

Minutes
Work Session
Aberdeen Town Board

May 9, 2016
Monday, 6:00 p.m.
Robert N. Page Municipal Building
Aberdeen, North Carolina

The Aberdeen Town Board met Monday, May 9, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. for the Work Session. Members present were Mayor Robert A. Farrell, Mayor Pro-tem Jim Thomas, and Commissioners Joe Dannelley, Ken Byrd, and Elease Goodwin. Commissioner Buck Mims was not in attendance for the meeting. Staff members in attendance were Planning Director Pam Graham, Finance Officer Beth Wentland, Town Manager Bill Zell, and Town Clerk Regina Rosy. Attorney T.C. Morphis, Reporter for The Pilot Laura Douglass, Bryan Bowles, Tim Marcham, and Gladys McNeill were also in attendance for the meeting.

1. Closed Session pursuant to N.C. General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3) to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dannelley, seconded by Commissioner Goodwin, to go into Closed Session pursuant to N.C. General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3) to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body. Motion unanimously carried 4-0.

The Board returned from Closed Session. A motion was made by Commissioner Dannelley, seconded by Commissioner Goodwin, to open regular session. Motion unanimously carried 4-0.

2. Public Hearing for Conditional Zoning Request CZ #16-03 for property located at 3140 NC Highway 5.

Removed from agenda.

3. Consider action on Conditional Zoning Request CZ #16-03 for property located at 3140 NC Highway 5.

Removed from agenda.

4. Consent Agenda

All items listed below are considered routine or have been discussed at length in previous meetings and will be enacted by one motion. No separate discussion will be held except on request by a member of the Board of Commissioners.

- a. UDO Text Amendment #16-04 Regarding Protest Petitions.
Agenda Item scheduled for Public Hearing and New Business on 5/23/16.
- b. UDO Text Amendment #16-05 Regarding Permit Choice.
Agenda Item scheduled for Public Hearing and New Business on 5/23/16.
- c. Closeout Public Hearing for Berkley Sewer Improvement Project.
Agenda Item scheduled for Public Hearing and New Business on 5/23/16.
- d. Closeout Public Hearing for 2012 Small Business and Entrepreneurial Assistance Program (SBEA) CDBG Program.
Agenda Item scheduled for Public Hearing and New Business on 5/23/16.
- e. Continued Public Hearing for Conditional Use Permit #16-03 submitted by Habitat for Humanity of the NC Sandhills.
Agenda Item scheduled for Public Hearing and New Business on 5/23/16.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dannelley, seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Thomas, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mayor Farrell asked specifically about Item b – Director Graham stated it is required by state statute and it is just a matter of becoming compliant with the state statute. Motion unanimously carried 4-0.

5. Voluntary Contiguous Annexation for property located on the west side of Pee Dee Road.

Director Graham stated the petition for annexation has been submitted and these two items are needed for approval at this time.

- a. Accept petition requesting annexation including deeds and surveys.

A motion was made by Commissioner Byrd, seconded by Commissioner Goodwin, to accept the petition requesting annexation including deeds and surveys. Motion unanimously carried 4-0.

- b. Resolution Directing the Clerk to Investigate a Petition for Annexation.

A motion was made by Commissioner Byrd, seconded by Commissioner Goodwin, to approve the Resolution Directing the Clerk to Investigate a Petition for Annexation. Motion unanimously carried 4-0.

6. Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget Discussion.

Manager Zell stated the budget notebooks have been distributed to the Board members. Manager Zell stated Commissioner Byrd wanted to know what the colored pages stand for – white pages are budget numbers with all line items, gold pages explain the operational part of the budget, and green pages represent capital requests. Manager Zell stated a highlights page is located in the beginning of the book. Manager Zell stated for this year's budget the property valuation came in at \$790,000,000, which is up 3.95% from last year's valuation. Manager Zell reviewed the capital items proposed for the upcoming budget, and the Fund Balance appropriations that would be needed to balance the proposed budget. Manager Zell stated the worker's compensation and property and liability insurance will hopefully be decreasing for the upcoming year but we do not have final numbers yet. Mayor Farrell asked about the 6 new positions that Fire Chief Richardson had requested and would the Town be okay if those were not included in the budget – Manager Zell stated between the current paid staff and volunteers, the Town is managing okay currently with fire personnel.

Manager Zell stated for the Water & Sewer Fund, the numbers included represent a 5% rate increase for the upcoming year. Manager Zell stated capital requests for the Water & Sewer Fund include the AMI project, the sewer and water line expansions and repairs, and a new 2016 Ford 550 utility truck.

Manager Zell stated the next page is the budget calendar, which is now almost complete. Manager Zell stated all that is left is the public hearing, and adoption of the budget. Manager Zell stated the proposed budget is the 4th scenario that was presented of 5 possible scenarios. Manager Zell stated this proposed budget includes a 4 cents tax increase. Manager Zell stated the Town has lost revenues from antenna rentals, and the loss of the privilege license taxes. Manager Zell stated it costs money to maintain the current fleet of vehicles, and the Town can not continue to provide the same level of service that citizens expect at the current tax rate. Manager Zell stated to be able to meet the goals of the strategic planning

process, then this is the budget that is recommended. Manager Zell stated this is a balanced budget that is being presented.

Commissioner Dannelley stated he met with all of the Town department directors this past Friday – and he supports all of the requests that have been included in the proposed budget. Commissioner Dannelley stated he wants to work closely with the Town Manager and Finance Officer over the next couple of weeks to really understand the proposed budget. Commissioner Dannelley stated it is his intent on May 23rd to consider a budget for approval. Mayor Pro-tem Thomas stated now is the time to hash out any concerns about the budget, and not on May 23rd. Mayor Pro-tem Thomas stated additional revenue is needed to continue the services. Mayor Pro-tem Thomas stated he really thinks the take home vehicle program for the Police Department is a good thing, and will really help with the morale of the police personnel. Mayor Pro-tem Thomas stated he is ready to accept the budget as it sits. Commissioner Byrd stated the County is looking at raising taxes for both emergency services and education, and the Village of Pinehurst is also looking at raising taxes. Commissioner Byrd stated he thinks it is smart to consider the tax increase so that we can continue to provide the same services to citizens. Mayor Farrell stated since he has been on the Town Board, taxes have not increased, in fact they even decreased once. Mayor Farrell stated as new homes are added, there is that much more service that has to be provided to those citizens from the Town staff. Mayor Farrell stated if we want quality services in the Police Department, Fire Department, and Public Works, then taxes will have to be increased. Manager Zell stated the only service that could really be cut is Parks & Recreation, and that affects quality of life. Manager Zell stated the other services are required by state statute. Commissioner Goodwin stated the proposed budget looks like what the Town needs to go with. Commissioner Byrd stated what has been presented is a balanced budget. Manager Zell thanked Beth for putting the budget books together for the Board members.

Manager Zell stated the Budget public hearing will be held on May 23, 2016. Agenda Item scheduled for Public Hearing and New Business on May 23, 2016.

7. New Water & Sewer Rates.

Manager Zell stated this represents the 5% increase in water and sewer rates. Manager Zell stated we need an official adoption of the new rates because of our

contract with Moore County for bulk water sales – the contract states we can't raise their cost per 1,000 gallons unless we do so. Manager Zell stated currently the County is at \$2.21 per 1,000 gallons and will increase to \$2.32 per 1,000 gallons.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Byrd to approve the 5% increase for water and sewer rates to be effective with the September 2016 billing. Motion unanimously carried 4-0.

8. Request from The Academy Of Moore County for Sewer Hook-up.

Manager Zell stated the Academy of Moore County has requested financial support for a sewer connection, and they have asked for donation of a generator from the Town. Mayor Pro-tem Thomas clarified that the Town is donating surplus equipment to the Academy of Moore that the Town no longer needs, and the impact fee portion of the request has been tabled for a later date.

Commissioner Byrd stated the current septic system is not large enough to accommodate the new enrollment that is expected for the upcoming school year. The Academy is going to need to dig up and run a sewer line to hook up to the Town's sewer system. Commissioner Byrd stated the generator would be used to help with a pump station that will be needed for this project.

A motion was made by Commissioner Byrd, seconded by Commissioner Goodwin, to donate a generator to the Academy of Moore to be used for their sewer line project. Motion unanimously carried 4-0.

9. Other Business.

a. Mayor Farrell stated in the Sunday, May 8th Pilot there is an article on Aberdeen taking another step towards a vibrant downtown. Mayor Farrell stated it is on the front page of The Pilot, which is great publicity.

b. Mayor Farrell stated on Thursday, June 2nd from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. will be the Grand opening at the Marriott Townplace Suites.

c. Mayor Farrell discussed two upcoming Ribbon cuttings in Aberdeen.

10. Adjournment.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Goodwin, to adjourn the Board Meeting. Motion unanimously carried 4-0.

Regina M. Rosy
Regina M. Rosy, Town Clerk

Robert A. Farrell
Robert A. Farrell, Mayor

Minutes were completed in
Draft form on May 9, 2016

Minutes were approved
on May 23, 2016