

**SPECIAL CALLED WORKSHOP/RETREAT MEETING
8:00 A.M. @ TOWN HALL
MARCH 21, 2009
MINUTES**

The workshop/retreat meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. Present were Mayor Doc Davis, Wayne Hester, Randy Mendenhall, Marilyn Martin, Sarah Welch, Lynn McKinnie, and Scott Snow.

The following topics were discussed:

1. TRANSFER MONEY IN CMT ACCOUNTS?

As a precautionary measure, it seems fitting to move some of the town's money from the CMT accounts to various other banks. There is a \$250,000 limit on secured monies for accounts in the banks. Upon further examination, Lynn and Wayne will check into transferring \$250,000 to the following banks:

- BBT
- SECU (State Employee Credit Union)
- 1st COMMUNITY BANK
- ALLEGACY OR SOUTHERN COMMUNITY BANK

2. DISCUSS DONATING MONEY TO: (SEE DONATION SHEET ATTACHED)

- Walkertown Girls' Softball League
- Walkertown Wolfpack Football

Randy will contact the Girls' Softball League and get proposal for the cost of field rental and concession stand rental.

The question was asked – again – as to where the Walkertown Wolfpack Football teams could play football. It was answered that the town members have advised them before that they should contact East Forsyth, Kerwin, and Hanes High School. It is not up to the Town to find them a place to play.

3. WICKENHAM PARK UPDATE

- Any clubs in W'town want to help with building costs?

The council was reminded that there are several organizations within town that hold money that was collected from town residents for a town park. However, each group has certain restrictions that they had placed on the use of their money. The group thought an article in the newspaper might be good to let townspeople know that there will be a park.

Groups with money:

- Friends of Park – but they have requested their money be spent on a park only at town hall. Bob Wooten or Otis McNeil were the last contacts we had for this group.
- Community Center Group – they have said they want to invest their money in a park. Gene Reid was the last contact we had for this group.

IT WAS DECIDED THAT A LETTER SHOULD BE WRITTEN TO THE GROUPS HOLDING MONEY, WHICH WAS COLLECTED FOR A TOWN PARK, TO SEE

IF THEY WERE WILLING TO DONATE THEIR PORTIONS, TO THE TOWN FOR USE IN BUILDING OUR TOWN CENTER PARK.

There was a caveat, however - - - the groups would need to be advised that stipulations would not be accepted for this money. The town would use the money only for a park and it would be for a park located at town hall. Also, the park would be governed by the town in perpetuity.

Another issue concerning the town center park was the lot owned by Ms. Annette Leight that is on the border of our park property. We had mentioned purchasing the lot to “square up” our park. One of the group will ask the Leight family if the town would be able to purchase this lot and come back to the council with Ms. Leight’s response.

Still another issue for the park was the fact that 2nd Chance Cycles is evidently allowing future-buyers of their cycles to “try out” the cycles on the park property. There are several inherently problematic issues with this – not the least of which would be liability problems. This needs to be stopped immediately and a stern warning issued to the business so that they do not continue allowing this to happen.

“POSTED – NO TRESPASSING” signs should be put up and a letter should be sent to 2nd Chance Cycles asking them to refrain from allowing this to happen.

The lot behind the house next door to the Booe house was discussed. Someone mentioned it might be a good idea to purchase the small lot to add to the park but this was a “wait and see” item.

As far as the concession building is concerned – this is the building that the Walkertown Little League has plans to build on the Wickenham Park site – they called for, and received four bids. The first set of plans called for a 2-level building but has since been rearranged to fit on one level. According to the town attorney, it would be our building on our land so anything to be done would be our call. She advised that we should re-bid the plans and get our own bids. Nothing was formally decided on this.

MOTION: HAVE FRED WILLIAMS, ARCHITECT, DESIGN AN ARCHITECT’S RENDERING OF A ONE-STORY CONCESSION STAND STORAGE BUILDING FOR WICKENHAM PARK.

This motion was made by Randy Mendenhall and seconded by Marilyn Martin. The council approved it unanimously.

4. FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

- Options Available To Town and Fire Department

At a meeting with the different fire department chiefs, it was determined that the Town of Walkertown has three options for future fire protection:

- To continue providing fire protection as a municipal service via contracts with each local Volunteer Fire Department – which would mean funding would continue to be provided for in the annual Town budget.

- The Town would discontinue fire protection as a “municipal service” and Forsyth County would take over responsibility for providing fire protection services within town limits. Fire protection services could be funded by establishing new fire tax districts or by expanding existing districts within town limits. The majority of municipalities in Forsyth County use this system. The Town would need to adjust their tax rate to compensate for the establishment of the fire tax district in town limits.
- The Town would establish its own fully-municipal fire department. It would be fully owned and operated by the Town and all property and facilities would be property of Walkertown. Employees would be employees of the town.

There are pros and cons to each option. The fire departments themselves favor option #2 – and this option would mean less control for the town. Forsyth County would have all the control. Option #3 would have full crews 24 hours a day but the town would be responsible for all costs involved – salaries, benefits, etc.

5. BOOE HOUSE

- RFQ - See attached “Public Event Center”

The consensus of the Town Council was that the Booe house needs to be brought up to code in order that it may be used. Comments included, “Get it ready for use!” “Quit waiting – go ahead and do it!” “The cost to repair it won’t be the same in three or four years as it would be now.” We would use to rent out for public events and for town events. The mayor and council said to do the minimum required in order to be able to use the building.

MOTION:

SEND LETTERS OUT TO ARCHITECTS TO COME MEET WITH THE TOWN COUNCIL AND DECIDE ON WHAT WE WANT FOR THE BOOE HOUSE.

This motion was tendered by Marilyn Martin, seconded by Wayne Hester and unanimously approved.

6. STIMULUS PROJECTS

- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

It was determined that the projects we are working on can be used for stimulus money. Friendly and Morris are ready-to-go projects and should be listed on this project. Mayor Davis said we should widen all roads that are not already 3-lanes and add sidewalks.

MOTION:

TURN INTO THE MPO TO SIDEWALK WITH STIMULUS MONEY AND WITH 20% MATCH WITHIN 9 MONTHS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

- **DARROW ROAD TO HWY-158**
- **FRIENDLY ROAD**
- **MORRIS ROAD**

This was unanimously approved on a motion made by Marilyn Martin and seconded by Randy Mendenhall.

7. SIDEWALK UPDATE

- Ruxton Drive sidewalk?
- Love's UMC sidewalk?
- RUXTON - It was decided to hold off on Ruxton Drive's sidewalks until the new High School decides what it is going to do about their sidewalks to be located on the opposite side of the road (from Rite-Aid).
- LOVE'S – In order to put sidewalks in, we will need a portion of Love's UMC easement by the parsonage. A future meeting will be held to talk to all parties involved.

8. MELVIN LANE PAVING

- Road Policy Included

Melvin Lane is a DOT road – residents along this road want it paved. It could be 10 to 12 years – or longer – for the NC-DOT to pave. The residents have asked the town to take it in to the town's street maintenance system and pave. At this time, the estimated cost for the NC-DOT to pave would be around \$70,000 to \$85,000 with the town splitting the cost with the residents of the road. It was decided to wait until after the Public Hearing which is being held at the Council meeting of March 26th before moving ahead with this issue.

9. RETENTION POND UPDATE

Nothing further has been done on an ordinance on this. Ms. Martin said she did not want the issue dropped – she wanted an ordinance drawn up requiring every **commercial** property having a retention pond to be required to fence said pond. However, she still would like for it to be on a “case-to-case” basis.

LYNN WILL CALL AMY AND HAVE HER RE-CHECK THIS ISSUE.

10. SULLIVANTOWN ROAD AND DEPOT STREET

- Declare One-Way for each?

The Council was firm in its thoughts that Sullivantown Road and Depot Street should be one-ways.

MOTION:

MAKE SULLIVANTOWN ROAD ONE WAY “IN” (EAST) AND MAKE DEPOT STREET ONE WAY “OUT” (WEST) WITH A STOPLIGHT AT DEPOT STREET AND MAIN STREET.

This motion was unanimously approved upon a motion by Marilyn Martin and seconded by Randy Mendenhall

The group also agreed that “Sullivantown Extension” should be left alone – as is.

The school system has asked that a stop sign be put on Ruxton Drive at Darrow Road but the council decided to “.....think about this request before adopting.”

11. DECLARE VARIOUS TOWN PROPERTY AS SURPLUS

- Bush hog – Small trailer – etc.

It was decided that the “weed cutter” and small trailer were no longer needed by the town and should be declared as surplus property and sold “as is”.

MOTION:

THE WEED CUTTER AND THE SMALL TRAILER OWNED BY THE TOWN ARE DECLARED AS SURPLUS AND SHOULD BE SOLD “AS IS” AS SIMPLY AS POSSIBLE

This motion was unanimously approved as made by Wayne Hester and seconded by Marilyn Martin.

On another note, the salt spreader should be cleaned and painted.

12 FALL FESTIVAL

Give it up for this year ?? Combine with July 4th this year?

Because the Town’s committee is so late in starting on the Fall Festival for 2009, the request was made to delay it until 2010. The council agreed to this with the stipulation that the committee start working on the 2010 festival now – start making plans and getting the word out.

MOTION:

DELAY THE 2009 FALL FESTIVAL UNTIL THE 3RD WEEKEND IN SEPTEMBER 2010 (SEPT.17TH AND 18TH)

Motion was made by Marilyn Martin, seconded by Sarah Welch, and unanimously approved.

13. DISCUSS ORDINANCE PROHIBITING SEXUAL PREDATORS IN PARK

- See Samples Attached

The group considered this request to provide an ordinance prohibiting sexual predators and advised Lynn to start work on an ordinance that would suffice.

MOTION:

TO WORK UP AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS AT WALKERTOWN PUBLIC PARKS

Motion made by Wayne Hester and seconded by Randy Mendenhall. Motion was unanimously approved by the council.

14. PRELIMINARY BUDGET ISSUES

The 2009-2010 budget was very briefly discussed. Cost estimates were requested which included:

- Assist WVFD with truck purchase
- Parks
- Roads

- Sidewalks
- Fire Dept. tax
- Salaries
- Maintenance issues

The last subject discussed was trash on the roads in Walkertown. Our maintenance guys should concentrate on picking up trash all over town and especially in the Williston Road and Harley Drive area.

After discussing the various issues, the council unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 11:05 a.m. on a motion by Randy Mendenhall, seconded by Wayne Hester.

Submitted by:

Lynn McKinnie
Town Clerk