



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

October 18, 2021

Regular Council Meeting

APPROVED Minutes

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by acting Mayor Carlson at 7:33 PM

Members Present: Ann Evans, Hilda Kurtz, Violet Dawe. Via Video conference, Jason Pressley

Members Absent: None

Guests in Attendance: Dr. Stephen Goad; Mason Goad; Meagan Cundiff; Morgan Philips, reporter from the Oconee Enterprise; Morgan Wheeler, Town Inspector, via conference call.

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

Agenda Setting: Council member Dawe made a motion that Discussion and Planning for Georgia Cities Week, Town Celebration be moved to the end of the meeting. Council member Evans seconded the motion. Unanimously accepted.

Minutes of Previous meeting:

Presentation of Financial Statement: After review, Council member Evans made a motion to accept the financial statement with two typos corrected. Council member Kurtz seconded. Unanimously accepted.

Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Item: Dr. Stephen Goad addressed the Council on his desire to serve on the Oconee County Planning Commission as the representative from the Town of North High Shoals, He further discussed lighting ideas for the Town Hall parking lot. Three poles with 4 directionally aimed lights would give adequate light and still preserve the "night sky" visibility for "stargazers."

Unfinished Business

- 1) Review ViaSat Contract
 - (a) Received a call from Chris Higgins stating that ViaSat did not want to wait for Council meeting for an answer. They are moving on to solicit sites from residents. He was encouraged to make sure that when/if someone accepted their offer, the building permit process be strictly observed. The Clerk was assured that he would make sure the information was passed on to the department that oversees the permitting process.
 - (b) Council briefly discussed the ramifications of the contract. Council member Kurtz made a motion that Council would not take up the issue of a ViaSat satellite dish on Town property in the future. Councilmember Dawe seconded the motion. Unanimously accepted.
- 2) Participation in Georgia Cities Week October 23- review and finalize plans – moved discussion to the end of the meeting

New Business:

- 1) Building Permit – 2521 Ray’s Church Rd - Rob Fine- Garage for Yearwoods- Council reviewed all documents and found them to be in order. Council member Dawe moved to grant the building permit. Council member Evans seconded. Unanimously approved.
- 2) Building Permit – 299 Hopping Rd Renovation of House – Dr. Goad was present and addressed questions Council posed regarding the plans presented. This Permit application is strictly for the purpose of the interior renovations of the home. Additional work will be permitted later. Council member Kurtz moved to approve the Building Permit for the renovation stage of work. Council member Evans seconded. Unanimously approved.
- 3) Building Permit High Shoals Elementary – Elementary School is building an addition to the school to house additional classrooms, building a new playground, and putting the addition where the current playground exists. Plans had been reviewed at the September meeting, but no decision was made since the Building Permit paperwork had not been received. Land Disturbance Permit had been approved in August. Council member Kurtz made a motion to approve the Building Permit. Seconded by Council member Evans. Unanimously approved.
- 4) Increase penalties for failure to procure permits before proceeding with building, demolition, addition, land clearing, etc. \$150.00? Minimum violation fee is \$150.00 with allowance to double the permit fee. Discretionary, yes, but determine each case individually. Hardship cases would be considered, with the burden of proof on the individual. Research is needed to determine current fee. Decision made to review violation fees and add to next month.
- 5) Renew commitment to “Good Neighbor Initiative” – Margo Candelario – Motion made by Council member Dawe to provide a check in the amount of \$150 to Margo for Young Female Farmers, since the Town was unable to complete the plan to send notices to residents in the Summer of 2021, and to waive the Business License fee for 2022. Seconded by Council member Evans. Unanimously approved
- 6) David Lawrence recommended that a down spout be added to the front of the portico, to help with water run off (see pic) At present the single downspout is handling all the water from the front of the building resulting at times in the water overrunning the gutters, and furthermore contributing to the erosion of the parking lot gravel. His suggestion is another down spout on the other column to help diffuse the water. David will try to find where to get a matching downspout.
- 7) DNR grant - Submission due by 11/1/2021
 - a. Consider requesting funds to “refurbish” the trail in the park woods- Options were discussed: widening the trails, making it feasible for emergency vehicles to get to people on the trails; making one trail wheelchair accessible; putting signage on trees to identify them; etc. Stephen Goad offered to do some research and present a preliminary proposal. (Editor’s note: Some modifications were made to the proposal and submitted to DNR on 10/30/2021. Based on Dr. Goads figures, the requested amount is \$31,000 with the Town adding a minimum of 20%, \$7,800.88, making the final DNR proposal \$38,800.88.)
- 8) LMG grant – Submission due by 10/31/2021 – Grant is to be used for traffic control.
 - a. Council member Kurtz made a motion to purchase:
 1. 3, or more, solar and/or battery powered large numeral speed limit radar signs with feedback capability
 2. expansion of the crosswalk on Elder Rd between New High Shoals Rd and Lakeside Dr.

3. addition of a crosswalk at the Town Hall at the intersection of Hillsboro and Speedway to facilitate crossing to the park
4. installation of a speed bump on Jefferson Rd Between Dickens and Plantation. Council member Dawe seconded. Unanimously approved

(Editor's note: Grant was submitted on 10/30/2021 in the amount of \$26,100, NHS commitment 9,000 Total project cost \$35,100.)

- 9) Have Landscape company edge areas of walkway where grass is encroaching – Council member Dawe noted that grass is growing into and over the paved walkway. Recommended it be made part of the regular Landscape service. Council member Dawe made a motion to pay landscaping company to edge. Council member Kurtz seconded. Unanimously approved.
(Editor's note: Edging was completed in time for Town Celebration.)

Mayor's Update:

- 1) Item not on the agenda, add to November – get a proposal for sod for other areas of the property.
- 2) Coffee pot disappearance explained. Church moved out and took coffee pot (it was theirs). Give church refund of funds paid in advance. Note was made that church had entered the building at an unauthorized time to remove their belongings. This prompted a recommendation to modify the contract to address unauthorized entry.
Council member Evans made a motion to return funds to church. Council member Kurtz seconded. Unanimously approved.

With all regular business transacted, Council moved on to the preparations for the Town Celebration to be held on October 23rd.

- 1) Council member Kurtz will be responsible for Historical scavenger hunt. Pictures in the Town Hall will be labeled "A" thru "F" with the first 5 being buildings, the last an individual. A map will be given to each person asking them to note on the map where each building is. Further, they will be asked to identify the name of the person in the final photograph.
- 2) Council member Evans is responsible for some food. She has been in touch with Margo Candelario who will provide pasta salads, garden salads, and deserts. Council member Evans is further responsible for getting the drinks from Sam's
- 3) Acting Mayor Carlson had been unable to secure a food truck. He recommended Em's Kitchen in Athens. They can provide box lunches which include a sandwich, chips, condiments, pickles, and a cookie. Choices and numbers of servings were discussed. Decision was made to have 35 of each of 4 different sandwiches: chicken salad, pimento cheese, ham and cheese, turkey, and cheddar. Cutlery will be provided in the box, but cutlery will be needed for salads
- 4) Council member Evans has arranged will Roll-Off to deliver a Porta Potty on Friday.
- 5) David Lawrence gave a "music update".
 - a. High Shoals Elementary Chorus will perform
 - b. Junior High student Gracie will perform.
 - c. David's band "Mid-Life Crisis" will perform.
 - d. Stage will be set-up on far side of Town hall.
 - e. Council member Dawe will provide hay bales for seating. NHS will reimburse for the cost.
- 6) Town Hall dedication.
- 7) Naming of Ballfield to Mayor's Field.

- a. Temporary banner for Ballfield. Acting Mayor Carlson is working with Sign Brother's on creation of permanent sign for the ballfield.
- 8) Council member Evans will explain the time capsule and its contents: Mayor Bradberry's gavel and name plate; winning coloring pages done by kindergarten students; photo of team that uses the ballfield; signed by all members; photo of children's chorus performing at the event; vaccine bottle, mask and hand sanitizer letters by Council members and Town clerk; etc.
- 9) Plaque from Woodmen of the World, Woodmen rep to speak briefly
- 10) Firetruck – maybe. No word as of the date of the meeting. (Editor's note: Firetruck was not available.)
- 11) History table
 - a. Eric Wright will interview people about what they remember about the history of the Town.
 - b. Historical photos will be displayed on the large screen in the Town Hall and handled by Tommy Eades.
- 12) Meagan Cundiff will be doing face painting in the park
- 13) Jared Strickland will oversee corn hole game in the park.
- 14) Deputies will be managing parking in the main parking lot with overflow parking on Speedway.
- 15) Sign-in table. Folks can sign in for a chance at a door prize. Prizes include
 - a. Several items from Athens Seed, Lawn and Garden
 - b. Bread from Tina Lauth.
 - c. Pickles from Margo Candelario.
 - d. Relish from Meagan Cundiff.
 - e. Homemade jam from Council member Evans.
 - f. Homemade pie from Gaby Carlson.
 - g. Large gift basket from Dr. Thomas, Optometrist in Athens.
 - h. Homemade bread on a bread board from Fred Johnson and Henry Johnson.
 - i. Handmade cutting board and cheese knife from Eric Wright
- 16) Park needs – Clerk Sue Bishop and David Lawrence were charged with getting Mums to beautify the park and Town Hall area.
- 17) Schedule:
 - a. Music begins around 3:15 with chorus and Gracie
 - b. Games can begin anytime
 - c. Food serving can begin around 3:30 – 3:45
 - d. Dedications to occur around 4:30.
 - e. Door prize announcement intermingled throughout the afternoon.
- 18) Set up will begin between 12 and 1 PM on Saturday.

Councilmember Kurtz motioned to adjourn the meeting. Council member Evans seconded. Unanimously approved.

Acting Mayor Carlson adjourned the meeting at 10:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Bishop
Town Clerk