

MINUTES OF
CITY OF CREEDMOOR – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 24, 2008
7:00 P.M.

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 Mr. Robert A. Schaumleffel, Jr., City Manager, Sandra Harper, City Clerk and Attorney Lori Dutra.

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

INVOCATION:

Mayor Moss

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Commissioner Robinson

APPROVAL/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

Moved by Commissioner Wilkerson and seconded by Commissioner Piper to adopt the agenda. The motion received a unanimous vote.

REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

Mr. Timmy Banes of the Kerr Tar Regional Council of Government was scheduled to speak; however, due to illness he was unable to attend.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Proposed 2008-2009 Budget:

Mayor Moss opened the Public Hearing.

No one wished to speak so Mayor Moss closed the Public Hearing.

ADOPTION OF THE 2008-2009 BUDGET:

Commissioner Wilkerson said that he met with the LGC and Jim Winston, City Auditor to discuss a discount for water for the City of Creedmoor retired Fireman. They informed him that this could be done as long as the retired Firemen would receive a 1099 or a W2 at the end of the year. Commissioner Wilkerson said that Mr. Jim Winston, City auditor said that the only concern was that the City may have a problem with personnel sending out W2 forms. Commissioner Wilkerson expressed that the retirees had responded to fires, hurricanes and other catastrophes in the community and asked for the Board's support.

Mayor Moss expressed that Commissioner Wilkerson was accurate in stating that the LGC said that it could be done; however, they do not recommend it. Mayor Moss said that he does not disagree about the great service that the retirees and the current CVFD have given to the City; however, with the current state of affairs he supports the LGC's recommendation that there be no discount. There would have to be a separate water fund account for those proposed individuals. He said that to do this it would also provide for other citizens to request that they should be considered for this discount in the future.

Moved by Commissioner Wilkerson and seconded by Commissioner Minor to reinstitute the water discount to the City of Creedmoor Fire Department retirees.

Commissioner Robinson said that he was not opposed; nevertheless, he felt that this should not happen until after the completion of the audit.

Attorney Dutra referred to the ERISA retirement and benefit plan, which is a Federal law.

Commissioner Minor suggested that the City give the Fire Department an increase and they distribute the discount.

Commissioner Wilkerson withdrew his motion and Commissioner Minor withdrew his second until Attorney Dutra has further reviewed the ERISA retirement and benefit plan.

Mr. Robert A. Schaumleffel, Jr., presented the Classification/Pay Schedule.

Commissioner Minor inquired about the employees that show receiving more than the 4% increase.

Mr. Schaumleffel, Jr., City Manager explained that he eliminated the Water Superintendent position and the Water Operator I and II positions. He said that he added a Water Quality Technician position. Mr. Schaumleffel noted that there were two employees that were guaranteed a starting salary and a \$2,000 increase during the hiring process.

Commissioner Minor expressed that he had overstepped his authority to guarantee this increase and noted that the Board voted for all City employees other than the Police Department to receive a 4% increase.

Mayor Moss expressed that the two employees were already in these positions.

Commissioner Robinson said that he was caught off guard last week when the 4% was presented. He said that he felt the salary should depend on merit and what that position pays.

Commissioner Karan expressed that the vote was not based on merit for the 2008-2009 budget.

Mr. Robert A. Schaumleffel, Jr., City Manager said that if you want to attract higher quality employees you have to be market driven.

Mr. Tom Mercer expressed that the Police Department recommendation were based on a scale on accumulation of time and specific criteria of education. He advised that the recommendation for the City Hall employees were upon their credentials.

Commissioner Karan expressed his displeasure that there were only two employees within this budget that are outside of the 4% and reiterated that they voted on a 4% across the Board for employees other than the Police Department.

Commissioner Minor expressed that he expected to see a 4% across the Board in this budget tonight, excluding the Police Department.

Commissioner Piper made a motion to adopt the 2008-2009 Budget. The motion died for lack of a second.

Mr. Robert A. Schaumleffel, Jr., City Manager gave a handout of the Fee and Rate Schedule.

Mr. Tom Mercer said that he had been negotiating the refuse collection.

Mr. Tom Mercer gave a handout of the revised Pie Chart.

Commissioner Wilkerson inquired about how much 1¢ represents in the tax rate.

Ms. Lenessa Hawkins, Finance Director advised that the amount per 1¢ was \$23,345.

Upon further discussion, moved by Commissioner Karan and seconded by Commissioner Piper to adopt the 2008-2009 Budget. The motion received a unanimous vote.

Mayor Moss advised that the Finance Director requested Budget Amendment No. 3 for General Fund Expense.

Moved by Commissioner Karan and seconded by Commissioner Robinson to adopt the Budget Amendment as presented. The motion received a unanimous vote.

MINUTES:

Moved by Commissioner Wilkerson and seconded by Commissioner Karan to approve the minutes of May 14, 2008 Work Session, May 21, 2008 Budget Work Session, May 27, 2008 Budget Work Session and May 28, 2008 Regular Board Meeting/Work Session. The motion received a unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ms. Penny Richards, 103 Legion Street addressed the Board about continuous water problems. She said that the lines have been flushed and the problem remains.

Commissioner Minor said that the line needed to be tapped onto the 6” line.

Commissioner Wilkerson advised that there are four houses on a 2” line and until they are off that line the problem would remain.

Mayor Moss said that they would continue to work on this issue and find a solution.

Mr. John Wilkerson, 308 S. Main Street encouraged the Board to take legal action against SGWASA at whatever cost to obtain the City representative’s voting rights.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT:

Mr. Robert A. Schaumleffel, Jr., City Manager said that the contract documents were ready for the City Attorney’s signature for the dredging of Lake Rogers.

Attorney Dutra said that she had a conversation with the Wellons Foundation and they should receive the signed documents this week for the needed easements.

Mr. Robert A. Schaumleffel, Jr., City Manager presented the Board with a Capital Project Ordinance to receive funding for completion of the Lake Rogers Dredging.

Moved by Commissioner Karan and seconded by Commissioner Piper to adopt the Capital Project Ordinance. The motion received a unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

Tax Audit:

Mayor Moss said that the LGC was at City Hall last Thursday for a Work Session and things continue to move along. He advised that the LGC and the City auditors would be back on July 7th, 2008. Mr. Ritter from the Tax Advocacy said that he would contact the Finance Director on July 3rd.

Commissioner Minor inquired about the 401K and retirement benefits issue.

Mr. Tom Mercer advised that he hoped to have everything completed by August 1, 2008.

Department Head Reports:

Mr. Steve Colenda advised that the flags are to be delivered by noon tomorrow and they will be up before July 4th.

Commissioner Minor inquired about the status of the abandoned houses on Hwy. 56.

Mr. Dave Roesler, Planning Director advised that he spoke with Mr. Lyle and the houses are going to be removed. He also advised that he had sent out violation letters for 107 N. Durham Avenue and other non-conforming properties.

Mr. Steve Colenda said that a contractor had been hired to replace the lights at the ball field.

Commissioner Karan referenced the Paddington recreational issue.

Mr. Robert A. Schaumleffel, Jr. City Manager advised that he received a letter from the Plaintiff on this issue and forwarded it to the City Attorney.

Commissioner Wilkerson inquired about the repairs at the gym and the Senior Center.

Mr. Steve Colenda advised that the heating and air-conditioning had been ordered and the mechanical work would be finished by Friday. He said that he had an appointment to meet with a contractor about the electrical repairs. Suggestions were discussed as to how to make the restroom more handicap accessible and to place a lock on the restroom door for privacy.

**Satellite Annexation Petition – Gerald Whitfield Property
57 Acres – Walters Road:**

Mr. Dave Roesler, Planning Director addressed the Board and said that at the May 27, 2008 meeting he presented the Board with a Petition for Satellite Annexation for 57.105 acres of land located on Walters Road.

Attorney Dutra apologized and said that the certification had not been completed. She said that she was given this request today by Attorney Currin. She inquired about a recent survey.

Mr. Brian Whitfield, 200 N. Harding Street, Greenville, North Carolina addressed the Board and said that the most recent survey was done nine years ago.

Attorney Currin said that there must be a survey that shows the property and where the City limits are. She said this is a voting rights act requirement and this must be received before recording the ordinance.

Moved by Commissioner Minor and seconded by Commissioner Karan to schedule the Public Hearing for the Satellite Annexation of the Gerald Whitfield Property for July 22, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. The motion received a unanimous vote.

Resolution – Small Town Main Street Program:

Moved by Commissioner Piper and seconded by Commissioner Robinson to adopt the Resolution for the Small Town Main Street Program. The motion received a unanimous vote.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Moss thanked the Board and staff for their hard work on the 2008-2009 Budget.

Mayor Moss announced that there was a meeting scheduled for July 9th at the Butner-Stem Middle School on the environmental impact of NBAF.

Mayor Moss announced that the Music Festival was scheduled for Saturday, September 20, 2009.

Commissioner Piper said that in the past the City had a pig cooking contest and the citizens really enjoyed that. He also suggested having activities for the children to enjoy.

Mayor Moss announced that there was a Small Town Festival Grant introduced by Legislation. This grant is for communities with a population of 5,000 or less. Mayor Moss said that he would follow-up on this grant.

Mayor Moss said that it was anticipated that there would be more people this year to attend the Alive-After-Five than last year. He said that there would be an upcoming meeting with the Chamber.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

Commissioner Minor inquired about the meter calibrator.

Mr. Steve Colenda advised that there was a meeting scheduled next week with TCM Systems, Inc. from Kernersville, North Carolina.

Commissioner Minor inquired about the phone system.

Mr. Tom Mercer, Administrative Services said that this was on his list of things that need to be done.

Commissioner Minor inquired about the testing of hydrants.

Mr. Robert A. Schaumleffel, Jr., City Manager said that is one of the items being delegated to the new hire.

Commissioner Minor inquired about the status of the sewer pump station for Butner.

Mr. Robert A. Schaumleffel, Jr., City Manager said that he would check with Mr. Dan Boone. He said that he thought there was a holdup about the connection point.

Commissioner Karan said that his understanding was that there was an easement issue.

Commissioner Minor made reference to the Hester line and said that it was his understanding that the City had done all that can be done at this point.

Commissioner Minor said that the water plant is to be shut down by June 30th and asked if there had been conversations with Mr. Lindsay Mize, Executive Director of SGWASA about the water quality.

Mr. Tom Mercer, Administrative Services Director said that they have been communicating by e-mail and they are working on it.

Mr. Steve Colenda advised that there was a hole in the intake line and this is being monitored to make sure it does not go below six feet.

Commissioner Minor thanked everyone that worked on the budget. He said that there had been a lot of requests from citizens that the City bring back the fireworks for the Fourth of July. He said that he would like the City to budget next year and partner with Butner, Stem and the County for this event.

Commissioner Karan encouraged Commissioner Piper to talk with Mike of Champs Tire and Tommy Keith about having a car show at this year's Music Festival. He said the car shows always draw a big crowd.

Commissioner Karan said that he attended the Granville County meeting and learned that there is a Granville County Tourism Authority which was created in 1999. He advised that currently Ms. Eleanor Fowler is the City's appointee that serves on that Board. She was appointed in the year 2000 for a three-year term. He said that he spoke with the Business Advisory Council and they recognized Ms. Sylvia Strickland as having a tourism business in the community.

Moved by Commissioner Karan and seconded by Commissioner Minor that the present appointee is no longer appointed and to appoint Ms. Sylvia Strickland to the Tourism Development Authority. The motion passed by a 4-1 vote.

Aye Votes: Commissioner Karan, Commissioner Minor, Commissioner Piper and Commissioner Robinson

No Vote: Commissioner Wilkerson

Commissioner Karan asked the Attorney about the legalities of SGWASA changing the bylaws and making the two City of Creedmoor representatives ex-officio members. He advised that the SGWASA attorney also represents two other entities on that Board. He noted that he sent an e-mail to Representative Crawford and Senator Burger in reference to this issue.

Attorney Dutra said it was a question of whether SGWASA acted outside of its authority.

Mayor Moss encouraged the Board to think of this as an opportunity to take the high road and continue having Commissioner Piper and Commissioner Karan attend the meetings to show them what partnership is all about. He said that Creedmoor has taken the high road on the Wilton line and the Hester Road project.

Commissioner Piper said that he felt that going to Oxford for water/sewer would be the best resource for the future of Creedmoor and the surrounding areas.

Mayor Moss announced that there would be a stock holders meeting Wednesday, June 25, 2008 at City Hall in reference to the Clean Water Trust Fund Grant for recreation on Brassfield Road.

Mayor Moss announced that Flextronics had invited the Board to a luncheon scheduled for July 2, 2008 at 11:00 a.m.

Commissioner Karan asked that the City put out a notice to citizens about the water/sewer increase due to the increased rates of SGWASA. He suggested that this notice be placed on the water bills.

Moved by Commissioner Wilkerson and seconded by Commissioner Karan to go into Closed Session on the Matter of Personnel in accordance with GS 143-318.11. The motion received a unanimous vote.

Upon return to regular session, moved by Commissioner Robinson and seconded by Commissioner Piper to adjourn. The motion received a unanimous vote.

Mayor

City Clerk