

MINUTES OF  
CITY OF CREEMOOR – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
DECEMBER 15, 2009

**PRESENT:**

Mayor Darryl D. Moss, Mayor Pro-tem Tim Karan, Commissioner Jimmy Minor, Commissioner Otha Piper, Jr., Commissioner Larry Robinson and Commissioner Herman Wilkerson. Also present was Tom Mercer., City Manager, Sandra Harper, City Clerk and Attorney Tom Currin.

**QUORUM:**

Mayor Moss called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioner's room at City Hall and welcomed everyone.

**INVOCATION:**

Chaplain Willis Herman

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Connor Freeman, Pack 401

**PRESENTATION TO COMMISSIONER LARRY ROBINSON:**

Mayor Moss said that it was time to say farewell to Commissioner William L. Robinson. He said that he has respect for Commissioner Robinson and has enjoyed working with him over the past four years.

Commissioner Robinson expressed that it has been a long four years; however it has been a good four years. He said that during his four years on the Board there was an annexation that did not go as the City planned, tax issues and turnover in personnel. Commissioner Robinson expressed that the City has hired a good Police Chief and a good City Manager. He said that he has worked with two good Boards during his time as a Commissioner. Commissioner Robinson said that if the Board supports staff and looks toward the future the City will do very well. He commented that there are smart people on the new Board and that he feels that they will make good decisions. Commissioner Robinson jokingly said that he plans to continue to reside within the City of Creedmoor; therefore, he is going to keep his eyes on the Board and he does not want to have to come back in two years. Commissioner Robinson said on that note he bids a sincere farewell.

Commissioner Robinson received a round of applause.

Mayor Moss said that he sent Commissioner Robinson an e-mail thanking him for his time on this Board. He also thanked Pam Robinson for her support and sacrifice for allowing Commissioner Robinson to work with the Board. Mayor Moss presented Commissioner Robinson with a framed Certificate of Appreciation and his nameplate.

Commissioner Robinson received another round of applause.

### **OATH OF OFFICE CEREMONY:**

#### **Introduction of Judge Carolyn Yancey – Attorney Tom Currin:**

Attorney Tom Currin expressed that the City was fortunate to have this evening the newest 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court Judge. The 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial District consists of Granville, Vance, Franklin and Warren Counties. Judge Yancey is originally from Danville, Virginia. Attorney Currin said that Judge Carolyn Yancey is a graduate of Hampton University and NCCU Law School. Judge Yancey was sworn in January, 2009 having achieved the success of having 25, 996 votes in her district wide election. She strives for fair play and equality in the court room. Judge Yancey said that she owes much of her accomplishments to her Mother. She is married to Arthur Wayne Yancey and they have three children. They live in Southern Granville County. Judge Yancey has completed the Pastoral Care Curriculum at Duke University and has presently enrolled in the Masters Program in Divinity at Shaw University. Attorney Currin expressed that it was an honor to have her here to give the oaths and welcomed Judge Carolyn Yancey.

Judge Yancey received a round of applause.

#### **Oath of Office Ceremony:**

The Oath of Office Ceremony took place with Honorable Carolyn Yancey presiding. Judge Yancey swore in Darryl D. Moss as Mayor as Boy Scout Pack 401 stood with him. She also swore in Commissioner Otha Piper, Jr. and Commissioner John Stallings.

Mayor Moss presented Commissioner John T. Stallings with his new nameplate. Commissioner Piper and Commissioner Stallings along with Mayor Moss took their seats on the Board. They all received a round of applause.

Moved by Commissioner Piper and seconded by Commissioner Karan that Commissioner Minor be elected Mayor Pro-Tempore.

Commissioner Stallings stated that he favored electing the Mayor Pro-Tempore for a term of only one year and moved that the motion be amended by adopting the procedure for selection of the Mayor Pro-Tempore set out in the written Resolution regarding election of Mayor Pro-Tempore being passed out to the Board. The motion of Commissioner Stallings to amend the principal motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilkerson.

Mayor Moss called for discussion on passage of the motion as amended (to adopt the Resolution).

Attorney Currin advised that the General Statutes only provides that the City will elect a Mayor-Pro-Tempore at the Organizational Meeting. The City's charter says that the Board of Commissioners shall choose one of its members to act as Mayor Pro-tempore and he shall perform the duties of the Mayor in the Mayor's absence or disability. The Mayor Pro-tempore shall have no fixed term of office but shall serve in such a capacity at the pleasure of the remaining members of the Board. As such, the Board may determine the term of the Mayor Pro-tempore that you elect. This can be done by making a determination of that term prior to the election or may do so by terminating that term of office at your pleasure after the election. There is currently a motion on the floor and it has been seconded and it is now right for consideration. The motion is to amend to adopt the one year term for the first part of the elected. He noted that the Board is considering electing a second individual to serve a second successive term for the term of twelve months beginning December, 2010. Attorney Currin expressed that having been advised by two of the members that such a motion may be made this evening he has prepared a resolution to that effect.

Mayor Moss voiced concerns that he sent out the agenda one week ago and the Board did not notify him of the process for this evening. He said that the Board invited these young individuals this evening to see government in operation and they are going to see that he feels colleagues and leaders in the community should be treated with dignity and respect. He hopes that the Board knows that they can talk with the Mayor as they continue to work as a Board. Mayor Moss expressed that he feels there are two things that have contributed greatly to his success as a leader in this community and they are respect and daylight. As situations occur it is his responsibility and privilege to shine daylight.

The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Mayor Moss called for action on the election of the Mayor Pro-Tempore for the first one-year term ending December, 2010.

Moved by Commissioner Piper and seconded by Commissioner Wilkerson to elect Commissioner Minor as Mayor Pro-Tempore for a one-year term. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Commissioner Karan had concerns that he was unaware that the Board would be voting on a successor Mayor Pro-Tempore this evening and asked that the Clerk read the amended motion for adoption of the Resolution. He said that he does not agree with the election of one year in advance. Commissioner Karan expressed that the Board agreed two years ago to change on a yearly basis.

Commissioner Piper said that he does not have a problem with Commissioner Wilkerson being Mayor Pro-Tempore; nevertheless, he agrees with Commissioner Karan that this should be done yearly in the month of December.

Moved by Commissioner Minor and seconded by Commissioner Stallings to elect Commissioner Wilkerson as the successor Mayor Pro-Tempore to serve the term beginning December, 2010. The motion passed by a 3-2 vote.

Aye Votes: Commissioner Minor, Commissioner Stallings and Commissioner Wilkerson

No Votes: Commissioner Karan and Commissioner Piper

Attorney Currin advised that Mr. Minor will continue serving as Mayor Pro-Tempore until December, 2010.

Honorable Carolyn Yancey swore in Commissioner Jimmy Minor as Mayor Pro Tempore.

**Remarks by Mayor and Commissioners:**

Commissioner Otha Piper, Jr. thanked everyone for attending this evening. He expressed appreciation for Commissioner Robinson's years of service. Commissioner Piper thanked everyone for their support and said that he is very appreciative to be re-elected.

Commissioner Stallings thanked his supporters and expressed that he is glad to be back on this Board after twenty-years.

Commissioner Minor said that he will do his very best as Mayor Pro-Tempore.

Mayor Moss thanked Judge Yancey for her time here this evening. He said that he worked with her during her campaign and looks forward to working with her again.

Mayor Moss announced that Pack 401 was doing a food drive. He expressed that they are our future leaders

Mayor Moss thanked his wife, daughters and parents for their support. He also thanked the City Manager and the entire City staff for their hard work.

Commissioner Stallings commented that Creedmoor is a great place to live. He added that there is potential for a lot of growth and was proud to call Creedmoor home.

Mayor Moss said that the occurrence this evening reminds him of when he ran for County Commissioner in 1986 against Pete Averette. He said that it was a tough debate and there was information that he could have used during his campaign; however he chose not to. His family was in attendance during the debate and held up a white paper that said "Take The High Road". Mayor Moss said that he lives by this and if he can take the high road he strives to do so.

Mr. Tom Mercer, City Manager presented a Resolution Designating Bank Signature Cards and asked for approval.

Moved by Commissioner Wilkerson and seconded by Commissioner Karan to adopt the Resolution Designating Bank Signature Cards. The motion received a unanimous vote.

**Election of Creedmoor Representative to the Granville County Tourism and Development Authority (TDA):**

Moved by Commissioner Piper and seconded by Commissioner Stallings to appoint Ms. Eleanor Fowler as the Creedmoor representative to the Granville County Tourism Development Authority. The motion received a unanimous vote.

Commissioner Minor expressed that the Fire Department grant deadline was December 16, 2009 and asked for support.

Mayor Moss asked that the Board follow the agenda to have the reception and suggested that they continue business after the reception.

**Prayer For The Community:**

Reverend Jonathan Jeffries was unable to attend so Mayor Moss asked Mr. Charlie Moss to say the Prayer for the community.

Ms. Jennifer Wilkerson, 308 S. Main Street addressed the Board and presented the Board with homemade candy.

Mayor Moss thanked Ms. Jennifer Wilkerson.

**Reception:**

There was a reception to welcome the newly elected officials.

**Further Business:**

The Board was back in session at 8:10 p.m. to discuss further business.

Commissioner Minor presented an overview of the Safer Fire Grant application. He reiterated that the deadline is December 16, 2009.

Commissioner Karan expressed concerns of costs. He asked how much burden can the City place on citizens. Commissioner Karan expressed that this is the first discussion on this issue. He said that this is the first time in six years that he has been on this Board that we have not readily obliged the Fire Department. Commissioner Karan said that he feels the need to get the County and citizens involved. He is not saying that he is against this issue.

Commissioner Karan said that he feels that this issue needs to be discussed with the appropriate Committees. He said that the City may be in a better position to pursue the grant next year.

Commissioner Wilkerson suggests that the City apply for the grant and if it receives approval there will be time to work towards the funding.

Mayor Moss said that the Board can act upon the grant application this evening contingent upon funds.

Upon discussion, moved by Commissioner Minor and seconded by Commissioner Stallings approval of the Safer Fire Grant Application and to pursue funding. The motion received a unanimous vote.

Mayor Moss reminded everyone that the Holiday Dinner is scheduled for Thursday, December 17, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

Moved by Commissioner Wilkerson and seconded by Commissioner Piper to adjourn. The motion received a unanimous vote.

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Mayor

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City Clerk