



The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held on Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 6:00 pm in the Assembly Room of the Municipal Building.

The following members of the Governing Body were present:

Mayor: Danny Ritchie  
Alderman: Terry Yount  
Alderman: Dennis Anthony  
Alderman: Matt Johnson  
Alderman: Rick Cline

Others present:

Town Manager: Sherri Bradshaw  
Town Clerk: Sherry Dula  
Attorney: Rod Willcox

Mayor Ritchie opened the meeting and Alderman Cline led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

**Approval of Minutes:** The Council voted unanimously to approve the November minutes by a motion from Alderman Anthony, seconded by Alderman Johnson.

**Oaths of Office and Organizational Meeting** – Mabel Lowman, Burke County Clerk of Court, was present to administer oaths of office for our reelected and newly elected Council members: Alderman Matthew Johnson, Alderman Charles Rickie Cline, Alderman Terry Yount and Mayor Danny Ritchie. Terry Yount was appointed as Mayor Pro-Tem by a motion from Alderman Johnson, seconded by Alderman Anthony and the vote was unanimous. Oath of Office was also administered to reappointed Mayor Pro Tem Terry Yount.

**2020 Meeting Schedule** - Manager Bradshaw presented the 2020 meeting schedule and all board members approved the schedule and noted that the schedule could be revised as needed through the year.

**Departmental Reports** – The Council reviewed the Financial, Police and Tax reports for the month of November, 2019. A copy of each report is attached as part of the minutes.

**Recreation Department Report** – Manager Bradshaw updated the Council on recreation. She said they have 10 basketball teams from PeeWees to Juniors this year. Games are Tuesdays and Saturdays with a few scattered games on Mondays and Thursdays.

**Code Enforcement Update** – Manager Bradshaw reviewed the new violations submitted by code enforcement. 111 Bryant St. has been demolished and all debris removed. 305 N. Main St. property owner is working to get electric restored so that he can work toward compliance of the current code violations. 110 Dearborn St is working toward compliance and Mr. Rickles says they will continue to monitor and assist the property owner in reaching compliance. Mr. Tim Dula, owner of 110 Dearborn St was present to ask for leniency with the clean up of his property due to his health. Code Enforcement gave him until November 30th to complete clean up but with his health he cannot get it all done in that timeframe. A motion was made by Alderman Cline, seconded by Alderman Yount to allow Manager Bradshaw to mediate on behalf of Mr. Dula with code enforcement to allow him more time to clean up due to health issues and the vote was unanimous.

**EPA Grant** – Manager Bradshaw said that Round 2 of the EPA Grant Application was submitted on 12/2/19. She stated that in this application round, a history of the Drexel plant along with demolition history was added to the grant. Manager Bradshaw also made the Council aware that she was compiling a fact sheet and timeline of the Drexel Properties since the closing of the plant. This fact sheet will be added to our website to inform the residents of everything that has happened with this property through the years and everything the town is doing to get the property cleaned up. Alderman Cline asked if there was someone we could talk to like Hugh Blackwell or other representatives that could help us move this process along? Manager Bradshaw said that WPCOG would like for us to hold off on contacting any representatives until we find out how we do on this current application so that we don't jeopardize the application. If we are denied again on the application then we will definitely contact some of our representatives for help.

**Draughn High School** – Manager Bradshaw stated that a request came in from Draughn High School asking if we would consider supporting their 5K Chase for Cupids Arrow held in February. The school will be awarding one scholarship to each of the following municipalities/school districts: Drexel, Rutherford College and Valdese. A motion was made by Alderman Cline to support the 5K Chase with a donation of \$250, seconded by Alderman Yount and the vote was unanimous.

**Miscellaneous** –

- Next meeting will be January 7, 2020 at 6 pm
- Christmas Luncheon – December 18<sup>th</sup> at noon at the R.O. Huffman Center
- Firemen's Christmas Party – December 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the R.O. Huffman Center
- Christmas Parade – December 14<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. Lineup by 9:30 am
- Manager Bradshaw stated we are waiting on the third bid for the Reid Street maintenance project. She said the first bid came in high, second bid was better so she decided to get one more bid which should be in soon.
- Gaming Machines – Attorney says that the state has come down pretty hard on the gaming machines and we should be ok unless things fall through with their changes.
- We recently had three zoning permit applications submitted for three homes to be built on Abee Street
- A one day class sponsored by the NC League of Municipalities called Investing in the Advancement of Municipal Leaders will be held on January 10<sup>th</sup> in Kannapolis. If you are interested in participating in this class, please let Sherri know if you would like to attend. Cost is \$100 per person.

**Adjournment** – A motion was made by Alderman Johnson, seconded by Alderman Yount to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:55 p.m. and the vote was unanimous.

TOWN CLERK \_\_\_\_\_

MAYOR \_\_\_\_\_

ALDERMAN \_\_\_\_\_

ALDERMAN \_\_\_\_\_

ALDERMAN \_\_\_\_\_

ALDERMAN \_\_\_\_\_