

June 9, 2014
Wendell Town Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

The Wendell Town Board of Commissioners held their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, June 9, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board of Commissioner's Meeting Room with Mayor Timothy A. Hinnant presiding. Present at the meeting were Commissioners Sam Laughery, Virginia Gray, Jon Lutz, James Parham, and John Boyette; Manager Teresa Piner; Town Clerk Jonnie Driver; Finance Director Butch Kay; Police Chief Bill Carter; Interim Planning Director David Bergmark; and IT Administrator Tamah Hughes.

Mayor Hinnant called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed the guest.

Police Chief Bill Carter led the Pledge of Allegiance and Reverend Bob Albritton of Wendell United Methodist Church gave the invocation.

Adjustment and approval of the agenda

Commissioner Laughery made a motion to remove Item 2D Review and adoption of the FY 2014-2015 Budget from the Consent Agenda and make it an item of its own. Mayor Hinnant said this will become Item 4B. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Item 1 – Public Comment Period

Ms. Regina Harmon of Wendell stated had something to happen that she thought would be a good thing for Wendell. She said she used to do the Movie Night Event for Wendell and moved it to Knightdale. She said Knightdale was planning on doing a big July 4th event and she couldn't do the movie night there. She thought it would be a great opportunity for Wendell. It usually brought about 800-1200 people out and there were usually about 40 vendors that set up some jumpies and a huge screen for the movie. She said she brought some information for the Board to look at and she would like to bring the movie night back to Wendell.

Mayor Hinnant said he sees the dates on here and asked if there was already something scheduled, would Ms. Harmon be able to hold it at another time. Regina said yes, but she would need to know so she could let the lady with the movie equipment know ahead of time.

Mayor Hinnant asked the board if they were with ok with the movie night and suggested that Regina work with the Manager to establish a schedule. Regina asked if the Board was saying she could bring the movie night back to Wendell. Mayor Hinnant said that as long as the dates can be worked out. The Commissioners were in agreement with the Mayor's suggestion. The Mayor asked Ms. Harmon to contact the Manager to work on the details.

Nora Cambier stated that Teresa asked her to give the Board an update on the 4th of July event. She said the Historic Society would have a parade that starts at the corner of Fourth and Main Streets and would end at the Town Square. There would be a short program that would emphasize Wendell's veterans and that they would have a picture display in the Gazebo. They would have free hot dogs and watermelon, and prizes for the best decorated bicycle. She said the veterans would ride in cars in the parade.

Item 2 – Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of the minutes from Tuesday, May 27, 2014 Board of Commissioner's Meeting
- b. Approval to authorize Wake County to collect property taxes for the Town of Wendell

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- c. Approval of the minutes from the April 19, 2014 Board Retreat.

Commissioner Parham made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The vote was unanimous 5-0.

Item 3 – Review and Approval of citizen board appointments

Commissioner Parham made a motion to suspend the ballot voting and to vote by voice. The vote was unanimous 5-0.

Mayor Hinnant said the first one was the Board of Adjustment. They had one applicant that had to be removed because they did not live in the ETJ. He said the Board of Adjustment had 3 in-town vacancies and 1 out-of-town. Mayor Hinnant said that they do not have enough applicants to fill all the vacancies. Mayor Hinnant said in the past, they preferred that citizens served either on the Planning Board or the Town Board. He said since they only had two applications, he suggested that they wait until more applicants had applied before selecting members to the current Board. He said in the past they had just taken whoever had applied and did not always get the best candidates for the Board of Adjustment. Mayor Hinnant said the Town Board could actually serve as the Board of Adjustment according to the General Statute. He said some towns have actually done away with their Board of Adjustment.

Commissioner Parham made a motion to suspend the vote until more applications were received. Commissioner Gray said they go through this every year when this time rolls around, but she felt if someone thought enough of the town to apply for a board they needed to move forward with the assignments. Commissioner Laughery said he agreed with Commissioner Gray. Commissioner Parham's motion failed with a 5-0 vote.

Mayor Hinnant said the first applicant is Julian Council. Mr. Council was present and gave the Board some background on his qualifications to serve on the Board of Adjustment.

Commissioner Parham made a motion to appoint Mr. Julian Council to the Board of Adjustment. The vote was unanimous with a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Lutz made a motion to appoint Gayenell Gull to the Board of Adjustment. The vote was unanimous 5-0.

Town Clerk Jonnie Driver informed the Board that Mr. William Davis was on the Parks and Recreation vacant position list, but there was not an application for him. She stated she would research why the application was not included. Mayor Hinnant said he did not mind considering Mr. Davis in the appointments and if he gets enough votes from the Board, they could contact him to see if he wants to serve.

Commissioner Parham made a motion to appoint Mr. William Davis and Lorrinda Michieka to the in-town Parks and Recreation Commission and Mr. Coley Mizzell for the out-of-town position. Commissioner Gray asked if anyone remembered Mr. Davis, because they had ETJ and in-town members. She said she felt like there was a lot that they didn't know.

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Commissioner Gray said they could fill all the spots but she was not sure if he should even be on the list.

Commissioner Parham amended his motion to appoint Mr. Coley Mizell and Lorrinda Michieka to the Parks and Recreation Commission. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote. Commissioner Gray asked if they had voted on Mr. Hough. Commissioner Gray asked why they would put Coley Mizell in the out of town spot, wasn't he in the student spot. Mrs. Piner said that they no longer have a student spot, so he would be the out-of-town representative. Commissioner Gray made a motion to appoint Mr. Timothy Hough to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Everyone voted in favor of the motion 5-0.

Commissioner Parham made a motion to appoint Mr. Billy Bryant to the out-of-town position on the Planning Board, and Ruth van der Grinten and J. Harold Broadwell to the in-town positions on the Planning Board. The vote was unanimous 5-0.

Commissioner Parham made a motion to appoint Lewis Piner and Warren Boyette to the Tree Board. The vote was unanimous 5-0.

Commissioner Parham made a motion to appoint Linda Tracy, Sandy Foutch, and Nora Cambier to the Appearance Commission. The motion passed with a unanimous 5-0 vote.

Mayor Hinnant said about the Economic Development Commission, the Chamber needed an ex-officio member and Ginny Porter had applied. He told Ms. Porter that the Wendell Chamber of Commerce needed to submit a letter to the Town Board saying that they wished to submit her as the Chamber's ex-officio representative on the Economic Development Commission. She said that she would take care of that.

Commissioner Gray said that they had an extra applicant for the Appearance Commission. She said she would like for the Board to consider adding another position to the Appearance Commission. Mayor Hinnant said this is a voting meeting so he did not have a problem with making a motion to change the number. Commissioner Gray said this dealt with changes to the Ordinance as well. Mayor Hinnant said he understood. Commissioner Gray made a motion to add one (1) extra position to the Appearance Commission and she nominated Ben Carroll. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Item 4 – Review and adoption of the FY 2014-2015 Fee Schedule.

Commissioner Parham made a motion to adopt the FY 2014-2015 Fee Schedule. The motion passed with a unanimous 5-0 vote.

Item 4B- Review and adoption of the FY 2014-2015 Budget

Commissioner Laughery said when they were given the budget several weeks ago, he was able to go in and talk with Teresa and Butch and get questions answered. But what they were given for tonight was just four (4) pages, and the best that he could tell, the difference in that and the last budget was about \$4,000. He said he was unsure of what had changed because it was not a complete budget. He said he would like to make a motion to ask the Town Manager to give the

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Board a copy of the information like they had received a few weeks back and to table the passing of the budget until the June 23, 2014 meeting. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Mayor Hinnant said if they were going to have this on the agenda for June 23, 2014 for discussion, it would have to be on the agenda for adoption because they had to have the budget adopted by July 1, 2014.

Item 5 – Commissioners’ Comments

Commissioner Gray said she attended the June meeting at the Chamber of Commerce and that they were busy getting ready for the Harvest Festival.

Commissioner Gray said I have been asked to tell the Board that the Town was holding a name the app contest. This will be an app to tell the citizens things about the Town that need attention, like pot holes or sidewalk problems. Good things, bad things and other things that were important to them. She said this was a great app to have available to the citizens.

Commissioner Boyette said he was excited about the movie night coming back to Wendell. They were very successful events and most of the surrounding Towns had them. He was glad that they had this opportunity. He said he represented the Town at the League of Municipalities Town Hall Day and was able to speak with many of Wendell’s Representatives’ secretaries. He stated that he tried to impress upon them the way a community feels on the local level. He stated that he tried to impress upon them that when it comes to government, decisions should be made as close to home as possible.

Commissioner Boyette said they had talked about the budget, and pushing it back a couple of weeks was a good thing. They should take a close look at the budget and sometimes spending money is not a clear indication of what they wanted to do.

Commissioner Laughery said the Senior Center was going to have a Spirit Night fund raiser at Zaxby’s in Knightdale on June 10, from 5-8 p.m.

Commissioner Lutz said he attended the Triangle J. Council of Government meeting. They were trying to devise a bike path map so the bikers could pull up apps and maps and enjoy all the bike trails in the area.

Commissioner Laughery said Wendell United Methodist Church was holding its Annual Golf Tournament on June 20th. He said the Council of Churches had a food drive where they would go and put bags on the porch. They got back 40% of the bags they put out so their food pantry was well stocked. He said he stopped and looked at the sign coming into town and it was a nice sign and he was glad to see it going up.

Commissioner Laughery said they recently had Wendell Falls come in and ask for changes to be made to the UDO. He said we hear a lot of complaints but they need to have a request for comment for developers and citizens. If they had questions or recommendations to the UDO, the Board can then carry that to the Planning Board. Mayor Hinnant asked if it would be best to

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have them talk with the Planning Board and then The Planning Board could make their recommendations to the Town Board.

Commissioner Gray said she thought it would be a little faster for the Town Board to welcome the visitors on this and then let the Planning Board know their concerns. Everyone was in agreement.

Item 6 – Mayor’s Comments

Mayor Hinnant said I have been talking with the Manager and Chief on hiring of minorities. The Town currently had seventeen (17) sworn officers, one of which is a minority, and no females. Our Police Department needed to the mirror the community.

Item 7 – Adjourn.

Mayor Hinnant adjourned the meeting at 7:45p.m

Timothy A. Hinnant, Mayor

Attest:

Jonnie S. Driver, Town Clerk