



260 HILLSBORO ROAD
PO BOX 129
HIGH SHOALS, GA 30645

WWW.NORTHHIGHSHOALS.ORG

MAYOR TOBY P. BRADBERRY

POST 1: ERIC CARLSON

POST 2: JASON PRESLEY

POST 3: ANN EVANS

POST 4: HILDA KURTZ

POST 5: VIOLET DAWE

September 20, 2021

Regular Council Meeting 7:30pm

DRAFT Minutes

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Acting Mayor Eric Carlson

Members present: Ann Evans, Hilda Kurtz, Violet Dawe; via video conference, Jason Pressley

Members absent: None.

Guests present: Dr. Stephen Goad, Fred Johnson, Jean Enns, Ellen Goad, Jared Strickland, Wanda Moody, John & Tina Lauth, Meagan Cundiff. Joining via teleconference: Morgan Wheeler, Town Inspector. Ryan Frazier, Ledcor/ViaSat representative, Eric Wright

Greetings and Declaration of Quorum: With all members present, a quorum was declared.

Agenda Setting: The following items were moved forward to future meetings:

Short Term Rental Ordinance- Moved to Feb 2022

Livestock Ordinance- Moved to Feb 2022

Signage Proposal- Moved to next month

Parking Lot Lighting- Moved to next month

Presentation of Draft Minutes from Previous Meeting:

Council member Evans made a motion to accept the minutes of August 16, 2021, with the following changes:

Include names of Council members present and absent.

Include names of visitors and guests in attendance.

Remove one statement.

Correct "millage rate 'roll' back" to "millage rate 'rolled' back".

Note that Mr. Fowler is the Town Landscaper.

Council member seconded the motion. Unanimously approved

Presentation of Draft Minutes from Work meeting 8/28/21

Council member Kurtz made a motion to accept the minutes of the work meeting with the following changes:

Include names of Council members present and absent

Under GA Cities Week, include "participation in GA Cities Week was considered"

Council member Dawe seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Presentation of Financial Statement:

Clerk Sue Bishop stated that the Town had received \$75,584.60 in revenue from ARPA-NEU grant.

Council expressed gratitude for inclusion of SPLOST detail.

Council member Dawe made a motion to accept the Financial Statement as presented. Council member Kurtz seconded. Unanimously approved

Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Item:

Dr. Stephen Goad addressed the Council regarding his willingness and qualifications for serving on the Oconee County Planning Commission and North High Shoals representative.

Megan Cundiff, a wife, mother, and EMT specialist on weekends, addressed the Council regarding her desire to serve on the Council.

Jared Strickland, a college student at Kennesaw State and Town resident addressed the Council regarding his desire to serve on the Council and greeted Megan, his opponent.

New Business Items 1 and 2 were moved ahead of Unfinished Business to allow those who were addressing the issues the opportunity to leave the meeting if they so desired.

New Business item #1, regarding speeders on Gober Rd was moved ahead of unfinished business. - John Lauth addressed the Council regarding the excessive speed on Gober Rd. H" by a driver coming up behind him and going around him at an excessive speed. Had he turned into his driveway, he'd have been seriously injured or killed.

Josh Dudley, our Town Patrol Officer has been advised of the situation and has and will continue to make his presence know on Gober Rd as often as possible.

Council member Evans asked how long this had been happening. The response was "3 years or so, but things are much worse in the last few months." Mr. Lauth stated that his mailbox had been destroyed multiple times.

Council member Kurtz suggested that residents call the Sheriff's office when incidents happen so that the Sheriff's department can be aware of the situations and perhaps increase their presence in our area. Discussion also included consideration of speed bumps on the road.

It was recommended by Council that residents contact the Sheriff's office each time an event occurred. More complaints to the Sheriff could result in more presence by the Sheriff.

New Business item #2, neighbor issues regarding Lot 18-B Shadyfield Lane.

Resident Wanda Moody addressed the Council about her concerns regarding the potential build on the Lot 18-B next door to her property. She had presented a document with information regarding septic requirements and the need for the swell between properties to remain undisturbed to prevent flooding and damage to her property.

Town Inspector, Morgan Wheeler stated the absolute need for the swell to be undisturbed. He stated that the swell prevents water from running down into Mrs. Moody's property. He noted that if the swell were removed or disturbed, the result would be flooding of Mrs. Moody's well, septic system and entire property. Mrs. Moody was assured by Acting Mayor Carlson that the Town is aware of the issues and that Mr. Wheeler was "keeping an eye on things".

Concern was also expressed regarding "grinding" that was taking place. Mr. Wheeler stated that the County considers "grinding" as acceptable "underbrush" removal and not "land disturbance" He recommended that the question be posed to the Town Attorney, Mr. Reitman, for clarification.

Council member Dawe expressed concern that the practice of "grinding" caused the small trees to die and thus created a loosening of soil, leading to soil erosion. Mr. Wheeler stated that he was keeping a "close eye" on the activities in the area and was aware of the potential problems that could arise.

Acting Mayor Carlson thanked Mrs. Moody for bringing it to Council's attention and stated that the issues were noted. He reiterated Mr. Wheeler's statement that the situation was being closely observed.

Unfinished Business

1. Short Term Rental Ordinance – moved to 2022
2. Livestock Ordinance – moved to 2022
3. Signage proposal – The signage proposal was discussed regarding where signs should be placed throughout the Town. Time being short, the item was moved forward, probably January or February.
4. Lighting for the parking lot and side walkway area leading to the back of the building. Moved forward. Council will consider what kind of lights are desired and create a drawing with locations in the parking area before seeking proposals. Moved forward to next month's agenda.
5. Participation in Georgia Cities Week October 3 – 9, 2021, update
 - a. Review Text message thread and confirm votes taken:
Council members reviewed the transcription of the text message thread of September 12th in which they voted unanimously as follows:
 - i. Date change for GA Cities Week- Due to significant schedule conflicts, the date for North High Shoals GA Cities events was changed to October 23, 2021, from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM
 - ii. Mulch proposal. A calculation error occurred in the preparation of the mulch as presented at the 8/16/2021 meeting. Mulch purchase was approved from Cowart Mulch. The original dollar amount was to be \$5,035.50. Reducing the amount of mulch to 6 inches deep rather than 12 inches reduced the final dollar amount of \$2,674.50.
 - iii. Sod near flagpole- sod is needed near the flagpole to keep the area from becoming a mud pit if it should rain. A dollar amount of \$1,000 was approved for the purpose in the text message thread.

Council member Carlson reiterated the items that were discussed and voted on in the text message thread. Council reaffirmed the vote.

Council member Dawe made a motion to use the funds saved by reducing the amount of mulch for the playground toward the sod for the flagpole area. Council member Kurtz seconded. Unanimously approved.

Time was confirmed for the hours of 3:00PM to 6:00 PM.

What needs to be accomplished? Priority list of activities to be accomplished.

Time Capsule

Bench with a plaque honoring Mayor Toby

Naming of the Ballfield to Mayor's Field".

Match old pictures in the Town hall with what it looks like now.

Where should the bands be located? The porch/patio on the Town Hall would make a good stage.

Music is being taken care of by David Lawrence.

How may people to plan for? Margo is interested in food, but not hot dogs. Pies or desserts, possibly, veggie trays, etc. Cost \$500?

With COVID being an unknown, probably not a good idea to have food in open platters. Food trucks are an option

Hot dogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers, etc., cooked and wrapped.

Responsibilities:

Council member Dawe to contact "Woodmen" representative. They provided flag and flagpole.

Acting Mayor Carlson will investigate Food truck or other possibilities. Kona Ice for kids?

Kids events: Megan offered to do face painting and "Corn Hole" game.

Deputies will be available to handle parking, both in the parking lot and across the street on Speedway for overflow.

A volunteer is needed for the sign in table for door prizes (and possibly to issue meal tickets) Among door prizes are Bread by Tina, jam from Ann Evans, Eric Wright a cutting board, Violet, plants, Margo vegetables? Etc.

History Table will be manned by Eric Wright

Pictures will be collected for a slide show on the big screen in the Town Hall.

Food and drink will be served in the Pavilion? Or from food trucks?

Scavenger Hunt will be handled by Council member Kurtz.

Fire truck

Patrol vehicle

Porta Potty?

Bradberry family does not wish to be involved.

Acting Mayor Carlson will check into a plaque for Mayor Bradberry to be affixed to a bench.

High Shoals Elementary will send home a flyer with the children the week before the event

Council members Dawe and Kurtz will get together to determine what pictures to use and exactly how the Scavenger Hunt will work

Sequence of Events tentatively set to begin around 4:30PM

Food trucks begin at 3:30?

Town Hall

Flagpole

Ball

Bench

Work session is planned for after the October Council meeting.

Digital pictures will be used for a slide show to be projected on the big screen in the Town Hall. Eric W will speak to Tommy about locating digital pictures and creating the slide show. Eric will discuss with Tommy about doing the slide show, or contacting Council member Kurtz for other directions

Hillsboro Baptist Church needs to be specifically invited.

Need to provide flyers to the Church, and the Fire Dept.

Possible use of Xbox for kids to play?

Lori Wright will put signs on corners just prior to the event.

Morgan Wheeler questioned whether the Health Dept had been contacted regarding the preparation of food on site.

Parking needs to be always open for emergency vehicle access.

It was determined that the next Council meeting would be the time to solidify the final arrangements for the event.

New Business:

1. Concern for residents on Gober Rd regarding speeders – email document. -Discussed earlier in the meeting
2. Neighbor issues regarding Lot 18B Shadyfield Lane – back-up info from Wanda Moody. --Discussed earlier in the meeting
3. VIASAT proposal to place a Satellite dish on Town property – email and contract, rep available for questions during the meeting. Council member Dawe expressed concerns regarding with the ingress and egress from the site, and concerns regarding the contract itself. Morgan Wheeler expressed concern regarding ingress and egress due to the proposed location. It was suggested that Mr. Reitman, the Town Attorney be contacted for his input and recommendations.

Council member Dawe requested information about the company's status. She'd like to know more about the company before deciding. Background of the company, etc. She expressed concern about various statements in the contract.

Council member Evans asked if there were other cities in our area that had ViaSat. Ryan couldn't provide it as that info is proprietary.

Motion by Council member Kurtz "document needs to be reviewed by Town Attorney with potential issues of the contract, Ryan needs to provide info about ViaSat regarding references, longevity of company, etc.

Motion seconded by Council member Evans. Unanimously approved.

Ryan requested a date for an answer.

Council member Evans requested that we contact Ryan in a couple of weeks.

Acting Mayor Carlson assured Ryan that we are dependent on our Attorney. We should be able to contact in a week.

After the call, additional concerns were expressed. Morgan Wheeler suggested that regarding the ingress and egress, specific need to be in place so that anyone who does damage with their vehicles would be responsible for repairs.

Installed for individuals, or companies.

4. Changes to gun ordinance – no progress- Council member Evans volunteered to investigate gun ordinance
5. Changes to "big truck" ordinance – no progress- Acting Mayor Carlson volunteered to investigate the big truck ordinance.
6. Sod for flagpole – discussed earlier in the meeting.

Council member Evans asked if the Good Neighbor initiative could/should be considered this year.

Recommendation made to put it on the agenda for the October meeting.

Council member Kurtz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council member Evans seconded. Unanimously approved.

Acting Mayor Carlson declared the meeting adjourned at 10:05 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Bishop

Town Clerk