

Council:

Mayor – Toby P. Bradberry

Post 1 – Eric Carlson

Post 2 – Jason Presley

Post 3 – Ann Evans

Post 4 – Paul Dotterweich

Post 5 – Violet Dawe

Town of North High Shoals

Small Town, Big Heart

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DRAFT MINUTES
TOWN OF NORTH HIGH SHOALS, GEORGIA
COUNCIL MEETING
July 15, 2019

Council Present: Toby P. Bradberry Ann Evans Violet Dawe
Eric Carlson

Visitors: LaRuchala Murphy, OCAF Julia Fechter, Oconee Enterprise
Laura Wilson

Mayor Bradberry declared a quorum and began the regular meeting. Mayor Bradberry asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda, and suggested that, although she wasn't currently present, potential visitor LaRuchala Murphy of Oconee County Arts Foundation be moved to the top of the agenda should she arrive. Council Member Evans made the motion to accept the agenda with that single potential change, and Council Member Dawe seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Council next reviewed the Financial Statement for the previous month. Council Member Carlson inquired as to how funds from the 2009 SPLOST account, which had been almost completely spent, were identified – i.e, had amounts been earmarked for specific projects as is the case with funds in the 2015 SPLOST account. Mayor Bradberry indicated that this would need to be researched, along with how best to reconcile the remaining funds in the 2015 account so that all spending was appropriately identified and transferred legally between accounts as necessary. It was also noted that the date at the top of the Statement needed to be updated to "June." Council Member Carlson made the motion to accept the Financial Statement with that single edit. Council Member Evans seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously.

Council next reviewed Minutes from the June meeting. Council Member Carlson pointed out that his name was misspelled in numerous places. In reference to the issue of Council having approved a building permit after construction had been completed, Council Member Dawe raised the issue of potential liability. It was agreed that this circumvention of the established process should be a rare exception going forward. Council Member Evans made a motion to accept the Minutes of the June meeting with the correction of the spelling of Council Member Carlson's name. Council Member Dawe seconded the motion, and the motion was passed unanimously.

Item 1. Building Security

Mayor Bradberry presented an estimate from Cloud Communications and Security for installation and monitor of a security system at the Community Center and Town Hall, as well as for installing and enabling remote locking and access to both the building and the outdoor-accessible restroom. As Council had questions, a phone call was made to business owner John, who the fielded those questions, some of which concerned recurring fees and what happens when

the power goes out. At the conclusion of the call, Council Member Evans made the motion of approval the work outlined in the proposal/estimate. Council Member Dawe seconded that motion, and the motion was passed unanimously.

Item 2. OCAF Visitor

The Council next heard from new OCAF Director LaRuchala Murphy, who introduced herself, explained her vision for OCAF, and discussed with Council Members possibilities for cooperation between OCAF and the Town.

Item 3. Appliances at CC&TH

Council Member Carlson updated Council regarding plans for purchasing appliances for the Community Center and Town Hall. The plan calls for purchasing a standing refrigerator, standing freezer, and dish washer, all with a stainless steel finish. A warming oven will come later. Council Member Evans indicated that she would purchase a microwave oven using her military discount. Mayor Bradberry reminded everyone that the tax-exempt status of the Town should be used with all purchases when possible and reasonable.

Item 4. Landscaping at CC&TH

Council Member Dawe indicated that, although it's likely the wrong to do any actual planting, she will solicit a landscaping plan for the Community Center and Town Hall.

Council Member Evans reported that Georgia Landscapes Inc. had finished their work on the ball field and going forward would provide maintenance only unless otherwise directed. It was also noted that, although they're not used, there are sprinkler heads located on either side of the ball field.

Mayor Bradberry noted that he had solicited Garrett Paving for an estimate for placing concrete curbing at the Community Center and Town Hall but had not yet heard back.

Council also discussed the need to provide paved access from the new handicap parking spaces to the park.

Item 5. Furnishing for CC&TH

Mayor Bradberry stated that he was waiting on a proposal from McGarity's, located in Gainesville, Georgia, for furnishing the Community Center and Town Hall.

Council next discussed the desired size and use of the television to be located on the wall behind the Council table. By consensus, it was agreed that an 85" television would suffice. Council Member Pressley, although not present, has indicated a desire to manage this purchase.

Mayor Bradberry noted that he had Hobby Lobby frame a piece of art from local (and recently deceased) artist Jim Porter. Options for having future framing work done by someone local were discussed.

The need for window and door treatments was also discussed.

Item 6. Signage for CC&TH

Mayor Bradberry indicated that, unless someone could offer an alternative recommendation, he would solicit Sign Brothers for signage at the Community Center and Town Hall.

Item 7. Party to Christen CC&TH

Council discussed options for the party to introduce the Community Center and Town Hall, including having one or more food trucks present and identifying local musicians to perform.

Item 8. Introducing New Town Clerk

Newly hired Town Clerk Laura Wilson introduced herself to Council Members. It was noted that Council would need to approve a resolution to appoint Laura as Town Clerk, Town Treasurer, and Election Official at some point in the near future.

Item 9. Permits

Permit applications were considered and approved as follows:

Electrical Permit for a storage building located at ADDRESS. Council Member Evans made the motion to approve the permit, Council Member Carlson seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously.

Building Permit for a barn located at ADDRESS. Council Member Carlson made the motion to approve the permit, Council Member Evans seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously.

Item 10. Millage Rate

Mayor Bradberry recommended that the Town roll back the current Millage Rate from 1.287 to 1.227, thereby keeping the current tax rate at its present position (i.e, no tax increase). The consensus agreed, but it was decided to table the discussion to give Council Members time to consider the issue.

Item 11. Town Seal

Council reviewed two options for a new Town Seal. Opinions were noted, and Mayor Bradberry committed to returning to the designer with that input.

Mayor's update:

-Mayor Bradberry informed Council that GADOT had elected to go with Plan A with regard to the bridge spanning the Appalachian river at North High Shoals, which will result in State Route 186 being completely closed for 15-18 months. Construction is expected to comment in 2022.

-Mayor Bradberry informed Council of the desire of county Election Officials to move the polling location for the High Shoals area from the fire station on Hillsboro Road to the Community Center and Town Hall. Consensus was that would be acceptable.

There was no other business, and Council Member Carlson made the motion to adjourn. Council Member Evans made the second, and the vote was unanimous.

Toby Bradberry, Mayor