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MAYOR TOBY P. BRADBERRY

POST 1: ERIC CARLSON

POST 2: JASON PRESLEY

POST 3: ANN EVANS

POST 4: HILDA KURTZ

POST 5: VIOLET DAWE

**APPROVED MINUTES  
TOWN OF NORTH HIGH SHOALS, GEORGIA  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
November 18, 2019**

Council Present: Toby Bradberry, Ann Evans, Violet Dawe, Eric Carlson

Council Absent: Jason Presley

Visitors: Mike Hunsinger, candidate for probate judge

Call to Order

Greetings and Declaration of Quorum

- Mayor Bradberry called the meeting to order at 7:47pm and declared a quorum.

Agenda Setting

- Council Member Evans made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Carlson and it passed with no objections.

Presentation of Draft Minutes from Previous Meeting

- Clerk Wilson reminded Council that there were two sets of minutes to approved—the minutes from the regular meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup> and the special called meeting on October 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - While reviewing the minutes Mayor Bradberry asked when Butler would begin landscaping and Clerk Wilson replied they would begin next week on the 25<sup>th</sup>.
- While reviewing the minutes, Council Member Dawe pointed out in the second to last paragraph on page two, the words 'for' and 'full' needed to be deleted. She also pointed out several typos on page four under Item 8.
- Mayor Bradberry asked that on the first page under the review of the minutes from September, Item 15 be clarified to say that crews were trimming trees and bushes around town. The work did not specifically involve powerlines.
  - At this time, Mayor Bradberry informed Council that he got some feedback from a citizen who was interested in renting the Community Center. The citizen stated she didn't think the town was charging enough. A brief discussion followed about the cost to rent the Community Center, cleaning fees, and who was eligible to rent the facility.
  - Mayor Bradberry also informed the Council that the Christmas tree stored in the basement of the Old Town Hall needed to be replaced. He directed Clerk Wilson to find a new one for this holiday season.
- Council Member Carlson made a motion to accept the minutes (from October 21<sup>st</sup>) with the stated corrections. Council Member Dawe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- Mayor Bradberry asked Clerk Wilson if the Town had mailed Butler a check yet. Clerk Wilson replied yes. Council Member Dawe asked for clarification on that and Mayor Bradberry told her the Town sent Butler a check for 50% of the bid to cover upfront costs like purchasing plants and materials.
- Council Member Carlson made a motion to accept the minutes from the special called minutes. Council Member Dawe seconded the motion and it passed with no objections.

#### Presentation of Financial Statement

- Clerk Wilson informed Council that the highlighted areas on the financial statement were areas that the town was going to go over budget. She explained the cost of the full audit would cause the Other Professional Services line item to go over budget. Council Member Dawe asked what else has come out of that line item. Clerk Wilson replied the design of the letterhead among other things.
- Mayor Bradberry asked how much the average electric bill was for the Community Center. Clerk Wilson replied currently about \$350 per month. Council Member asked about ways to cut the bill down. Discussion followed about ways to save on the electric bill and it was decided to investigate programming the thermostat.
- Clerk Wilson pointed out that a large amount of money came in from property taxes and a couple of building permits.
- Council Member Evans made a motion to accept the financial statement. Council Member Dawe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### Citizen Comments on Non-agenda Items

- Visitor Mike Hunsinger introduced himself to Council again stating he was a candidate for probate judge in the upcoming May election. He gave Council a brief background on himself and complimented them on the Community Center. Council Member Dawe suggested that once he was elected, he could sponsor information sessions on probate for the community. Hunsinger indicated he was interested in facilitating those kinds of sessions.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **Item 1—Landscaping and Drywall Repair at the Community Center**

Mayor Bradberry informed Council that he thought the drywall repair went well. He told Council he would paint over the spots since the Town had leftover paint. Council Member Carlson asked what spots in the building were fixed and Mayor Bradberry replied a few holes around the building a large spot in the kitchen from moving the water line.

Mayor Bradberry reminded Council that the landscaping would start on the November 25<sup>th</sup>. Clerk Wilson informed Council that she gave Butler permission to bring a porta-potty for the workers. Mayor Bradberry asked if the Town was supposed to supply the porta-potty and Clerk Wilson clarified that Butler was just asking permission to bring it on site. She also stated that Officer Dudley agreed to keep an eye on any equipment they had to leave overnight. Council Member Carlson asked if they were doing the irrigation and Clerk Wilson responded yes. Mayor Bradberry then inquired if curbing was included in the bid from Butler and Clerk Wilson answered no. Discussion followed about what typing of curbing should be added after the landscaping was installed. Mayor Bradberry suggested railroad ties and perhaps getting Lee Moody to install them. Council decided to wait until after everything was installed to choose curbing. Mayor Bradberry also reminded Council that they needed to get a sidewalk paved from the handicapped parking down to the park. Council Member Dawe confirmed that the current handicapped parking

was being removed. Council Member Carlson asked when the landscaping would be finished, and Clerk Wilson replied that Butler believes they will be finished by December 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Item 2—Erosion on Jefferson Rd (in front of the Old Town Hall/Little’s Property)**

Mayor Bradberry informed Council that they Little’s property is currently in transition. Council Member Dawe stated that it has been sold to the Wrights. Mayor Bradberry said he hasn’t mentioned the project to the new owners because it is not going to happen until the new year and he wants to give them time to settle in.

#### **Item 3—Sign Brothers—signage for the Community Center**

Mayor Bradberry opened discussion on the signs by asking if everyone has had enough time to look over the proposal. Council Member Evans remarked she like the electronic sign. Discussion about the sign proposal followed. Topics debated included if the electronic sign could be on a timer, how much electricity the sign used, adjusting the ‘RESTROOM’ sign, and adding some more signage to doors.

- Council Member Evans asked about painting the cement island in the center of the parking lot. Mayor Bradberry wondered if anyone remembered what color Jane Bath recommended. Clerk Wilson stated she thought black or red. Mayor Bradberry agreed that black would probably look the best but was not the safest. Council Member Carlson said the island was especially dangerous at dusk. Council Member Evans suggested yellow.

Council Member Evans asked if the \$26,000 on the proposal from Sign Brothers would cover everything. Mayor Bradberry stated that the price was close to accurate. He explained it might go up a few hundred dollars with the extra door signs. Council Member Dawe asked if anyone had spoken to the neighbors. Mayor Bradberry acknowledged he had not. Council Member Dawe stated she thought that the neighbors should be informed. Discussion followed about how often to turn the sign on.

Council Member Carlson made a motion to accept items six through ten on the Sign Brothers proposal with the stipulation of making the ‘RESTROOM’ sign smaller. Council Member Evans seconded the motion and it passed with no objections. Council Member Carlson made a motion to accept items one through five on the Sign Brothers proposal with the stipulations that Council can turn the electronic sign on and off as needed and that the durability/warranty information is agreeable. Council Member Evans seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### **Item 4—Christmas Lights on Elder Rd**

Mayor Bradberry explained the box outside contained the new lights we ordered and that there was a mixed up with the delivery address, so the lights were delivered to the Community Center. He asked if the new lights were going to go on Elder Rd and Council Member Dawe replied she hoped that was where they were going to go. She stated that Johnny Highfill was investigating the possibility but if not, there were two other poles in town the lights could go on. Mayor Bradberry relayed to Council that Georgia Power said that Christmas lights could only be added to poles that had streetlights on them; that the poles had to have a secondary power source. He said the Town is now investigating adding streetlights to those poles.

Clerk Wilson reminded Council that they needed to give Highfill a date to put up the lights. It was decided that any time starting next week would work. Council Member Dawe reminded Clerk Wilson to let Highfill know the new

lights are in so he could order any necessary parts. Mayor Bradberry stated since the Town was not paying Highfill for his services, the Town could cover any expenses he had.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Item 5—FY 2019 Audit**

Mayor Bradberry informed Council that because the Town spent over \$300,000 last year, a full audit was necessary. Therefore, it was going to be more expensive than budgeted for. Council Member Dawe asked if the same firm was going to do the audit and Mayor Bradberry said yes but next year the Town was looking to find someone new. He also stated the full audit was going to cost the Town about \$6,000.

### **Item 6—Mayor's Update**

New Tree for the Lobby—Mayor Bradberry stated the tree in the basement of the Old Town Hall is not in good enough shape for the Community Center so a new one is needed.

Christmas Parade—Mayor Bradberry informed everyone that the parade was December 14<sup>th</sup> and reminded Council to think of ideas on how to decorate the float. Discussion followed about ideas for the float. Council decided to ponder ideas over the weekend and email any possibilities. Council Member Dawe said she would ask Ron Phillips at Athens Seed if the Town could decorate the float in his parking lot.

Spot on Shadyfield Lane—Mayor Bradberry show Council some photos and a video of a section of Shadyfield Lane where water runoff has caused a large drop off between the paved road and the woods on the side of the road. He stated it would need some attention in the future.

Rental Request for the Community Center—A county resident is going to rent the pavilion for a party and asked if she could use the building in case of inclement weather. Council reaffirmed their decision to only rent the Community Center to residents of High Shoals. Mayor Bradberry said to remind her she could use the porch. The renter inquired about bringing an inflatable bouncy house. Council decided to verify with the Town's attorney to make sure the Town was covered or if a separate waiver would be needed.

Flagpole—Mayor Bradberry said it needed to be put in place by the open house on March 28, 2020. He stated we needed to begin the install process approximately two months before it was needed. Council Member Dawe reminded Mayor Bradberry that the Woodmen needed to be invited to the opening.

Camera—Mayor Bradberry stated the Town's video camera needed to be shipped back to the manufacturer for repairs. He explained it was under warranty and should be available for the meeting in December.

Mailer—Mayor Bradberry asked for ideas to include in the year end mailer to Town residents. Ideas mentioned included the new Community Center, a bridge update, landscape and butterfly garden, a thank you to Jane Bath, Save the Date for the Open House, suggestions for the time capsule, and renting the Community Center.

Art—Council Member Dawe suggested that the Community Center could serve as exhibit space for local artists. Mayor Bradberry reminded Council to look at the Facebook page for historic images of High Shoals. Council Member Dawe suggested created a slideshow or video to play on the TV during the open house. Mayor Bradberry and Council Member Carlson agreed it would be easy to do. Council Member Evans reminded Council that the Girl Scouts would like to help with the Open House.

Council Member Evans made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Carlson seconded the motion and it passed with no objection. The meeting ended at 9:07pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Wilson  
Clerk, North High Shoals