

Minutes
Work Session
Aberdeen Town Board

October 6, 2014
Monday, 6:00 p.m.

Robert N. Page Municipal Building
Aberdeen, North Carolina

The Aberdeen Town Board met Monday, October 6, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. for the Work Session. Members present were Mayor Robert A. Farrell, Mayor Pro-tem Jim Thomas, and Commissioners Pat Ann McMurray, Joe Dannelley, Buck Mims, and Elease Goodwin. Staff members in attendance were Police Chief Tim Wenzel, Parks & Recreation Director Adam Crocker, Planning Director Pam Graham, Planner Jae Kim, Town Manager Bill Zell, and Town Clerk Regina Rosy. Ken Byrd, Tim Marcham, Reporter for the Pilot Ted Natt, Mike Ratkowski, Richard Gergle, and Barbara Allred were also in attendance for the meeting.

Mayor Farrell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. Resolution Supporting New Library for the Town of Aberdeen.

Ken Byrd reviewed the progress that has taken place thus far with the Library Committee which includes the following:

- Barbara Allred made a presentation to the Town Board in February 2014 regarding the need for a new library.
- Barbara Allred returned to the Town Board in April 2014 and requested additional guidance on how to proceed with the library. Ms. Allred was asked to form a committee of no more than 15 people, develop a plan and to report to the Town Board on progress.
- Barbara Allred recruited members and a committee was formed. The first meeting of The Friends of the Aberdeen Library was held in May 2014. The committee developed by-laws and a vision statement and began the process of applying for a 501(c)(3) status. Officers were appointed and an Advisory Board was recruited, in accordance with the by-laws.
- Donations began to be accepted. The first donation was made to pay for the cost of having LegalZoom.com develop the necessary forms to apply for 501(c)(3) status. Bank account was opened to handle monetary gifts and donations continue to be received.

Mr. Byrd stated the Articles of Incorporation were received from the NC Secretary of State on August 7, 2014 and an Employer Identification Number was also received on August 7, 2014. Mr. Byrd stated the desire of the Library Committee is to find a site in the downtown Aberdeen area so that the location will help with traffic to the downtown area. Mr. Byrd stated The Friends of the Aberdeen Library are asking for a Resolution of Support from the Mayor and Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Byrd displayed the current square footage and volume of each of the libraries in the County. Mr. Byrd stated the plan is to build a library in Aberdeen around 10,000 square feet.

Mr. Byrd stated the vision statement is to create library spaces that offer the community a compelling invitation to explore, gather and engage, and to ensure equitable access to resources through appropriate infrastructure and up-to-date technology.

Commissioner Dannelley stated he would like to see a list of the committee members, the by-laws, a list of the officers, and a copy of the power point presentation for his records. Robert and Lynn Anderson are helping with the design for this project, and the anticipation is that 1-2 acres will be needed for the facility and parking. Mr. Byrd stated the goal is to have afterschool programs for kids, reading for adults, ability to have multiple programs at one time at the library.

Commissioner Dannelley stated he would like to remove the wording “build a new library”, since there may be other options such as leasing/renting space. Commissioner Dannelley asked that the requested documents be emailed to the Board members for review.

Mayor Farrell was concerned about Page Memorial Library losing its status as the 2nd oldest historical library in NC, and he would not want to see that location go away – he would want that location to be used as part of a new library. Commissioner Mims suggested including that idea in the resolution, so that it is included. Commissioner Dannelley clarified that the resolution will be tweaked prior to the next Board Meeting for consideration. Commissioner Dannelley stated he would like the committee to tweak the resolution and return it to the Town to be included for the agenda packet for October 20th.

2. Architect Recommendation for the Aberdeen Police Department.

Chief Wenzel stated an RFQ was sent out for an architect for the new building for the Aberdeen Police Department. Two proposals were received from well-respected local firms, and due diligence was completed. References and backgrounds were checked, and projects were compared. Based on recent work at the Aberdeen Fire Department, Chief Wenzel stated he is here to recommend John Heckethorn for the architect for the new Police Department, and he proposes to move forward with negotiations with John on a contract for the new police building. Commissioner McMurray stated she believes that is a good selection. Manager Zell asked the Board for consideration of this item tonight. Commissioner Mims asked where the money would come from for the architect fees – Manager Zell stated it would come from Fund Balance. Commissioner Mims asked how much of the architect fees will be due and payable this fiscal year. Manager Zell stated it will be 6 months out before part of the architect fees will be due and payable, which will only be a small portion that will be due this fiscal year.

Chief Wenzel reviewed the timeline proposed by the architect which includes breaking ground in December 2015. A motion was made by Commissioner Mims, seconded by Commissioner Dannelley, to approve the Chief moving to the next step and hiring John Heckethorn as the architect for the new police building and begin the negotiations with John Heckethorn on a contract. Chief Wenzel stated he would like to have a couple representatives from the Board to help in those negotiations. Commissioner Mims stated he has requested a consulting agency called “Mission Critical Partners” to get together a proposal for potentially helping with the building of our new police station. Commissioners Mims stated this consulting company has a lot of experience doing public safety projects and could work alongside the architect to avoid potential design issues. Motion unanimously carried 5-0.

3. A Resolution of Support for the 2014 Veteran’s Weekend Events in Aberdeen, Pinehurst, and Southern Pines, North Carolina.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Mims, to approve a Resolution of Support for the 2014 Veteran’s Weekend Events in Aberdeen, Pinehurst, and Southern Pines, North Carolina. Motion unanimously carried 5-0.

4. Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee Appointments.

Parks & Recreation Director Adam Crocker stated he has inherited 4 members on the Parks & Rec Advisory Committee, and he would like to also get a Malcolm

Blue component on the Board. Director Crocker stated the 4 additional members he would like to recommend for the Parks & Rec Advisory Committee are Dene Moon, Reverend Douglas Kelly, Billy Hartness, and Timothy Todd. Director Crocker stated he would recommend the Board meet quarterly. Mayor Farrell asked if the new members would have staggered terms. Director Crocker stated the current members will serve 2 additional years, and the new members will serve a 4 year term. Director Crocker explained his thinking of combining the Malcolm Blue Board and the Parks & Rec Advisory Committee. Commissioner Dannelley asked if it is okay to bring in people on this Board that are outside of the Aberdeen city limits. Director Crocker stated he believes the perspective from outside of the Aberdeen community can also be helpful.

5. Historic Preservation Commission Appointment.

Director Graham stated there is one opening on the Historic Preservation Commission, due to Mike Lashley electing to not serve a 2nd term. Director Graham stated Kam Hurst, the current chair of the Historic Preservation Commission, is leaving the district and will no longer be able to serve. Director Graham stated she now has 2 openings on the Historic Preservation Commission and she would like to recommend Mike Ratkowski for the position. Director Graham stated Mr. Ratkowski would be a great addition to the Historic Preservation Commission. Mayor Farrell confirmed the other vacancy is being advertised. Mr. Ratkowski explained why he would like to serve on the Historic Preservation Commission. A motion was made by Commissioner Mims, seconded by Commissioner Goodwin, to appoint Mike Ratkowski to the Historic Preservation Commission. Motion unanimously carried 5-0.

6. Release of Surety for Landscape Buffer for Shepherd's Ridge, Phases 3 and 4.

Director Graham stated Jackie Speight is busy in Town. Director Graham stated in Shepherd's Ridge, Phases 3 and 4, the landscape buffer has been completed and he is now asking the Board to release the surety for this item. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Mims, to release the surety for the landscape buffer for Shepherd's Ridge, Phases 3 and 4. Motion unanimously carried 5-0.

7. Resolution to Accept a Letter of Credit to Guarantee Installation of Sidewalks for Phase 1 of the Meadow Ridge Subdivision.

Director Graham stated Jackie Speight is building a 152 lot subdivision on Highway 5. The roads are in, the water is in, but the lots will be on septic. Director Graham stated the sidewalks remain, and the Town asks for a guarantee for the sidewalk installation. Director Graham stated staff is requesting the Board to consider accepting a letter of credit to guarantee installation of sidewalks for Phase 1 of the Meadow Ridge Subdivision. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Goodwin, to approve Resolution to Accept a Letter of Credit to Guarantee Installation of Sidewalks for Phase 1 of the Meadow Ridge Subdivision. Motion unanimously carried 5-0.

8. Other Business.

Commissioner Goodwin asked the Mayor for an update on the school facilities. Mayor Farrell provided an update on the school facilities discussions.

9. Adjournment.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Goodwin, to adjourn the Work Session. Motion unanimously carried 5-0.

Regina M. Rosy, Town Clerk

Minutes were completed in
Draft form on October 6, 2014

Robert A. Farrell, Mayor

Minutes were approved
on October 20, 2014