

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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APPROVED MINUTES
TOWN OF NORTH HIGH SHOALS, GEORGIA
COUNCIL MEETING
August 19, 2019

Council Present: Ann Evans Violet Dawe Eric Carlson Jason Presley

Visitors: Mike Hunsinger, candidate for probate judge
David Lawrence, past council member
John Daniell, citizen

In the absence of the Mayor, Toby P. Bradberry, Mayor pro tem Ann Evans declared a quorum and began the meeting at 7:32pm. Before business was start Mayor pro tem Evans asked for a moment of silence in honor of Mayor Bradberry and his family.

Mayor pro tem Evans welcomed guest David Lawrence to the meeting. She recognized him as a former council member and thanked him for his service. She also welcome guest Mike Hunsinger and asked both guests if they would like to be added to the agenda. Mike Hunsinger declined. David Lawrence introduced the idea of council members being paid on a per diem basis. He acknowledged more research had to be done on what council members would be allowed to accept and what nearby municipalities are compensated. Lawrence also mentioned the town's attorney would need to be consulted. He would like to be added to the agenda for a future meeting to present his research to council. Mayor pro tem Ann Evans suggested adding him to the agenda for September. Council Member Dawe cautioned Lawrence that council would need to be aware of how much the New Town Hall is going to cost before deciding on any financial compensation for council members.

Mayor pro tem Ann Evans finalized the agenda, noting that the new visitor John Daniell did not have anything to add to the agenda as presented. Council Member Carlson made a motion to accept the agenda as presented, Council Member Dawe seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor pro tem Ann Evans called for the presentation of the Draft Minutes from the previous meeting, July 15th. Council Member Dawe noted the word time was missing from the first line of Item 4, two addresses were missing from Item 9, and that "Appalachee" was misspelled in the Mayor's update. Council Member Carlson made the motion to accept the minutes with the corrections listed above. Council Member Dawe seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Council next reviewed the Financial Statement from the previous month. Council Member Carlson noted the new, larger format for the Financial Statement and Clerk Wilson explained the new format was the result of council's wish to compare current spending with last year's spending in an effort to determine how much the New Town Hall will cost to operate. Council Member Dawe asked for clarification as to what the numbers in red meant on the revenue sheet and Clerk Wilson confirmed it meant that the town had yet to receive that money. Council Member Carlson pointed out that the fiscal year had just begun and that was the reason revenue looked low. Council Member Carlson asked about the difference between expense line Property Maintenance NTH and Lawn, Park. Clerk Wilson informed Council the

breakdown matched the division in the bill. One section is for the park and the other is for the land around the New Town Hall. Council Member Dawe confirmed that the New Town Hall does not need gas and discussion followed about turning gas off at the Old Town Hall to save money. It was noted this should be done for next season. Council Member Dawe inquired about the audit and indicated the former town clerk would be willing to assist if needed. Council Member Carlson made the motion to accept the financial statement. Council Member Dawe seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Item 1: Town Seal

Council members and guests reviewed the latest proposals of the town seal. Council Member Carlson held each one of the them up. Council Member Dawe made a motion to accept the sepia toned circle version as the town seal. Council Member Carlson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Item 2: Park General Update

Council members had a general discussion about the park. Council Member Dawe noted that many people appeared to be using the park even in the extreme heat. Mayor pro tem Evans noted that we might need to get some more mulch and that the ballpark looked good. Council Member Dawe said people enjoyed the shade and that she would like to avoid cutting down any more trees. This comment lead to a discussion about the hiking trail. Council Member Carlson indicated he would look at the hiking trails. He commented that certain parts of the fit trail were becoming overgrown. Council Member Dawe suggested a citizen might be willing to take on cleaning up the fit trail area. Mayor pro tem Evans suggested asking Bulter Landscaping to do when they come out next.

Item 3: Community Center/Town Hall Update

Plumbing Issues—Mayor pro tem Evans indicated that the cleaning lady Tina had told her about the lack of water pressure in the women’s toilet. Clerk Wilson informed council that when the plumber came out the first time, he mistakenly replaced the part in the men’s toilet that was fully functioning. Currently, the town is waiting on the part for the women’s toilet to come in. It was not the same as the part for the men’s toilet, so it had to be ordered. Clerk Wilson also explained the new line for the icemaker had been installed, but the quote to repair the drywall in the kitchen for the new water line had not come in yet. Clerk Wilson confirmed the plumber had not been paid. Council Member Dawe inquired about the filter in the water dispenser—whether it was something that needed to be cleaned or replaced. Clerk Wilson indicated she believed it was one that needed to be replaced and an indicator light would come on when it was time to change the filter. Council Member Carlson wanted to know if the dishwasher had been hooked up because the town paid for it to be installed. As the dishwasher has not been hooked up, he is going to follow up with Athens Refrigeration. A discussion of the outdoor restroom followed, and Clerk Wilson noted it was getting plenty of use. Mayor pro tem Evans asked what kind of signage is at that bathroom. Clerk Wilson relayed to council that there is no lock on the inside of the door and that the lock Mayor Bradberry thought was going to work, was in fact not going to work. Council members discussed what type of lock might be suitable. May pro tem Evans is going to contact Lee Moody to get his opinion. Council Member Dawe was worried children might lock themselves in the restroom. Visitor and former council member David Lawrence volunteered at this time to go outside and look at the door.

Security System & Electronic Doors—Clerk Wilson advised council that they had a memo regarding the new system in their meeting packets. She called attention to the bottom of the memo for things council might want to consider. A discussion of the electronic locks followed. Council Member Presley recommended everyone have their own code for the system. Clerk Wilson suggested having a training session for council members on the new system either as a group or individually. Mayor pro tem Evans

confirmed that council wanted everyone to have either own code including Tina. Council Member Dawe inquired what the term zone meant, and Clerk Wilson replied that the term referred to a window, door, or area of motion. Council Member Presley wanted to know if we had the ability to assign individuals their own code. Clerk Wilson confirmed we have this capability and the badges could be programmed to work only for a certain period of time after which they would become automatically disabled. Council Member Dawe asked for confirmation on the hours of the outside restroom and Clerk Wilson stated that they were currently set to match the park hours of dawn to dusk. Council Member Presley indicated there should be sign regarding the hours of the outdoor restroom.

Council members moved on to a discussion of the porta potty at the Old Town Hall. Mayor pro tem Evans explained that Mayor Bradberry wanted to keep that unit there incase the Old Town Hall is rented. Mayor pro tem Evans recommended removing it to save money. Council Member Dawe wanted to know how much it cost monthly. Clerk Wilson informed council it cost \$125 per month. Mayor pro tem Evans said she contacted the county and it was her understanding that the town did not need to provide the porta potty even if the Old Town Hall was rented. It was decided the porta potty could be offered as part of the rental if/when the Old Town Hall was rented. Mayor pro tem Evans asked Clerk Wilson to call and have it removed.

At this time discussion returned to the outdoor restroom door lock. Former Council Member Lawrence confirmed that there is no easy solution for an interior lock. He suggested maybe posting a sign instead. Council Member Presley inquired about a second deadbolt or a safety lock that automatically open when turned. Mayor pro tem Evans will ask Lee Moody about an appropriate lock and possibly talk to a locksmith.

Appliances—Council Member Carlson has not followed up with the oven yet, but he will do it before next meeting. Council Member Dawe inquired about the top for the movable island and Mayor pro tem Evans reminded everyone that they had not decided what top would be appropriate for it. Council Member Carlson volunteered to research it.

Council moved on to a discussion of the TV including prices, sizes, and features. Council Member Presley presented different options for the TV and mentioned the upcoming Labor Day holiday would be a good time purchase it. He indicated he would be willing to put something on hold and let council know so they could see it before he purchased it. Council Member Presley said if the town purchased the TV from Best Buy he thought they could hang for approximately \$100. Discussion followed about purchasing accessories for the TV including DVD player, Blu-ray player, HDMI hookups, 4K, or a possibly gaming system instead of a DVD player. Council Member Presley inquired about the budget for the TV and Mayor pro tem said \$3,000 and Council Member Dawe said \$3500 to include accessories. Discussion continued about how long the TV should last, purchasing a warranty, a mount for the TV, cable/internet TV, and adding an outlet for the TV.

Landscaping— Council Member Dawe met with landscape architect Jane Bath who has agreed to create a landscape plan for the Community Center/New Town Hall. In leu of payment, Bath requested the town invest in good quality plants. She informed Council Member Dawe that she would create a basic plan with low maintenance plants, avoiding high maintenance items like beds. As soon as Council Member Dawe gives her a printout of the layout of the grounds, she will get to work. Discussion moved on to an appropriate location for the flagpole. Mayor pro tem reminded council the flagpole should be seen from the ballpark. Placement of the pole in front of the building was discussed. Council Member Dawe wanted to if cables had been put in place for lighting the flag. Mayor pro tem indicated she thought the

cables were in place. Clerk Wilson commented people are confused about how to park in the lot which prompted a discussion about laying the concrete bumpers in the lot. Mayor pro tem Evans is going to check with Garrett Paving about placing the bumpers.

Furnishings/Decorating—Council Member Presley found an executive table with six chairs for free that he could bring to the New Town Hall that could be used in meantime. Council members then discussed the proposed furniture plan from McGarity's included what pieces would be used in the main meeting room and the conference room. Mayor pro tem Evans mentioned the table could be put in the storage room with the chairs when it was not being used. Council Member Carlson stated they were waiting on a revised plan from McGarity before moving forward.

Signage—Clerk Wilson provided an update to Council about the proposal from Sign Brothers regarding signage for the New Town Hall that included signs for the front double doors, the outdoor restroom, a sign identifying the front the building, and a lit sign out by the front of road similar to what the civic center has. Clerk Wilson also reminded Council that because they were a government entity, that they were not the same sign restrictions as the county. Discussion followed about the merits of a lit sign out front. Council Member Dawe commented that she thought a lit sign would be too much money. Mayor pro tem Evans concluded that Council would wait for the proposal from Sign Brothers before taking any action.

Garbage Pick Up—Mayor pro tem Evans opened the discussion by stating the Council was considering getting curbside for the Community Center/New Town Hall. Former Council Member David Lawrence stated that even though it is quite hot out, people are still using the park and not always taking away their trash as instructed. He has removed the trash once and it is time to do it again. Lawrence is waiting to get paid until he takes the trash again. It takes him about 30-45 minutes to dump the trash at the school. He explained the school is fine with the current situation being that the school kids are allowed to come use the park with out reserving it for minor things in exchange for a school employee being allowed to dump the trash from the park in the school dumpsters. Lawrence indicated once the Community Center/New Town Hall is really being used, he no longer wants to dispose of the trash. Council Member Dawe wanted to know if we should wait until the building is fully open to get trash service. Mayor pro tem Evans said we should get trash service now because it is only \$60 per month. She is willing to call curbside to verify prices for the residential size can. Council Member Carlson clarified that the price was likely for three months, not each month. Mayor pro tem Evans has spoken to the company a couple of times and she said the company would come get the trash. Discussion followed about the positives and negatives of getting a small dumpster instead of a residential trash can. Recycling would also be included with the service. David Lawrence reminded Council they would still need a trash can in the park. Council Member Presley wondered if we could get two trash cans and Mayor pro tem Evans said she would investigate.

Facility Rental—Mayor pro tem Evans presented facility rentals from Bishop, Bogart, and Statham. Discussion followed about an appropriate price for the rental, deposits, and what would be included in the contract. Mayor pro tem reminded council that rentals would be limited to people of the town for the first year until. Clerk Wilson informed council that several people are interest in the renting the space and that they are specifically inquiring about when it would be available and how much it would cost. Council Member Dawe wants to hold off on renting the space until after the open house. Discussion followed about how much to charge for the rental and what to put in the rental contract. In lei of a work session, Council decided to review the rental contracts for Bogart, Bishop, and Statham on their own in preparation for further discussion at the September meeting. Clerk Wilson said the door to

the maintenance closet does not have a lock on it and Council agreed the door should be changed to have a lock because it is in the party rental area.

Party—Council decided the party would be delayed until the furniture arrived.

New Business

Mileage Rate FY2020—Council Member Carlson recapped council's previous discussions about rolling back the mileage rate due to the budget surplus from last fiscal year. Mayor pro tem Evans read the previous month's minutes in which Mayor Bradberry recommended that the town rollback the current mileage rate from 1.287 to 1.227 thereby keeping the current tax rate at its present position. No tax increase. Council Member Dawe stated there was a budget surplus from last year, but that they did not know exactly how much the new building would cost. She reminded council about the possibility of adding solar after the first year the building was operational. Council Member Carlson made a motion to reduce the mileage rate from 1.287 to 1.227. Council Member Presley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor's Update

Storage—Mayor pro tem Evans informed council that the town's account with Watkinsville storage had been closed and everything was now stored at the Old Town Hall.

Erosion Control Old Town Hall—Council Member Dawe believes the area the Mayor is referring to is across the street from the Old Town Hall in front of the Small's house. She thinks a dyke will have to be built but the town needed to wait until the county maintenance crew could look at it.

Speed Control Device Maintenance—Mayor pro tem Evans was unsure if Mayor Bradberry meant the speed humps or the electronic devices. Council Member Dawe thinks it is about the speed hump on Plantation Rd that has been damaged due to the heat and use. She said the speed sign on Rays Church Road is working along with the sign on Hillsboro Rd. Council Member Dawe is going to check and see if there is a sign on Elder Rd. She also informed Council that community members on Rays Church Road are very concern about speed and something may have to be done.

Council Member Presley inquired about getting a game system for approximately \$150 over a DVD or Blu-ray player for approximately \$50-60. He said that we would not need a projector for the TV because the game system would take the place of it. He wanted to know how the TV would be mounted, what type of mount. A discussion followed about TV placement, mount types, and getting a new outlet on the wall for the cords.

There was no other business. Council Member Carlson made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Presley seconded and the vote was unanimous. The meeting closed at 8:57pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Wilson
Town Clerk
North High Shoals