

MINUTES
SNOW HILL BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
THURSDAY, JULY 26, 2012
G. MELVIN OLIVER TOWN HALL
SNOW HILL, NORTH CAROLINA 28580

- 1. Call to Order – Mayor Liles called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The prayer was offered by Commissioner Hagans. The Pledge was led by Commissioner Washington.**
- 2. Roll Call – The roll was called by Cathy Webb, Clerk. All members were present. A quorum was declared.**
- 3. Consider Agenda Approval – A motion was made by Commissioner Washington, seconded by Commissioner Shackelford, and carried unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.**
- 4. Consider Minutes Approval – A motion was made by Commissioner Scarborough, seconded by Commissioner Hagans, and carried unanimously to approve the June 28, 2012 minutes as presented.**
- 5. Presentation: Jasper Jones, American Legion Post 536 – Mr. Jones asked if the Board would consider leasing the property in the alley off Harper Street to the American Legion Post 536. He indicated that they were non-profit and did not have the funds to rent places to meet. He said that they were preparing to bid on one of the Modular classrooms that are presently being used by the Greene County Schools. After some research he did not think that this property would be sold because of the location-too many old houses in that area. He said that leasing the property would have some benefits to the Town-they would not have the upkeep of the property and possibly bring some revenue into the Town. He said that he would be comfortable in entering into a lease agreement with the Town with the assumption that the lease will be renewed upon its original expiration date. Commissioner Scarborough asked what they were currently paying to rent the Community Center. He said that they were paying \$390 per year. (1 nights per month for 2 hours) Commissioner Scarborough asked if they were interested in a lease with the option to purchase. He said that it was next to impossible for them to enter into this type of agreement because their funds were very limited. She asked if they had the money to pay for the utilities. He said that they did.**

6. Report of Officers:

a. Town Administrator –Dana Hill

- 1) **Speed Limits-SE Second & Third Streets** – Mr. Hill presented a speed limit modification Ordinance. The ordinance is to reduce or increase the speed limited on 2nd and 3rd streets to maintain a 35 mph speed limit on both streets. He said that there were areas on both streets that go from 45 to 25 and back to 35 mph. After a study by DOT it was recommended that a 35 mph speed limit be maintained on both of these streets. These ordinances reveal current speed limits and the recommended speed limits on 2nd and 3rd streets to be 35 mph.
- 2) **Board of Adjustment Appointment** – Mr. Hill said that Ernestine Suggs had applied for an appointment to the Board of Adjustments.
- 3) **2012 CDBG Cycle** – The 2012 CDBG Cycle has now opened. Mr. Hill indicated that the Town was participating this year in the Talent Enhancement program thru CDBG . One of the requirements of the Grant was that the Town would have to submit a 2012 application. He asked that the Board set a Public Hearing for the August 13, 2012 meeting to announce that the Town is considering an application and at this point he is not sure what he will recommend to apply for. He said that there would be 4 categories-1) Infrastructure (2) Scattered Site Program (these applications would have to be submitted to the county) 3) Small Business Programs, and (4) Catalyst
- 4) **Water/Sewer Department Vehicle** – Mr. Hill reminded the Board that they had approved in the last budget year to purchase a vehicle but that he was not able to find one. He asked that the Board extend that permission in this budget year. He said there is money in water and sewer capital funds that can be used for this.
- 5) **Lawn Mower** – Mr. Hill said that one of the lawn mowers broke down. The mower is about 8 years old and has about 4000 hours on it and in his opinion was not worth putting a new motor in. He said that he had started getting prices on new mowers. He said that he put in the recommended motion that the cost not exceed \$10,000 but that he thought he could get one cheaper.

2) Town Clerk

1. **2012 Tax Collection** – Town Clerk, Cathy Webb asked the Board for Permission to bill and collect the 2012 Ad Valorem and Personal property Taxes for 2012 and any prior year taxes.
2. **FY 11-12 Tax Settlement Report** – The Clerk presented the Tax Settlement Report for fiscal year 2011-12. The collection rate is 97.63%.

7. Report of Boards:

Planning Board – Mr. Hill said that the Planning Board voted in its July 10, 2012 meeting to recommend to the Town Board to allow the 1000’ provision in the current ordinance to remain. Commissioner Washington said that she would like to have a public hearing. Mayor Liles asked for a motion to amend the agenda under action items to call for a public hearing regarding consideration of amendment of the Internet Café Ordinance to modify distance restrictions between Internet Cafes. A motion was made by Commissioner Washington, seconded by Commissioner Shackelford, and carried to amend the agenda for this action item. Commissioners Scarborough and Taylor voted nay.

8. Public Comments –

- 1) Clara Shaw – Ms. Shaw commented that the American Legion Post 536 also had a ladies auxiliary and that they would benefit from the Building if the Town decided to let them lease the property. She also asked If the Town would have a time for bulk trash pickup. Mr. Hill said that this would be in the fall. She mentioned that she did not have anything against the Internet Cafes, but that lots of people were riding and walking at night in her area. She said that they were having problems with animals running loose in the neighborhood. Mr. Hill told her to call the Health Department but that he would call them tomorrow about this.**
- 2) Tommy Hines – He reiterated the need for a place for the Post to meet. He said that if they had the option to lease with an option to buy, he would like to know what kind of money they were talking about. Commissioner Scarborough commented that if the Board could come to some reasonable price, that they would take payments over a 5-10 period. She said that all these details would be worked out and everyone would know what the price and all the arrangements would be. She said that some of that property was purchased with CDBG money and there were some of the properties that were paid a large amount of money for. She said that these were taxpayers dollars (government funds) and that they want to make sure that they do right by those dollars that have already been spent. She said that she would like to see them come to some agreement.**
- 3) JoAnn Stevens – Mrs. Stevens said that she was the President of the American Legion Post 536 Ladies Auxiliary. She said that since the property was purchased with CDBG funds that she hoped that the Board would consider this. She said that that area was located in the CDBG area-low income. She said that this would bring a lot of reputable activities and assist the youth in the area-and also increase the tax base. She asked the Board in making their decision in the 2012 CDBG cycle**

that the Board consider a project such as this. Commissioner Scarborough asked her what category would this project fit under. She said that it could fit under the Catalyst Program. Commissioner Scarborough said that the private land was purchased with public dollars and she did not know what that particular land was purchased for and that she is not saying that they should get what they paid for it but at least looking at the tax value and being as fair and equitable as possible.

- 4) Kevin Smith – Mr. Smith asked about the driveways on Hull Road-he said that the driveway was broken and holes in the road. Mr. Hill said that he would look at it as soon as possible and get back with him concerning this.

9. Old Business: NONE

10. New Business:

- 1) Consider Adoption of Speed Limit Modification Ordinance – A motion was Made by Commissioner Scarborough, seconded by Commissioner Washington, and carried unanimously to approve this ordinance.
- 2) Consider Appointing Ernestine Suggs to the Board of Adjustment – A Motion was made by Commissioner Washington, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough, and carried unanimously to appoint Ms. Ernestine Suggs to the Board of Adjustment.
- 3) Consider setting a public hearing for August 13, 2012 regarding the 2012 CDBG Application cycle – A motion was made by Commissioner Shackelford, seconded by Commissioner Hagans and carried unanimously to set the public hearing for August 13, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.
- 4) Consider Charging the Town Clerk with Collecting the 2012 Ad Valorem And Personal Property taxes, plus all applicable prior year taxes-A motion was made by Commissioner Scarborough, seconded by Commissioner Shackelford, and carried unanimously to allow the Clerk to bill and collect these taxes.
- 5) Consider authorizing Town Administrator to purchase a vehicle for the Water/Sewer Department from Capital reserve – cost not to exceed \$20,000-A motion was made by Commissioner Washington, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough, and carried unanimously to allow the Town Administrator to purchase a vehicle. (not to exceed \$20,000)
- 6) Consider Authorizing Administrator to purchase a lawn mower from Capital reserve –Cost not to exceed \$10,000 – A motion was made by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough, and carried unanimously to allow the Administrator to purchase a lawn Mower (not to exceed \$10,000)
- 7) Consider setting a Public Hearing for September 10, 2012 regarding Consideration of amendment of the Internet Café Ordinance to Modify distance restrictions between Internet Cafes. – A motion

was made by Commissioner Washington, seconded by Commissioner Shackelford, and carried. Commissioners Scarborough and Taylor voted nay.

11. Commissioners Comments-

- 1) Commissioner Taylor commented on why he voted “no” on the Public Hearing on the Internet Café. He said that this issue (distance) had been discussed at several meetings and that there were a lot of negative comments as well as positive comments. He asked that anyone that had pros or cons about the Internet Cafés to please come to the meeting and let their opinions be known.**

- 2) Commissioner Scarborough – Commissioner Scarborough said that she continued to support what the Planning Board had proposed and that is seemed to be very fair and equitable.**

12. There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough, and carried unanimously to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Mayor

Clerk