



260 HILLSBORO ROAD
PO BOX 129
HIGH SHOALS, GA 30645

WWW.NORTHHIGHSHOALS.ORG

MAYOR: VIOLET DAWE
POST1: ERIC CARLSON
POST 2: JASON PRESLEY
POST 3: ERIC WRIGHT
POST 4: HILDA KURTZ
POST 5: MEAGAN CUNDIFF

February 21, 2022

Regular Council Meeting 7:30pm

APPROVED Minutes

Call to Order- The meeting was called to order at 7:32PM by Mayor Dawe.

Special Presentation – Before the meeting was officially called to order, an organization called “Quilts of Honor” with a local chapter presented quilts to two couples in North High Shoals who had served in the Air Force. An explanation was given as to how the organization came to be and about the people who make the quilts. Each quilt is unique and has information on it about the person that crafted it.

Those who received quilts were:

Lora Gurak, who served in the US Air Force from 1983 to 1988

Paul Gurak, her husband, who served in the US Air Force from 1982 to 1988

Dave Evans, husband of former Council member Ann Evans. Mr. Evans served in the US Air Force in the 1980s.

Ann Evans, his wife, was unavailable for this meeting, but will be given a quilt at a later time for her service in the US Air Force in the 1980’s as well.

Members Present: Mayor Violet Dawe; Council members Jason Presley and Meagan Cundiff in person; Hilda Kurtz via video conference. Eric Wright arrived after 8:00 PM.

Members Absent: Eric Carlson

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

A fourth Council member was expected after 8:00 PM

Agenda Setting: Eric Wright was not expected to arrive until after 8:00 PM so a motion was made by Council member Cundiff to move item # 8 under unfinished business to the end of new business. Motion was seconded by Council member Presley. Unanimously approved by the three members present.

Presentation of Draft Minutes from Previous Meetings:

Minutes from January’s Regular Council Meeting, January 17, 2022: Mayor Dawe noted 2 corrections needed on the roles of Council members as listed in the minutes. Council member Carlson is Mayor Pro Tempore, and Council member Kurtz is the Presiding Officer. Motion was made by Council member Cundiff to accept minutes, seconded by Council member Presley. Unanimously approved with the specified changes.

Minutes from Called Council Meeting of January 23, 2022: Council member Kurtz had a different recollection of her assignment from that meeting. Based on her understanding of her assignment, she fulfilled the requirement and provided information on several large pieces of playground pieces of equipment before settling on the Galveston. Council unanimously approved the minutes with the notation about Council member Kurtz’s assignment.

Presentation of Financial Statement – Motion made by Council member Presley to accept the Financial Statement, seconded by Council member Cundiff, unanimously approved.

Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Item: None

Unfinished Business

1. **Short Term Rental Ordinance - postponed**
2. **Livestock Ordinance - postponed**
3. **Signage proposal - postponed**
4. **Lighting for the parking lot** and side walkway area to go to the back of the building – Quote from Stephen Goad, and information from Council member Kurtz were discussed. No decision has been made.
5. **Revised landscaping quote** – Mr. Culp redid his sod proposal to fit into requirements.
6. **Consider pay for Council** members and Mayor -awaiting Attorney response
7. **Sidewalks-** nothing yet
8. **New playground equipment** – Council spent considerable time discussing the “Galveston” playground equipment from the WillyGoat company. In addition, they considered a piece of equipment called the ZipKrooz from Landscape Structures. Other Council members had other suggestions A motion was made by Council member Wright
 - a. using the ARPA funds for the Galveston or another large piece of playground equipment, and further to have an email vote on which large playscape item to purchase.
 - b. Use SPLOST funds to purchase the ZipKrooz line.Motion was seconded by Council member Cundiff. Unanimously approved.
Motion was made by Council member Cundiff for Council to make a decision on a large piece of playground equipment via email vote by March 2nd. Seconded by Council member Presley. Unanimously approved.
(Editor’s note: Vote was finally completed March 11 with the decision being made for the Tree Top by Playground Creations, and SPLOST funds to be used for the purchase of the Zip Krooz.)
9. **Special Use permit for 350 Jefferson Rd**, property of Wayman and Sandra Whitehead, VIASAT dish- This was strictly informational in nature. The lease between VIASAT and the Waymans was presented for Council’s information. No action was needed.

New Business

1. **Brittany Bracewell** to address the Council regarding Shadyfield Lane. Ms. Bracewell spent a considerable amount of time explaining the events of the past several months regarding the activities on the properties on Shadyfield Lane. There were numerous questions from the Council, many members who had no idea that such events were taking place. Council member Wright made a motion to have a special Called meeting on the following Monday, February 28, 2022 to address these issues as nothing could be determined at this meeting since some of the Council were not previously aware of the situation. Motion was seconded by Council member Kurtz. Passed unanimously. Members agreed to meet in person and have Morgan Wheeler, the Town Inspector, present also.

The Council held a meeting on May 9, 2022, for the purpose of “correcting” the minutes prior to approval.

Below is the content of the minutes as agreed upon by the Council members.

“Brittany Bracewell addressed the council with concerns about a stop work notice posted on two lots on Shadyfield Lane, lots 15 and 18.

Mrs. Bracewell spent significant time detailing the timeline of events regarding permits and the account of property management from August 2021.

Confusion originated in August when initial stop work was posted on the 32-acre lot. Stop work order was removed in September, then per September minutes, Mr. Wheeler specified grinding was an acceptable underbrush removal.

Mrs. Bracewell read from September minutes: “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.”

Mrs. Bracewell expressed concern that two stop work order notices were posted on 2 lots (*15 and 18 in footnote), which included “adjacent properties.” There was no specific ordinance violation listed on stop work notices.

Three main questions that Brittany Bracewell raised:

- What’s the stop work notice for**
- How do the adjacent lands become involved?**
- What is definition of land disturbance, in relation to what the violation was.**

These issues were discussed in detail with no resolution.

Council Member Wright requests clarification of definition of land disturbance, as well as additional meeting as soon as possible.

Council Member Presley requests clarification for violations warranting stop work notice, motions to take down signs awaiting clarification. No further action taken on motion.

Discussion on if Mayor Violet could recuse herself and a motion still be voted on.

Council Member Cundiff moves to remove stop work signs and replace with signs that clarify “no stop work on 32 acres” until further information can be obtained.

Motion was not seconded.

Council Member Wright moved to remove all signs until the council can define what we are asking.

Council Member Kurtz proposes friendly amendment to set a specific date to meet, as well as what information should be reviewed. Council Member Kurtz proposed meeting 2/28 and requests Sue to gather the relevant background information and send it for review by Friday.

Council Member Wright accepted amendment, and requested Mr. Wheeler to attend.

Council Member Cundiff seconds motion, motion carried.”

2. **275 Frazier Hill Rd** – Building Permit – addition of bedroom, County would require more septic lines for another bedroom so they changed to the addition being a den/play area. Motion made by Council member Kurtz to accept the permit, seconded by Council member Presley, unanimously approved.
3. **201 Hillsboro Rd** – Building Permit – chicken coop. Motion to accept the permit made by Council member Wright, seconded by Council member Cundiff. Council member Kurtz questioned whether we have an ordinance for chickens. This coop will be for 6 chickens, not a breeding house. Motion was unanimously approved.
4. **201 Hillsboro Rd** – Pool Permit – add swimming pool to property – Motion made by Council member Cundiff, seconded by Council member Presley, approved by 3 council members, 1 abstention.
5. **285 Hillsboro Rd** – Building Permit - unenclosed addition to garage. Motion made by Council member Cundiff, seconded by Council member Kurtz, unanimously approved.
6. **2281 Rays Church Rd** – Land Disturbance Permit – remove a fence entangled with trees and replace the fence. Motion made by Council member Kurtz provided the form is modified to state the purpose of the permit. , seconded by Council member Wright, unanimously approved.

Mayor's Update:

1. Dr. Stephen Goad submitted advisory on Planning Commission meeting. Agenda and minutes also received.
2. DNR response. The DNR denied the grant request for funds to improve the playground.
3. Bentley Mills rents the Ballfield regularly. He would like to house a lawnmower at the Town for their use in the upkeep and maintenance of the ballfield. Council will be presented with the particulars when they (Bentley and the others who use and work on the field) determine where, relative to the ballfield, they'd like to put the building, and how large a building would be required.

Meeting of February 21, 2022 was adjourned at 10 44PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Bishop
Town Clerk