



The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held today Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the Municipal Building.

The following members of the Governing Body were present:

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

Others present:

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

Mayor Ritchie opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

**Approval of Minutes:** The Council voted unanimously to approve the December minutes by a motion from Alderman Propst, seconded by Alderman Orders.

**Public Hearing for Rezoning** – Public Hearing was opened at 7:05 p.m. Erin Schotte, WPCOG Planner was present and explained that the public hearing is necessary to finalize the Planning and Zoning Board’s recommendation to rezone 36 properties inside town limits currently zoned R-20 Residential to R-12 Residential. This zone will reduce minimum lot size to 12,000 square feet and will no longer allow for manufactured mobile home parks and singlewide mobile homes. She stated that the public hearing also addresses text amendments to the Zoning Ordinance involving manufactured home design standards and the amendment will no longer allow age requirements on mobile homes placed within the R-12 Residential zones. The text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance will bring the Town in compliance with State Statutes. Citizens were given the opportunity to speak and a few questions were discussed concerning mobile home parks and existing parks with no opposition to the proposed zoning amendments. With no further discussion, the public hearing was closed at 7:11 p.m. by a motion from Alderman Yount, seconded by Alderman Franklin and the vote was unanimous.

**Ordinance for Drexel Zoning Map Amendment** – A motion was made by Alderman Yount, seconded by Alderman Orders to approve the ordinance to amend the Drexel Zoning Map and the vote was unanimous. A copy of the ordinance is attached as part of the minutes.

**Ordinance for Drexel Zoning Ordinance Amendment** – A motion was made by Alderman Yount, seconded by Alderman Franklin to approve the ordinance to amend the Drexel Zoning Ordinance and the vote was unanimous. A copy of the ordinance is attached as part of the minutes.

**Resolution in Support of Connect NC Public Improvement Bond** – Manager Bradshaw recommends the Town adopt the Resolution which shows support of the Town of Drexel for the Connect NC Bond vote on the March 15<sup>th</sup> ballot. A motion was made by Alderman Propst, seconded by Alderman Orders to adopt the Resolution in Support of Connect NC Public Improvement Bond and the vote was unanimous. A copy of the resolution is attached as part of the minutes.

**Drexel Property Update** – Manager Bradshaw explained to the Council that the Phase I Analysis which is an EPA testing process of the Drexel Properties has started but they are having difficulty contacting the owner, Mr. Godley to obtain permission for access to the property.

**Departmental Reports** – The Council reviewed the Financial and Police reports for the month of December, 2015. A copy of each report is attached as part of the minutes.

**R.O. Huffman Center** – Mayor Ritchie asked Manager Bradshaw if we had any updates on insulating the windows at the center. Manager Bradshaw asked the Council if they could have a planning session on March 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am to further discuss what upgrades they would like to proceed with at the center and the Council agreed to have the March 10<sup>th</sup> planning session for the R.O. Huffman Center. Manager Bradshaw also asked for permission from the Council to get estimates from contractors before this meeting in March which was also approved. Alderman Propst also would like for the attorney and accountant be present for this meeting. Also Alderman Franklin would like for Manager Bradshaw check with Claude Sitton on the criteria for a building to be made a historical marker.

**Street and Mailing Addresses** – Diann Epley was present to ask if something could be done about the problems they are having with the address at 108 Pinewood Drive. She states that she is having problems getting her packages at 108 Pinewood Drive because Morganton has the same address in their township. Erin Schotte, WPCOG Planner, explained that this issue has been addressed with the Postal Service and 911 Addressing and that this is not just a Drexel issue but a Regional issue and will have to be handled by the Postal Service. Manager Bradshaw stated that a couple avenues have been explored to resolve this issue, one being that Drexel would request a mail route, request a new zip code and the other option would be changing duplicate street names. Manager Bradshaw suggested that Town residents that are having issues should contact the general postmaster in Hickory.

#### **Miscellaneous**

- Complaints have been made concerning property located at 850 S. Main St. where it appears they have been dumping appliances and other items onto the property which has become quite noticeable. Chief Treadway stated that the County has already sent the property owner a certified letter to clean up property but the letter has not yet been picked up.
- Dick McCall thanked Manager Bradshaw for contacting the owners of the property on Mimosa Street in need of yard clean up and he stated that he can tell they are in the process of heavy cleaning at this time.
- Burke County Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting is Tuesday, February 23 at COMMA from 6:00 until 7:30 pm
- March meeting will be March 1, 2016

**Closed Session** – The Council entered into closed session at 7:45 p.m. for the purpose of discussing litigation matters per G.S.143-318.11(a)(1) by a motion from Alderman Franklin, seconded by Alderman Propst. The Council returned to regular meeting at 7:47 p.m. by a motion from Alderman Franklin, seconded by Alderman Orders.

**Epley Driveway/Pinewood Drive** – A motion was made by Alderman Franklin, seconded by Alderman Propst to approve the new agreement releasing the Town of Drexel from any and all claims or obligations related to the replacement of the driveway pipe and also acceptance of a one time cash payment of \$5,500 as full and final settlement and the vote is unanimous. A copy of the memorandum is attached as part of the minutes

**Adjournment** - With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m. upon a motion from Alderman Franklin, seconded by Alderman Orders.

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

MAYOR \_\_\_\_\_

ALDERMAN \_\_\_\_\_

ALDERMAN \_\_\_\_\_

ALDERMAN \_\_\_\_\_

ALDERMAN \_\_\_\_\_