



SOUTH HILL TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2010 AT 7:00 PM

The regular monthly meeting of the South Hill Town Council was held on Monday, March 8, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the South Hill Town Hall located at 211 South Mecklenburg Avenue in South Hill, Virginia.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Honorable Mayor Earl O. Horne called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. INVOCATION

Mayor Horne called upon Councilman Sasser to render the invocation.

3. ROLL CALL

Mayor Horne called upon Anna Cratch to call the roll which was as follows:

A. Council Members

Chad J. Barbour	Lillie Feggins-Boone	M. B. "Millie" Bracey
Gregg Harper	J. Woodrow "Woody" Kidd	Delores B. Luster
Mike Moody	C. Leroy Sasser	

B. Staff in Attendance

Kim Callis, Town Manager	Anna Cratch, Town Clerk
Charles Hudson, Code Compl. Official	Norman Hudson, Police Chief
Heidi Porter, Finance Director	Bill Wilson, Public Works Director

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – FEBRUARY 8, 2010

A motion was made by Councilman Moody, second by Councilwoman Feggins-Boone, to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the regular meeting held on February 8, 2010, since all Council members had received copies prior to the meeting, and approve as submitted by Anna Cratch. Motion carried unanimously.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Heidi Porter – Proposed Code Amendment Requiring Payment of Delinquent Taxes Prior to the Issuance of Business Licenses

Heidi Porter opened the Public Hearing for comments for and against the proposed amendment to Section 78-109 requiring the payment of all delinquent taxes prior to the issuance of a business license. This makes the Town's code consistent with the Code of Virginia in this area.

There were no speakers in favor of or against the amendment.

A motion was made by Councilman Barbour, second by Councilman Kidd, to amend Section 78-109 of the South Hill Town Code which requires the payment of delinquent taxes prior to the issuance of a business license. **A roll-call vote** was requested and voiced as follows:

Councilman Barbour-Aye	Councilwoman Feggins-Boone-Aye
Councilwoman Bracey-Aye	Councilman Harper-Aye
Councilman Kidd-Aye	Councilwoman Luster-Aye
Councilman Moody-Aye	Councilman Sasser-Aye.

6. CODE COMPLIANCE OFFICIAL'S REPORT

A. Monthly Report

Charles Hudson presented his report of activity for the month of February 2010 as follows:

Inspections Completed	-	42
Permits Issued	-	19
Fees Collected	-	\$ 1,839.69
UEZ Exemption	-	\$ 0
Rehab Exemption	-	\$ 17,500.00
General Exemption	-	\$ 0
Work Value	-	\$ 1,731,208.00
Jobs Completed	-	24

A motion was made by Councilman Harper, second by Councilman Luster, to approve the report of the Code Compliance Official for the month of February 2010 as submitted by Charles Hudson. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Abatement or Removal of Nuisances

Mr. Hudson presented Council with a proposed Nuisance Abatement Policy to compel responsible parties to abate, raze or remove a public nuisance within 30 days of first notification. If it is an imminent and immediate threat to life or property, the locality may raze or remove the public nuisance and may bring an action against the responsible party to recover the necessary costs incurred for its abatement. There are around five to ten nuisances like this around Town.

There is currently a property maintenance code in effect that helps with maintenance issues.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Feggins-Boone, second by Councilwoman Bracey, to adopt the Nuisance Abatement Policy as presented effective immediately. Motion carried unanimously.

7. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Norman Hudson presented his police report for the month of February 2010. Chief Hudson informed Council there were a total of 214 arrests, 599 complaints and 327 call types in February.

He presented the following administrative news:

- Bryan Chase was hired as a part time Animal Control Officer. He is currently working as a part time Dispatcher. He will attend dispatch school in April and an animal control class in June.
- Ryan Durham completed Taser Training at the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office.

A motion was made by Councilman Harper, second by Councilman Kidd, to approve the report of the Police Department for the month of February 2010 as submitted by Chief Hudson. Motion carried unanimously.

8. FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Monthly Financial Report

Heidi Porter submitted the financial report for month ended February 28, 2010 as follows:

General Fund	-	\$7,095,979.29	Investment Account	-	\$1,265,690.86
Water and Sewer Fund	-	10,640.39	2008 G.O. Bond	-	\$ 765,274.67
Cemetery Fund	-	60,294.79	Certificate of Deposit	-	\$ 70,000.00
Twin Oaks II	-	<35,973.45>	Total Police Dept. Savings	-	\$ 15,624.62
Total in Checking	-	\$7,130,941.02	Total Past Due Taxes All Yrs.-	\$	175,570.56

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bracey, second by Councilman Kidd, to approve the financial report for month ended February 28, 2010 as submitted by Heidi Porter. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Past Due Taxes

Ms. Porter reported that statements for all past due Real Estate and Personal Property taxes will be sent out on March 12, 2010.

This agenda item was for informational purposes only; therefore, no Council action was taken.

9. CITIZENS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

A. Floyd Edmonds, Southside Rescue Squad, Inc.

On behalf of the Southside Rescue Squad, Inc., Floyd Edmonds informed Council that they answered 2,052 calls last year with 45 members in addition to the required training hours. They currently have 14 paramedics, 20 intermediates and the rest are EMT's. Three or four are currently enrolled in a paramedic class at the community college.

In keeping with state regulations, an ambulance was recently replaced at a cost of \$145,000; another one will have to be replaced in 2012. There is no market for used ambulances. The Squad is also updating their radio system to be in compliance with the narrowband requirements by 2013.

The Southside Rescue Squad had another good showing at the convention. They left with three 1st Place awards, two 2nd Place, one 3rd Place and one 6th Place.

On July 10, 2010 the Southside Rescue Squad will have a celebration in honor of their 50th Anniversary. Mr. Edmonds thanked Town employees for everything they do including cleaning the parking lot during the recent snows. Mayor Horne thanked the Squad for all they do.

Mr. Edmonds requested permission to hold their Annual Bucket Drive on May 29.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Feggins-Boone, second by Councilman Barbour, to authorize the Southside Rescue Squad to hold their Annual Bucket Drive on May 29, 2010, in coordination with the Police Department. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Callis informed Council that the Southside Rescue Squad will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary in the summer of 2010. He presented Council with a resolution recognizing the Squad for its dedication and service to South Hill since 1960.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bracey, second by Councilman Sasser, to adopt the Resolution of Congratulations and Appreciation recognizing the Southside Rescue Squad for its 50 years of service to South Hill and the surrounding area. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Bruce Robinson – JEB Family Reunion at Centennial Park on September 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Bruce Robinson addressed Council to request permission for the JEB Family Reunion to be held at Centennial Park on September 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Feggins-Boone, second by Councilman Kidd, to authorize the JEB Family Reunion to be held on September 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Centennial Park. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Valinda Dyer, PVHS Class of 1970 – Family Run/Walk Fundraiser for the CMH Foundation on September 4 starting at 8:00 a.m.

On behalf of the Historic PVHS Class of 1970, with Darius Robinson present in the audience, Valinda Dyer addressed Council to request permission for a two mile Family Run/Walk Fundraiser for the CMH Foundation to be held on September 4 starting at 8:00 a.m.; this will be the week of their 40th Reunion. Their goal is to raise \$10,000 and make this an annual event. They are asking the American Legion to have a Brunswick stew sale at the same time.

Ms. Dyer commented that Norm Talley and Faye Matthews are working with them. She suggested that the run start at the Leggett building on Ferrell and Lombardy, head to Atlantic, to Mecklenburg, to Ferrell and back. Chief Hudson expressed concerns about it being a busy holiday weekend including another bucket drive. He stated that they would have to stay on the sidewalk. Ms. Dyer then suggested heading to Franklin instead of Atlantic. Due to the amount of participants and logistics involved, Kim Callis suggested that they work with staff to schedule Parker Park or another

appropriate venue for the event. It would be a safer location for everyone. Mayor Horne asked Ms. Dyer to get with Faye Matthews and Norm Talley and coordinate the logistics with the Town Manager and Chief of Police. The request could then be brought back to the April Council meeting for approval.

No Council action was taken.

D. Barbara Williams – Jeffers Family Reunion at Centennial Park on September 11 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Barbara Williams addressed Council to request permission for the Jeffers Family Reunion to be held at Centennial Park on September 11 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilman Sasser, second by Councilman Barbour, to authorize the Jeffers Family Reunion to be held on September 11 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Centennial Park. Motion carried unanimously.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

11. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Kim Callis submitted the following report for the month of February 2010:

A. Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant

Mr. Callis informed Council that the SPDC is applying to the Virginia Department of Emergency Management for funds to conduct a review and update of the SPDC Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (Plan). The Plan was approved by Council in 2006 and is in effect until May of 2011.

The projected cost of the plan review is \$34,000 which will be paid for by 75% federal and 25% local funds. The local share for this area which is \$2,833.33 will be paid by Mecklenburg County. There is no cost to South Hill.

It is important that we participate in the review because our application for funding to remedy natural hazard emergencies would be denied if the current plan becomes outdated. Upon completion of the review, we will need to adopt a resolution indicating our participation in the plan.

A motion was made by Councilman Harper, second by Councilman Sasser, to participate in the Southside Planning District Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Comprehensive Review and Update. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Human Resources Report

Mr. Callis informed Council that Julianne Hancock, Human Resources Manager, resigned effective March 5, 2010.

This agenda item was for informational purposes only; therefore, no Council action was taken.

C. Burning Violation

Mr. Callis informed Council that the Virginia Department of Forestry issued a summons this morning to our Parks Superintendent for improper burning. Under Virginia law, between February 15 and April 30, open burning must be done between 4:00 p.m. and midnight. Our Parks crew began burning the two larger fields at Parker Park early this morning to remove thatch from the playing surfaces. The weather conditions were appropriate for the burn, and there was never any danger to anyone; however, the burning was in violation of the law.

Mr. Callis reported that staff will learn from the experience and make sure that it does not happen again. Staff plans to burn the two smaller fields at Parker Park tonight after 7:30 p.m. The burn time is expected to be about one hour. Affected parties have been notified.

This agenda item was for informational purposes only; therefore, no Council action was taken.

12. PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Bill Wilson presented the following report for the month of February 2010:

A. Water Main Breaks: Water Loss and Street Maintenance

Bill Wilson informed Council that when water mains break, not only is there a cost involved in repairing the line, there is also a cost in water loss and street maintenance. Public Works has repaired approximately 15 water main breaks in the last three months.

Most of the water lines involved are located under roads. When asphalt becomes available, Public Works will start repairing the damaged areas from both the water main breaks and the excessive freeze-thaw. Asphalt breakups that become deep (potholes) are repaired with a patching material that can be used in cold weather.

The Town's water loss this past month, which can be attributed to the current main breaks, was over twice the average loss.

This agenda item was for informational purposes only; therefore, no Council action was taken.

13. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

14. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Prospective Business – § 2.2-3711 (A)(5)

Pursuant to Prospective Business - § 2.2-3711 (A)(5) of the Code of Virginia and on **motion** of **Councilman Harper** and **second** of **Councilman Sasser**, the South Hill Town Council entered into

Executive Session to discuss prospective business matters. The members voted unanimously to enter into said Executive Session.

There was no action taken in Executive Session on the prospective business matter.

WHEREAS, the South Hill Town Council has convened an executive meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711 (A)(5) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this Council that such executive meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the South Hill Town Council hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia Law were discussed in the executive meeting to which certification resolution applies, and (2) only such business matters as were identified in the motion convening the executive meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Council.

A motion was made by Councilman Kidd, second by Councilman Harper, to approve **Resolution 244**, dated March 8, 2010, and return to **Open Session**. All members present voted affirmatively.

16. OPEN SESSION

There was no action taken on the Prospective Business matter in Open Session following the Executive Session.

Kim Callis extended John Lewandowski's invitation to Council for a groundbreaking sponsored by the Disabled Veterans Committee on Housing for SFC Andrew Shepherd's new accessible home at 657 Red Level Lane. It will take place on March 20 at 11:00 a.m.

17. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business matters before the South Hill Town Council, Mayor Horne adjourned the meeting at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Anna B. Cratch.

Signed:

Attest:

Earl O. Horne, Mayor

Anna B. Cratch, Town Clerk