

**MINUTES**  
**SNOW HILL BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2015**  
**G. MELVIN OLIVER TOWN HALL**  
**201 N. GREENE STREET**  
**SNOW HILL, NC 28580**

- 1. Call to Order – Mayor Liles called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The Prayer was offered by Commissioner Washington. The Pledge was led by Commissioner Hagans.**
- 2. Roll Call – The roll was called by Town Clerk, Cathy Webb. All members were present except Commissioner Shackelford, who was absent due to sickness. A quorum was declared.**
- 3. Consider Agenda Approval – Town Manager, Dana Hill, asked that the following be taken off the agenda- 1) Item #6- B-Item #1 under Report of Officers-2015 Building Reuse request and 2) Item #9-1 under Action items – Consider Authorizing Building reuse Application. A motion was made by Commissioner Washington, seconded by Commissioner Wilkes to approve the agenda as presented with the modifications suggested Mr. Hill. Motion carried.**
- 4. Consider Minutes approval of February 9, 2015 – Motion made by Commissioner Hagans, seconded by Commissioner Wilkes. Motion carried.**
- 5. Program/Presentations-**
  - 1) Citizen Recognition- Mayor Liles recognized Mr. Darrell Meyers, Manager of Wal-Mart. Mr. Meyers has been part of the Community for 1 ½ years and manages 35 associates in the Snow Hill store. In February at the Wal-Mart’s Annual Awards Ceremony Mr. Meyers was the recipient of the Helen R. Walton “Excellence in Community Leadership” award. He was chosen from over 600 potential winners. Mr. Meyers received a check in the amount of \$10,000, which he has donated to Greene County Interfaith volunteers to assist with their new building. Mayor Liles presented Mr. Meyers with an “Outstanding Citizenship” certificate. He thanked him for his willingness to give back to the community. Commissioner Washington read the certificate and thanked Mr. Meyers also.**
  - 2) CDBG & Fair Housing Update-Robert Masters**  
**Mr. Masters said that the CDBG Small Business Entrepreneurial Grant was about 80% completed. He said that Tide Tamer was putting up a building rapidly and should be ready by the end of the month.**

He said that Carl Hardy, Hardy Appliance, was putting the finishing touches on his new showroom. Worth Products has almost completed their project. He said that this grant should be completed by June 30<sup>th</sup>. He said that in order to be in compliance with this grant, that he had to remind everyone where the money came from. He said that this money came from Commerce to HUD-a huge agency-HUD (Housing Urban Development)administers that money. Because it is HUD money, he is required to remind people that we must be practicing Fair Housing. Flyers are available at the Town Hall for citizens to read. Dana Hill has been appointed Fair Housing Coordinator in a previous meeting. If there are any problems with Housing in Snow Hill, please contact Dana Hill or you can call the Fair Housing Hot Line. He said that when this project is completed Carl Hardy and Buzz Shackelford would like for the board to tour their facilities.

**6. Report of Officers:**

a. Mayor – No report

b. Town Manager

- 1) NLC/USP Spring Campaign – The National League of Cities/Utility Service Partners have sent our flyers to the citizens offering warranty on their water and sewer lines from the meter to the house and also a service to cover the indoor plumbing and appliances for a cost of \$6.50 per month. This is a total voluntary program.
- 2) 2015 Building Reuse Request – Removed from Agenda
- 3) Mixed Beverage Election – Mr. Hill stated that he had been asked by several citizens and business owners to request a mixed beverage election to allow voters to approve or deny the sale of mixed alcoholic beverages in approved business establishments. He stated that if the Board approved this item, they would only be directing the Board of Elections to place the issue on the 2015 ballot.
- 4) SE Second Traffic Pattern – Mr. Hill explained that he talked to the Board briefly in the last meeting about the possibility of making some changes to the traffic control system at the intersection of SE Second, NW Second, and Greene Streets. After meeting with DOT the following changes were suggested: (1) Replace the lights at NW Second and Greene streets with a stop sign to avoid signal conflicts, and (2) Remove the “No right on Red” sign at SE Second and Greene to allow for smoother traffic flow.
- 5) Downtown Renovation – Mr. Hill said that this item originated from the Historic Preservation Committee and the Development Advisory Commission. He would like to have

some discussion about starting the process of renovating the downtown commercial district, with the first phase being moving overhead utilities (electric and telephone) underground and installing brick sidewalks. He believes that the suggested work would present a more inviting atmosphere for business owners, both existing and perspective, as well as consumers and citizens. He has gathered some informal costs for the proposed improvements: (1) Utility Relocation -\$80,000, and (2) Sidewalk Replacement-\$105,000. He said there would be other issues to resolve such as DOT encroachment permits. He said that he had not been able to locate any grant sources but hopefully he could locate some. Commissioner Washington asked if all of this money would come from the Town. She said that she was all for making the down town area beautiful but that there were many streets in Snow Hill that needed some work done. Mr. Hill said that there would be some patch work done after the contractors finished with the waterline project and that DOT would be paving 2<sup>nd</sup> street later in the year. Mayor Liles asked if he had talked to any grant writers about this. Robert Masters said that we may be able to get some funds from USDA, probably loan money. Mr. Hill said that he would try to have some more firm costs at the April meeting. Commissioner Washington said that if the Town could get some grant money, she would be willing to lean toward this, but did not want to have all this money pulled from the Town funds. Roger Whitson stated that a starting place like this would really be a springboard for economic development – he said that every community you could name in North Carolina-this has led to an increase in business traffic, as well as increases in business profitability and in real estate values. He said regardless of the funding source, this community has the funds in the bank to get it started and it will be a boom to business in this community. Despite the costs, Mr. Whitson said that he feels the town cannot afford not to pursue this project. Commissioner Wilkes stated that she would like to have some more information concerning this project. Commissioner Hagans had the same response as Commissioner Wilkes.

**c. Town Clerk –**

- 1) Ad Valorum/Personal Taxes – Mrs. Webb asked the Board for permission to enforce collection remedies on unpaid taxes for 2014 and prior years. She also asked for permission to advertise any delinquent taxes in the April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 edition of the Standard Laconic.**
- 2) Budget Amendment V – Mrs. Webb presented Budget Amendment #V for consideration. This amendment is for insurance proceeds for the street sweeper and the police car.**

**7. Report of Boards – Historic Preservation Committee – Jill Whitson, Chairman of the Historic Preservation Committee, stated that the Committee had done a lot to help the Town of Snow Hill such as plaques on houses, helped advertised houses for sale to try to save them. She said that part of their mission is to keep what they have. She said that if we did some things to make the area more desirable, that people would want to open businesses downtown. She said that she would like for the Board to move forward on this project.**

**8. Public Comments –**

- 1) Roger Whitson asked if paving bills came from the general fund. Mr. Hill said that some of the paving cost comes from Powell Bill Funds. Mr. Whitson asked if the concern that Commissioner Washington had about spending General Fund money- would it impact the paving. Mr. Hill said that generally not-but if there were not enough funds in the Powell Bill account to cover the paving-the money would have to come out of the street department.**
- 2) Robert Masters – Mr. Masters commented that the Wal-Mart announcement was the most promising thing that he had heard about Economic Development in Greene County in the past 5-6 years. He said that you could order online-have it shipped to the Snow Hill store with free shipping. Mr. Meyers said that if it was shipped to their store that the store got 100% of the sale.**

**9. Action Items –**

- 1) Consider Authorizing the Inclusion of a Mixed Beverage Election during the 2015 Municipal Election- Motion made by Commissioner Washington, seconded by Commissioner Taylor. Motion carried.**

- 2) **Consider Requesting that NCDOT alter traffic signals at SE Second and N Greene Street – Motion made by Commissioner Washington, seconded by Commissioner Hagans. Motion carried.**
  - 3) **Consider Authorizing the Revenue Collector to Collect 2014 and Prior Year Delinquent taxes by any allowable means-Motion made by Commissioner Washington, seconded by Commissioner Wilkes. Motion carried.**
  - 4) **Consider Authorizing the Advertisement of 2015 Unpaid Taxes – Motion made by Commissioner Wilkes, seconded by Commissioner Hagans. Motion carried.**
  - 5) **Consider Adoption of Budget Amendment V – Motion made by Commissioner Washington, seconded by Commissioner Wilkes. Motion carried.**
10. **Closed Session– Motion made by Commissioner Wilkes, seconded by Commissioner Hagans to go into closed session for Property Acquisition/ Contract Negotiation. Motion carried.**

**Motion made by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Wilkes to reconvene to regular session. Motion carried.**

**Commissioner Washington made a motion to accept the amended sub-lease Agreement for the Greene County Improvement Association as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Taylor. Motion carried.**

- 11) **Commissioner Comments-Commissioner Wilkes thanked everyone for their Support in helping her run for Queen at the York Rites Convention of North Carolina. She was first runner-up.**
11. **There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Washington to adjourn. Motion carried.**

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**Mayor**

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**Clerk**

