

The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held on Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 6:00 pm at the R.O. Huffman Center to be able to accommodate everyone with social distancing.

The following members of the Governing Body were present:

Mayor: Danny Ritchie
Alderman: Dennis Anthony
Alderman: Matt Johnson
Alderman: Rick Cline
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 August minutes by a motion from Alderman Johnson, seconded by Alderman Yount.

Public Power Week - The week of October 4-10th is Public Power Week across the nation. A proclamation is presented for approval by the Board which emphasizes the asset of public power and the excellent service and commitment provided to our community. This week promotes North Carolina's public power cities and towns for their contributions to their communities. A motion was made by Alderman Anthony, seconded by Alderman Yount to approve the Public Power Week proclamation and the vote was unanimous. A copy of the proclamation is attached as part of the minutes.

Resolution Establishing Standards For Interconnecting Small Generator Systems – Manager Bradshaw explained that in the past few months we have had several inquiries as to our policies for Solar Panels and we have recently had one resident that has installed solar panels and the company involved with this installation has contacted us with questions concerning how the town compensates electric customer that decide to install a solar system. The resolution is the first step toward implementing a program for solar activity. The resolution adopts the standards created by ElectriCities and those standards are a modified version of the FERC and North Carolina Utilities Commission interconnection procedures, forms and agreements. In the Buy-All/Sell-All program the customer usage will still be metered through the town and the customer will need to install their own meter to monitor their solar usage. Manager Bradshaw states it benefits us to have some language in place to be sure the town would be absolved from any liability. Mayor Ritchie asked the attorney to look into the liabilities the town could encounter by entering into these agreements with the customers. He also asked if the resolution could be amended in the future if needed and yes it could be amended. A motion was made by Alderman Yount, seconded by Alderman Johnson to approve the above-mentioned resolution and the vote was unanimous. A copy of the resolution is attached as part of the minutes.

Drexel Properties Update/EPA Grant Application – Manager Bradshaw explained that the Brownfield Grant Application process required the town to have a public meeting for citizen input which was advertised for this meeting. Bryan Kvam, WPCOG was present with updates on the Brownfield EPA Grant. He stated the grant application is our third attempt at submitting and the deadline is October 28th. As in the past, the grant is for clean up of the Drexel Properties in the amount of \$500,000. He stated that the technical approach is being amended in this grant application to give more details on the removal and burial of the debris on the site. As was discussed in a

previous meeting, the grant will include details of the burial and capping of some of the debris and removal of some debris also. He discussed the possibility of applying for the Golden leaf Application to help with some of the

MINUTE BOOK # 61

PAGE 9

OCTOBER 6, 2020

clean up also but there are no guarantees that we would receive it. He stated they don't usually give clean monies in this grant but they seemed very encouraged by the fact that the property could be a great prospect for industry, jobs and a rail spur. Mayor Ritchie said that the air quality issues in the area due to the debris should be added to the Golden Leaf Grant Application.

Renewable Energy Credit Rider – Manager Bradshaw explained the need for the renewable energy credit rider relating to the potential of solar customers wanting to sell any solar produced kilowatts. She stated that the customer would pay normal rate which is included in our budgeted rates but the sell back rate would be \$0.028. Also, an additional meter would need to be installed at the customers' expense. She also stated that we may never need to use this rate code but it is part of the process that needs to be in place. A motion was made by Alderman Anthony, seconded by Alderman Johnson to approve the Renewable Energy Credit Rider and the vote was unanimous.

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

Departmental Reports – The Council reviewed the financial and tax reports for September, 2020. A copy of each report is attached as part of the minutes.

Attorney Report – Nothing to report at this time.

Planning & Zoning Report – Teresa Kinney, Planner was present to review any planning and zoning issues from August and September. She discussed the letter sent to Jason Ramsey at 2775 US 70 E and how she has noticed some visible improvement but may take time to reach compliance. Also, she mentioned the stop work order for unauthorized structure on side yard at 207 Mr. View St.

Miscellaneous –

- Next meeting will be November 3, 2020 at 6 pm
- Alderman Anthony mentioned the need for maintenance to the property at the house at the end of Woodman St. near Alta Vista. Manager Bradshaw states that it is on the code enforcement list but we have been told the house is in foreclosure at this time
- Alderman Cline mentioned the need for something to be done at the intersection of Mimosa Ave and South Main St. He states the visibility is very limited. It was discussed that this issue has been brought to the attention of the NC Department of Transportation and it was denied because there hasn't been enough accidents or fatalities at the intersection. Chief Treadway stated that we have also asked about changing the speed limit on Main St. and Mimosa Ave and that has been denied also
- Manager Bradshaw mentioned that the Greenway Public Transportation is providing free transportation to voting sites early voting from October 15-31 and also on election day, November 3
- Alderman Anthony asked when we were planning to reopen recreation

MINUTE BOOK # 61

PAGE 10
OCTOBER 6, 2020

Adjournment – A motion was made by Alderman Yount, seconded by Alderman Johnson to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:37 p.m. and the vote was unanimous.

TOWN CLERK _____

MAYOR _____

ALDERMAN _____

ALDERMAN _____

ALDERMAN _____

ALDERMAN _____