

**MINUTES**

Rutherford College Town Council Meeting

January 3, 2011

6:30 PM

Track 27, CF 2

**CALL TO ORDER/** Mayor Jimmy O. Huffman

(All Council present; Council Satterwhite & Attorney Ayers were 10 minutes late)

**INVOCATION/** Pastor Sally Queen (Abernethy Memorial United Methodist)

**MINUTES/** Council Gary McClure moved to table the approval until the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting to allow the Council time to review the minutes. Vote was unanimous among the Council present.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS/** No comments were issued at this time.

**PLANNING BOARD REPORT/** Planner Johnny Wear stated that the Planning Board did not meet last month and that there was no official business to discuss. He further stated that he is still waiting for a reply regarding the Town's storm water permit. Mr. Wear also stated that Walgreens has requested a sign permit for the College Discount location and a possible bakery entrepreneur has shown interest in the vacant building located on Fashion Avenue which used to be Hoyle's Wholesale.

Council Abernethy stated that the vacant convenience store located off of interstate is looking bad once again. Mr. Wear stated that he would write a letter asking them to clean the property up.

Mr. Wear further asked the Council how they would like to proceed with the bid process of tearing down the old town hall. Council McClure moved to have all the utilities disconnected in the old town hall and to have the needed utilities transferred to the concession area located at the back of the building. Vote was unanimous. Council Wallrichs further moved to schedule a workshop after all utilities have been transferred or disconnected as needed to discuss any further issues regarding the demolition of the old town hall building. Vote was unanimous.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT/** Mrs. Donnelly stated that the Heating/Air Unit was currently being worked on and should be finished soon. They are currently waiting for a few needed parts.

Mrs. Donnelly also stated that she had talked with Misti Humphries, BDI, and was informed that Jobst Incorporated would like to invite the Council and Staff to a luncheon to introduce their new administrative personnel. The Council agreed that January 26<sup>th</sup> at noon would be an appropriate date and time.

Mrs. Donnelly informed the Council that a written plan regarding the new federal street sign reflectivity requirements has to be in place by Jan 2012; all regulatory, warning, and guide signs must meet reflectivity requirements by Jan 2015; and all street signs must meet the requirements by January 2018. Council Satterwhite moved to have Mark Teague finalize the written plan for street sign reflectivity which reflects the federal requirements, vote unanimous. Council McClure further moved to have all the stop signs in town to come into compliance with the federal regulations before the 2012 year. Vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Donnelly stated that Jim Worrell (Hilltop St.) complained that there is no speed limit sign at the bottom of Hilltop Street and that there is a large amount of speeding taking place. Deputy Cecil Carson stated that he would check on this as well as have this area patrolled more often. Deputy Carson also stated that he would see about getting the portable digital speed radar to place on Hilltop Street to deter individuals from speeding. He stated that he was not sure if the radar would record the average speed or not, but would check.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. **Auditor's Contract/** Mrs. Donnelly stated that the auditor's contract is the same as last year with the exception of the hourly fee which went from \$82.00 to \$83.50. Council Wallrichs moved to accept the auditor's (Eric Bowman, CPA) contract. Vote was unanimous.
- B. **Town Maintenance/** Council Icard moved to extend Jensen Landscaping's contract till the end of the first quarter of the year (March). This will enable the Council to work on a proper bid proposal for the town maintenance. Vote was unanimous.
- C. **\$250,000 Revolving Loan/ Burke County/** Council Bill Satterwhite spoke to the Council on behalf of the Revolving Loan Board funded by Golden Leaf Foundation and administered by VEDIC. Council Satterwhite stated that BDI (Burke Development Incorporated) put in an application to Golden Leaf for a \$250,000 revolving loan to be used for new and existing businesses in Burke County. Golden Leaf awarded BDI the revolving loan, but since BDI did not have the proper resources to administer the loan program then Golden Leaf suggested VEDIC administer it with a few regulations. First, the revolving loan is to be available for all communities in Burke County, with representatives throughout the County being present on the board. Secondly, the funds are not to be merged in any way with the VEDIC program. Council Satterwhite further mentioned that he was appointed by the Town Council to serve on the BDI board, and they in turn ask him to serve on the VEDIC board. He also stated that the Loan Committee which consists of a wide variety of individuals throughout Burke County, will make the decisions regarding who gets a loan and what the restrictions are on that loan. Council Satterwhite stated that any new business in Burke County will benefit the municipalities because of the sales tax generated. He further stated that this is a self-sustaining, continuing program, that's main objective is to create jobs in Burke County.
- D. **Potholes/ Adams/Windsor St./** The Clerk explained that there have been complaints about potholes located on Adams St. and Windsor St. Council Jensen stated that there was also a pothole located on Carnegie St. that needed to be tended to. Mrs. Donnelly stated that the paving crew would be coming to repair the culvert in Lejune Estates as well as the pavement at Speedway Café which happened a couple weeks ago due to a water line break. Would it be okay to have them fix the other potholes at that time? Council McClure moved to have all the needed repairs done as soon as the weather permits. The above mentioned roads are to be repaired by resurfacing a large area where the roads are damaged. Vote was unanimous.

#### **COMMENTS/OTHER**

1. The Clerk stated that the Burke County Schools Superintendent and the requested members of the School Board have agreed to meet with the Town Council on January 24<sup>th</sup> in a workshop to discuss the future of Rutherford College Elementary School. Council Icard moved to schedule a

workshop on January 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. Public is invited. Vote was unanimous. The Clerk is to call the elementary school and get attendance information as well as achievement that the school has had in the past.

2. Council Icard thanked the Clerk for her hard work in hosting the “Christmas in the Park”/ Parade, and the Council’s Christmas Dinner.
3. Council Gary McClure informed the Council that during the last Western Piedmont Policy Board Meeting, he learned that State has help available for individuals whom are having difficulties paying their mortgage payments due to a loss of income. He stated that individuals from this area could receive up to \$36,000. He further stated that information would be available at Town Hall for anyone who would like to know more.
4. Council Satterwhite moved to hold a mid-year Budget Workshop at our Auditor’s earliest convenience. Vote was unanimous. Mrs. Donnelly is to inform the Council of a date and time once she has discussed this with the Town Auditor.

**ADJOURN/** Mayor Huffman adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jessica S. Bargsley  
Town Clerk

Approved:

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Mayor Jimmy O. Huffman, Sr.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_