

The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held on Tuesday, August 6, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the Municipal Building.

The following members of the Governing Body were present:

Mayor: Richard Propst
Alderman: Terry Yount
Alderman: Carroll Franklin
Alderman: Benny Orders
Alderman: Danny Ritchie

Others present:

Town Manager: Sherri Bradshaw
Town Clerk: Sherry Dula
Attorney: Jonathan Jones

Alderman Orders opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Petitions and Communications – Diann Epley from 108 Pinewood Drive was present to discuss the street drainage problems on Westway Drive/Pinewood Drive that's happening during times of heavy rainfall. Mrs. Epley stated that the water flow is out of control and has washed to the point that the ditch is much larger now and is overflowing and washing her yard away. The problems with the washing in her yard is from the street water not from the creek water and the runoff is coming from several different directions. She would like to see the town fix the drain lines to control the water. She brought photos to show how the water was 16 inches over the road in front of her house and was running from curb to curb. Residents from 100 Westway Drive and 102 Pinewood Drive were also present with concerns dealing with the street drainage problems. Mrs. Epley stated that they had rerouted the ditch years ago and it was running fine but now it's bad again. The residents also stated that the rain water was even washing the GDS trash cans away.

Todd Poteet with West Consultants was present with his recommendations to correct the street drainage problems. He suggests the pipes under the road be replaced with one or two 36" pipes which should carry the flow. Also he recommends that a 3 foot section of the asphalt curbing be removed and the construction of an angled asphalt water bar (speed bump) across the roadway to help direct the runoff on Pinewood Drive. He states there doesn't appear to be any soil loss under the road until you get to the inlet. He said the ditch is in good condition and he suggests the vegetation not be disturbed in the ditches or it would cause even more problems. He states that the 36" pipe is probably the largest that could be placed under that road. The Council suggested that the manager contact NC Department of Transportation and Burke County School System to be involved in these corrections by inspecting and cleaning out the cross drain pipes under the state roads and the county by eliminating the disposal of grass clippings, leaves and limbs into the creek bank and drainage ditches.

Alderman Ritchie made a motion, seconded by Alderman Orders to authorize the manager and engineer to come up with a plan to correct the problem and that the plan be implemented. The engineer stated that once the plan is approved and the bid process is complete then he states its possible we would be able to start construction by the fall. Mr. Poteet states that we needed to identify those issues that the town has responsibility to correct and after those correction are in place, we would evaluate and compartmentalize the private citizens issues to decide if any of those problems are being caused by the town.

Drexel Community Theater - Phyllis Garrison was present to update the Council on her progress with the community theater. At this time, a committee has been formed and a copy of the reading script and fee schedule has been obtained. The royalty and rental for the script based on 5 performances would be \$485 for the first performance and \$230 for each performance after that and \$295 for the orchestration. She has calculated seating for each performance to be approximately 250 and maybe \$8 or \$10 per person which may need to be adjusted during the process. She will be approaching the Alumni Association and area businesses for sponsorship and will need to try to have some fundraisers to obtain some monies for the project.

2012-2013 Annual Tax Settlement - Chelsea Carswell, Tax Collector was present to review the tax settlement for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013. The Council commended Chelsea on the excellent tax collection. The tax collection was 98.3% at the end of June. The Council voted unanimously to approve the tax settlement report and to charge Chelsea Carswell to collect taxes for 2013-2014 tax year by a motion from Alderman Ritchie, seconded by Alderman Franklin. A copy of the tax settlement is attached as part of the minutes.

Unfinished Business:

- Yates Seagle Property – Mr. Webb is parking his vehicles on that property with permission from Mr. Seagle and he maintains the lot for the owner in return. The vehicle owner has been made aware that the property is not zoned for business and cannot be used for that purpose.
- 201 Woodside Drive – The property owner, Crystal Kiser has been sent a letter notifying her of the concerns of her neighbor dealing with the trees leaning onto the property of Margaret Church at 103 Woodside Drive. To date the town has not had any response to our letter.
- Dumpster Problems at Osaki – A letter was sent to him to clean up around the dumpsters and we have not received a response but the area has been cleaned up.
- Drexel Chargers – Chargers have submitted names to the County for election and will be attending the county meeting on August 24, 2013.
- Drexel Properties – There has been no activity on the property. As of July 19, Bill Wagner with NCDENR has not received the written action plan from Mr. Godley to bring this site into compliance with the solid waste rules and now the county is in process of foreclosure on the property.
- Reid Street – New piping has been placed under Reid Street to correct the problems caused during the clearing of the back side of Drexel Property.

Departmental Reports – The Council reviewed the Financial, Tax and Police reports for the months of June and July, 2013. A copy of each report is attached as part of the minutes.

Attorney Report – The town is involved in the tax law suit with the County on the Drexel Properties to receive the taxes due on the property for 2012-2013 tax year. Attorney Jones stated he met with the County attorney and the Drexel Foundation attorney this past month. They agreed to appoint a mediator from Marion to come in to mediate the dispute but it may take from 4-6 weeks for this to take place. The County has still not answered the questions that we asked of them as part of the lawsuit. They have not produced any records from the time they were operating the Community Center. Attorney Jones states that the Drexel Foundation needs to be part of the lawsuit.

Miscellaneous –

- NCLM Annual Conference is October 13-15, 2013 in Hickory. If you would like to attend, please let office know so registration can be sent in before September 14, 2013.
- Fair Parking for the Community Center – Council agreed that the Town should receive 50% of parking proceeds and Enon Baptist Church would receive 50% of the parking proceeds.
- Gates and Concessions for the Drexel Charger games – The Council suggested we use tickets at the gate and that gate fees should go to the Town and Concessions should go to the Chargers. Attorney Jones recommended that the Town do a formal resolution to establish rental fees and recreational fees for the R.O. Huffman Center.

Adjournment - With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m. upon a motion from Alderman Franklin, seconded by Alderman Orders.

TOWN CLERK _____

MAYOR _____

ALDERMAN _____

ALDERMAN _____

ALDERMAN _____

ALDERMAN _____