



260 HILLSBORO ROAD  
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HIGH SHOALS, GA 30645

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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

**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**TOWN OF NORTH HIGH SHOALS, GEORGIA**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**February 17, 2020**

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

Council Members Absent: Jason Presley

Visitors: Jimmy Williamson (running for sheriff), Carol Bennett (running for OC Board of Commissioner Chair), Mike Hunsinger (running for probate judge), Nan DeColaines (business license applicant)

Call to Order

Greetings and Declaration of Quorum

- Mayor Bradberry called the meeting to order at 7:31pm and declared a quorum.
- Agenda Setting
  - Mayor Bradberry wanted to add an update on the census, fallen trees, and a park clean up day to the agenda
  - Council Member Dawe wanted to add Shadyfield Lane road deterioration to the agenda
  - Council Member Kurtz made a motion to add the four items mentioned above to the agenda. Council Member Carlson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
  - Council Member Carlson made a motion to accept the revised agenda. Council Member Kurtz seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Presentation of Draft Minutes from January 20, 2020

- Council Member Dawe noted typos on pages one and two.
- Council Member Kurtz asked for clarification on the motion Council Member Carlson made to approve preliminary work on the Town Bridge Project. Clerk Wilson updated the minutes to read "preliminary research phase" on the Town Bridge Project.
- Council Member Evans made a motion to accept the minutes from the meeting on January 20, 2020 with the stated corrections. Council Member Dawe seconded the motion and it passed with no objections.

Mayor's Update

- Mayor Bradberry spoke to Steve Strickland and confirmed he is willing to continue to serve as a representative of the town to the Oconee Planning Commission. Mayor Bradberry also confirmed that Joe Reitman is still interested in serving as the town's attorney.
- The homeowners of 201 Hillsboro have decided to move so the building permit they applied for last month (approved by Council) has become void.

#### Presentation of Work Session Minutes from February 2, 2020

- Council Member Dawe made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Council Member Kurtz seconded the motion and it approved without objection.

#### Presentation of Financial Statement

- Clerk Wilson gave Council a brief overview of the financial statement highlighting revenue from rentals and franchise fees. She told Council that the town had gotten all the final bills for the utilities at the former Town Hall except for the AT&T bill.
- Council Member Dawe asked if all the bills had been paid for the building itself. Mayor Bradberry replied yes and this led to a discussion about how the money from 2015 SPLOST referendum was originally allocated.
- Council Member Carlson made a motion to accept the financial statement as stated. Council Member Dawe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### Citizen Comments on Non-agenda Items

- Visitor Carol Bennett introduced herself to the Council and explained she was running for the Oconee County Board of Commissioner Chair.
- Visitor Mike Hunsinger reintroduced himself to Council and explained he was running for Probate Judge in the next election to replace Judge Anglin.
- Visitor Jimmy Williamson introduced himself to Council and explained he was running for Sheriff of Oconee County.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **Item 1—Furniture for the Community Center**

Clerk Wilson informed Council that the furniture ordered for the Community Center is being delivered to McGarity's Business Product's warehouse in Gainesville and then it will be delivered to North High Shoals. Our representative at McGarity's is aware that the furniture is needed before March 28, 2020. Mayor Bradberry stated it might be possible for a partial delivery if everything is not delivered to McGarity's warehouse in time.

#### **Item 2—Historic Images to Print for the Community Center**

Council Member Dawe gave Council an update about working with Pam Crawford to acquire historic images and possibly create a scrapbook from the images. She also mentioned Printz Plus would reproduce the book Traditions: The Lovern Family for \$5 per copy. Council Member Dawe stated she was working with Council Member Kurtz to organize the historic images chosen at the February 2<sup>nd</sup> called meeting by theme—bridge, mill, people, etc and the next step was to go the framers (J. Coggins Frame Warehouse, 9 School St. Watkinsville, GA 30677).

#### **Item 3—Mailbox for the Community Center**

Council Member Evans presented several options for a mailbox for the Community Center. Discussion followed about an appropriate style of box, if the box should be lockable, and what size box is needed. Council Member Dawe suggested it might be nice to get a local craftsperson to build a mailbox and was going to research the possibility. Mayor Bradberry suggested reaching out to Jeff Thomas since he was a previous metal shop teacher.

#### **Item 4—Leaf Pick-up**

Clerk Wilson updated Council that Curbside is still working on picking up leaves in neighborhoods. They have been delayed by all the recent rain. Council Member Kurtz asked if there was a way to let people know when they were

coming. Clerk Wilson replied the crews pick up leaves as their schedule allows without any real way of knowing when they are going to visit specific streets.

#### **Item 5—Census**

Mayor Bradberry confirmed with Council that the census map for High Shoals was correct. Council Member Dawe assured Council that the map was correct and could be submitted.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Item 6—New Business Application—Dog Tales Training & Rescue**

Owner Nan Decolaines presented Council with description of her business, Dog Tales Training & Rescue. Her business partner is Adriana ? and is a certified dog trainer. The goal of business is to rescue and foster shelter dogs who would otherwise be euthanized. They work with area animal shelters and non-profits to provide training to staff members. The business also has a small kennel which is in High Shoals on Plantation Road.

Council Member Kurtz asked why they were applying for a business license now and what their business model was. Nan Decolaines replied they wanted a business license to formalize the business now that they had all their paperwork and bank account information straightened out. She affirmed Council Member Kurtz's summation of their business model as being in one part to rehabilitate dogs so they could be adopted and secondly to work with local shelters to train staff. Council Member Carlson asked if they then adopted the dogs. Nan Decolaines responded they keep the dogs for an average of two-four weeks and then transfer them to a foster who will then find someone to adopt the dogs.

Council Member Dawe asked what type of insurance they had since they were working on public property (Town Park). Nan Decolaines replied that Adriana had personal professional insurance. She also said they always maintained control of their dogs. Council Member Dawe repeated that she was specifically concerned about liability insurance should an incident occur on public property. Visitor Jimmy Williamson suggested getting additional liability coverage on their business insurance and Council Member Dawe agreed.

Mayor Bradberry asked if they had any problems with noise or complaints from the neighbors. Nan Decolaines acknowledged they were concerned about potential noise but so far had not had any issues. She stated if they had a dog with a barking problem, they would make the neighbors aware. She thinks because the dogs stay inside at night in an insulated, heated, and cooled environment that it is not a problem.

Council Member Evans made a motion to accept the business license for Dog Tales Training & Rescue. Council Member Carlson seconded the motion and it passed with no objections.

#### **Item 7—Community Yard Sale at the Town Park**

Council Member Evans was approached by Marla Snelling who lives on Shadyfield Lane about organizing a community yard sale at the Town Park. Council Member Dawe stated the Town had yard sales in the Town Park in the past and they worked out well. Mayor Bradberry asked about a timeline and Council Member Evans replied that Marla was interested in Spring. Council Member Dawe also reminded Council that previously the Town has had a dumpster in the park that people could put stuff in that could not be recycled or put in their trash. Council Member Kurtz asked if Marla was interested in running the yard sale and if she was qualified to do so. Council Member Evans

replied yes to both questions. Mayor Bradberry asked if they had any materials left from the previous yard sale. Council Member Dawe replied that Tina Laugh would be a good point of contact for that information since she helped with the previous yard sale. Discussion followed about charging people for table space at the yard sale and who would oversee the sale. Council Member Kurtz suggested making it an annual event and creating a checklist of what is expected.

#### **Item 8—Workday at the Town Park**

Mayor Bradberry stated that David Lawrence suggested a Park Workday on February 29, 2020. Council Member Dawe concurred that a workday was needed before the Open House. Mayor Bradberry explained some limbs on the trail needed trimming and one of the basketball goals was leaning. Mayor Bradberry stated they put a sign out front in the park advertising the cleanup. Council Member Dawe recommended putting some plants in the planters for the Open House. Visitor Jimmy Williamson suggested contacting the local beta clubs to get some volunteers. Mayor Bradberry stated Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup> would be the rain day. Council Member Kurtz made a motion to make Saturday February 29, 2020 from 9am-noon cleanup day for the Town Park and invite the local Beta club to help. Council Member Dawe seconded the motion and it passed with no objection.

#### **Item 9—Shadyfield Lane Erosion**

Council Member Dawe explained that school busses and other cars are tearing up Shadyfield Lane using it as turn around. Mayor Bradberry stated he planned to clean up the ditch alongside the road and reroute the water back into the woods to avoid creating a larger rut. Then he would take dirt and level the area that backs up to the road. Mayor Bradberry suggested we could get an engineer to look at the problem. Council Member Carlson suggested having Lee Moody look at it. Council Member Even advised contacting Oconee County School transportation to see if they had any recommendations and Council Member Kurtz agreed. Visitor Jimmy Williamson recommended contacting Brock Toole at 706-769-5130 for assistance.

#### **Item 10—Trees Falling into Roadways**

Mayor Bradberry brought up the situation of trees falling from private property onto roads and who is responsible for paying for the cost to remove the trees. Discussion followed about Georgia Tree law and who is responsible for taking care of trees. Clerk Wilson informed Council she had a call into Oconee County Roads Department to see what they do. She also recommended contacting our attorney to get his interpretation of the Georgia Tree Law. Council Member Kurtz asked Clerk Wilson to research the law specifically related to responsibility of homeowner associations. Mayor Bradberry restated that the Town would continue with their current policy as related to downed trees—essentially removing them as quickly and safely as possible. Council Member Dawe reminded Council that in the past, Oconee County took care of any trees that had fallen on through roads in town.

### **MAYOR'S UPDATE**

#### **Item 11—Storage Unit for the Community Center**

Mayor Bradberry informed Council that Lee Moody had cleared the area for the new storage unit and that he was waiting for a dry day to put out cement blocks and level the area. He reminded Council that the unit costs approximately \$3,600, it measures 16'x25', and that a ramp would be installed to access it.

**Item 12—Cleaning Signs Around Town**

Mayor Bradberry asked Council if they knew anyone interested in who would be interested in cleaning road signs throughout Town. Council Member Dawe asked what kind of chemicals would be used and Mayor Bradberry said it was a solution used to clean vinyl siding. Council Member Evans mentioned she knew someone who might be interested. Discussion followed about whether to pay someone one by hour, by sign, or a flat rate. Mayor Bradberry recommended two people working on it. Council Member Dawe suggested paying the person \$100.

**Item 13—Time Capsule**

Mayor Bradberry asked each Council Member to write a letter to be included in the time capsule. Discussion followed about what objects to include, who to invite to include objects, and what size box to bury the items in.

**Item 14—Installation of Flagpole**

Mayor Bradberry relayed to Council that Lee Moody's advice was to contact an engineer about installing the pole. Clerk Wilson clarified that instructions on the pole itself recommend contacting an engineer. Mayor Bradberry asked Council for input on ideas of where to put the pole. He explained the original placement for the flagpole now has a tree there. The second location idea is off the front left corner of the building. The idea of moving the flagpole was so that the flag could be lighted at night. Council Member Dawe suggested leaving the current flagpole up for future uses such as a Maypole celebration instead of spending money to take it down.

Council Member Carlson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Kurtz seconded the motion and it passed without objection. The meeting ended at approximately 9:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Wilson  
Clerk, North High Shoals