY MENDENHALL**  
**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

MAYOR: Just before we go to the final public session – these sidewalks that the council is pushing hard to get completed. We hope to get many of them done this year. We don’t know the schedule but our game plan is to get it done this year. That should make us a walking community once and for all. On our council before you, we’re smaller than we’ve ever been before. Randy’s lost 20-pounds since we started our --- he is without a doubt the big loser so far!! Is it 20 or 21 now?

MR. MENDENAHLL: About 20!

MAYOR: About 20! He’s done a little fudging on us there. But he’s lost around 20-pounds since we started six weeks ago.

MS. MARTIN: I found it if he wants it back! (laughter)

MAYOR: Does anyone else want to report on their progress?

MS. WELCH: I’m just holding1

MAYOR: You’re holding?

MR. HESTER: Up 15!!!

MAYOR: I'm off about - - - - only 4 pounds!!! I went up. When I started my dieting and exercise, I actually gained! I said, there's something wrong with this plan!  
LYNN: It's not your arm you're supposed to move!!

MAYOR: Before we have the Public Session, I do want to make the council aware that Wesley has been working on the dealings with the contracts. We've got some very serious issues and he will be dealing with, probably between now.....Have you got any meetings lined up, Wesley, with the other.....?

MR. HUTCHINS: Yep. Yep.

MAYOR: He's looking at a lot of new things – new out-of-the-box issues on our fire service. It's rather complicated. As you know, we're now contracted – the town contracts with four different fire departments for fire service and that does get rather difficult as time goes on. So, he's working on those issues, but keep in mind, we've got a lot of things to consider, with the changes in the buildings – all the new buildings coming in. We did commit that we would help and support the Fire Department in this aerial unit if, in the next two to four years, they decided to get one in some manner. So keep that in the back of your head. I don't think he's going to come and say 'We've got to have that' anytime soon but, anyway. Do keep that in the back of your mind. Okay?

## **PUBLIC SESSION**

THIS SESSION IS FOR ANY TOPIC AND IS LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER  
WHEN SPEAKING TO ANY ITEM, PLEASE RESTRICT YOUR REMARKS TO THE SUBJECT AT HAND.

Public Session was opened at 7:30 p.m. with one speaker:

1. Wesley Hutchins  
2605 Celeste Dr.

Thank you for allowing me to speak. Tonight, it's an honor to be before you and I represent tonight Boy Scout Troop 922 here in Walkertown. Terry Gray is our Scout Master and if you've ever been affiliated with the scouting program here in Walkertown, we're sort of rich in history and tradition with a scouting program. And, just a sidebar, I came through the program 35 years ago. And, tonight, I have two young men with me who have been working on their Citizenship in the Community merit badge and in just a second I'm going to ask them to come up and tell you who they are and what grade they're in and where they attend school. But the Citizenship in the Community merit badge is a merit badge that teaches the young men in the scout troop the values of good community service, community leadership and commitment to your community. They started on this merit badge several months ago and one of their requirements is that they have to attend a town council meeting – that's a requirement – to see how the government works, to see how things happen. These two young men with me tonight are getting ready to obtain their Star Scout – that's two ranks below the Eagle Scout rank. And if you're familiar with the Eagle Scout rank, it's a rigorous process. These two young men, I'm proud to say, have been through our Cub Scout program. They achieved the highest Cub Scouting rank in the Air of Light(??) and they're working on the Eagle Scout. So I'd like to ask the two young men to come up and tell you where they're from, and where they go to school and what grade.

REID HUTCHINS: Hello. My name is Reid Hutchins. I go to Walkertown Middle School. I'm in sixth grade and I'm from Walkertown.

WILL RIERSON: I'm Will Rierson. I'm from Winston-Salem. I go to Walkertown Middle and I'm in sixth grade.

MR. HUTCHINS: We appreciate your letting these two young men come and sit in on a council meeting and it is important that they learn about citizenship in their community and this is one of the final things they have to earn that merit badge. Be glad to answer any questions and I'm going to let them respond. I'm going to step aside.

MAYOR: Who won the race this year, Will? Did you win this year?

WILL RIERSON: No. Will Webster won.

MAYOR: Did you win last year?

WILL RIERSON: Yes.

MAYOR: Yes. I thought so. They have a pinewood derby race every year and it's quite competitive in Walkertown. Quite competitive, isn't it, Wesley? So, what did you discover about the meeting tonight?

REID HUTCHINS: I learned that there is a barricade down close to where my grandma lives – down on Ruxton. And that we're going to have the hot dog town thingamajig at Town Center Park.

MAYOR: Will, you and Reid, do you think the Town Council can count on you boys for help this year? Ya'll helped us last year?

WILL RIERSON: Yeah!

MAYOR: Thank ya'll for coming.

Public Session was closed at 7:35 p.m.

## **OTHER INFORMATION ATTACHED**

1. No Minutes for March Planning Board Meeting – Meeting canceled

MAYOR: The April 1<sup>st</sup> Planning Board meeting is canceled. It will not be held as regular scheduled.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:37 P.M.**  
**BY: RANDY MENDENHALL**  
**2<sup>ND</sup>: WAYNE HESTER**  
**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ATTEST:**

**TOWN OF WALKERTOWN:**

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**Lynn McKinnie**  
**Town Clerk**

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**Kenneth R. Davis**  
**Mayor**

## • **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **RECYCLING** in Walkertown continues every two weeks.

**FOR APRIL:**

**A ROUTE - 7<sup>TH</sup> AND 21<sup>ST</sup>  
B ROUTE - 14<sup>TH</sup> AND 28<sup>TH</sup>**

- **TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS:** (4<sup>TH</sup> THURSDAYS)

7:00 p.m. at the Walkertown Library Auditorium on:

**FOURTH THURSDAY @ 7:00 P.M.**

**APRIL 24**

**MAY 22**

**JUNE 26**

**JULY 24**

**AUGUST 28**

**SEPTEMBER 25**

**OCTOBER 23**

**NOVEMBER 20 – CHANGED DUE TO THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**

**DECEMBER 18 – CHANGED DUE TO CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY**

- **PLANNING BOARD MEETINGS:**

Library @ 3:00 p.m. On 1<sup>ST</sup> Tuesday of month