

The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Monday, October 1, 2018 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: Benny Orders

Alderman: Terry Yount

Alderman: Dennis Anthony

Newly Appointed Alderman: Matt Johnson

Others present:

Town Manager: Sherri Bradshaw

Town Clerk: Sherry Dula

Attorney: Rod Willcox

Mayor Ritchie opened the meeting and asked Alderman Orders to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

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

Appointment of Alderman to Vacant Seat – Mayor Ritchie presented Matt Johnson to the Board to be formally appointed as Alderman. A motion was made by Alderman Yount, seconded by Alderman Orders to appoint Matt Johnson to the Board of Alderman to fill the vacant seat and the vote was unanimous.

Oath of Office for Matt Johnson – Mrs. Mabel Lowman, Burke County Clerk of Court, was present to administer the oath of office for the newly appointed alderman, Matt Johnson.

Election of Mayor Pro Tem – Mayor Ritchie nominated Alderman Terry Yount to fill the position of Mayor Pro Tem and asked if he would be interested in accepting this position. Alderman Yount was willing to serve as Mayor Pro Tem. A motion was made by Alderman Anthony, seconded by Alderman Orders to elect Alderman Yount to the position of Mayor Pro Tem and the vote was unanimous. Mrs. Mabel Lowman also administered the oath of office to Mayor Pro Tem Terry Yount.

Petitions and Communications – Brenda Bjorkland, owner of 401 Mt View Street was present to inquire as to the reason the Board passed the ordinance stating that when a mobile home is moved out, the owner will only have 6 months to replace the mobile home. Mayor Ritchie explained that at the time the law was passed it was in regard to mobile homes we had in the community that were deteriorated to the point that they were not only an eye sore but unsafe for living and it was like pulling teeth to get them refurbished or maintained. The second ordinance was brought to board by zoning committee and it was a good recommendation and the Board passed it. Ms. Bjorkland stated that all the other parks were allowed to fill their parks before the second law was passed. Mayor Ritchie stated they weren't allowed, circumstances are that if they were full then they were full and Charlie Fair's name or your name was never brought up in the process of passing these ordinances. Mayor Ritchie states that these ordinances pertain to all parks in the town.

Public Power Week – Mayor Ritchie presented the resolution promoting NC Public Power during Public Power Week from October 7-13, 2018. A motion was made by Alderman Anthony, seconded by Alderman Orders to adopt the resolution for Public Power Week and the vote was unanimous. A copy of the resolution is attached as part of the minutes.

Drexel Properties Parking Lot – Mayor Ritchie asked Rick Ramsey to explain his intentions for the portion of property below the old Prices building that is part of the Drexel Properties. Rick Ramsey was in process of purchasing this property from Fred Godley (previous owner) at the time the town acquired the property but the purchase fell through because of tax reasons. Mr. Ramsey explained that he had trailers on this property which are used for storage only. He also stated that he would be interested in purchasing this property if the town would want to sell. Manager Bradshaw stated that if the property were sold it would need to go to auction which requires advertisement and public notice. Mayor Ritchie asked Attorney Willcox if he would look into the legal portion of selling the property and bring his findings back to the board for the November meeting. The Board will consider selling based on the attorney findings. Mr. Ramsey also stated that the railroad does have right of way which consists of approximately 2/3rds of the property.

Manager Bradshaw presented the Parking Permit Application, the Parking Permit and the Rental Agreement for the larger parking lot. She stated the signs have been ordered but have not arrived yet. The rental agreement will specify all the stipulations for parking in the lot. A trailer may not be dropped without the truck. Some discussion was made concerning the need for towing and it was determined that the Board may consider using Smokey's Towing Service and Mayor Ritchie asked Chief Treadway if he could make contact with them to determine if they were interested. Mayor Ritchie stated that he would like to wait for confirmation from the attorney on the property below old Prices building before we place the parking agreements and permits into place. A motion was made by Alderman Anthony, seconded by Alderman Orders to approve the parking rental agreement, parking permit and signage to be used once the Board sets this into motion and the vote was unanimous.

Burke Development Inc. Bylaws Revision – Manager Bradshaw explains that the need for the revision of the Bylaws was because the private sector membership of BDI was formerly “Committee of 100” and has now been dissolved. That entity is now called “Thrive 22” which correlates with the campaign fundraiser completed this past fiscal year. The bylaws revision will reflect the name change and the suggested seating order of the four seats filled by the private sector on the Board of Directors. A motion was made by Alderman Anthony, seconded by Alderman Orders to approve the revisions to the Burke Development Inc. Bylaws and the vote was unanimous. A copy of the revised bylaws is attached as part of the minutes.

Departmental Reports – The Council reviewed the Financial and Tax reports for the month of September, 2018. A copy of each report is attached as part of the minutes.

2018 Tax Releases – A total of \$6.58 in tax releases was presented for approval by the Board. A listing of the releases are as follows:

- Chavis - \$3.12
- Chavis - \$3.46

A motion was made by Alderman Yount, seconded by Alderman Anthony to approve the above-listed tax releases and the vote was unanimous.

Police Department Report – Chief Treadway was present to review the report for September, 2018. A copy of the report is attached as part of the minutes.

Recreation Department – Manager Bradshaw gave an update on recreation department activities. Volleyball and Soccer games have started with 3 soccer teams and 5 volleyball teams.

Attorney Report – Nothing to report at this time.

Miscellaneous –

- Alderman Anthony made a motion to propose a town ordinance to use the same process the Board used to find a candidate to fill the vacant seat of Alderman Franklin on the Council. He states this was a very professional process. The motion was seconded by Alderman Orders and the vote was unanimous. Mayor Ritchie asked the attorney to have an ordinance for filling Board vacancies, drawn up for review and approval by the Board.
- Draughn Homecoming Parade – Tuesday, October 2nd at 6 pm. If Board would like to participate, Fun Cycles will provide a vehicle to ride in the parade.
- Mayor Ritchie announced that the Drexel Garden Club will be celebrating their 70 year anniversary and will be having a dedication ceremony with the planting of a tree in the downtown park on October 10th at 12 noon.
- Next meeting November 6th, 2018

Closed Session – The Board entered into closed session at 7:42 pm by a motion from Alderman Anthony, seconded by Alderman Yount to discuss Economic Development Information.

Adjournment – A motion was made by Alderman Orders, seconded by Alderman Anthony to leave closed session and to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:50 p.m. and the vote was unanimous.

TOWN CLERK _____

MAYOR _____

ALDERMAN _____

ALDERMAN _____

ALDERMAN _____

ALDERMAN _____