

April 27, 2015
Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes.

The Wendell Town Board of Commissioners held their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, April 27, 2015, at 7:00 pm in the Board Meeting Room with Mayor Pro Tem Parham presiding. Present were Commissioners John Lutz; John Boyette; Virginia Gray; Town Manager Teresa Piner; Jonnie Driver-Clerk; Butch Kay-Finance; Tamah Hughes-IT; Jeff Polaski-Parks; David Bergmark-Planner and Bill Carter-Police. Mayor Timothy A. Hinnant and Commissioner Sam Laughery were unable to attend the meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Parham called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chief Bill Carter and the invocation was given by Mr. Earl Briggerman of Wendell Baptist Church.

Adjustment and approval of the agenda.

No adjustments were made to the agenda. Commissioner Lutz made a motion to approve the agenda as written. Without further discussion the motion passed unanimously.

Item 1 – Public Comment Period.

Regina Harmon – 6616 Tales Branch Road, Wendell stated she wanted to thank Parks and Recreation and the Town for the event that took place on Saturday, April 25, 2015. It was a great day. She stated that the dog park was wonderful and that she thought everyone enjoyed their day. She encouraged everyone to come out Friday, May 1-2 to the Sidewalk Sale with Public Safety Day on Saturday, and on Friday night there would be a street dance. She thanked the Board for what they were doing for this community and asked that they please keep moving the community forward. She appreciated everything that Board had done the past year and she looked forward to what will be accomplished in this next year.

Item 2 – Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of the Minutes from Monday, April 13, 2015 Board Meeting
- b. Approval of the Wake County Tax Report for February, 2015

Commissioner Boyette made a motion to approve the consent agenda as written. With no further discussion the motion passed unanimously.

Item 3 – Recognition of volunteers who assisted in the design and development of the Wendell disc golf course.

Jeff Polaski said he wanted to thank the thirty plus volunteers for their more than 200 hours of volunteer time and nine workdays that they spent tirelessly working on the Disc Golf Course. Parks and Recreation will host the course's Grand Opening non-sanctioned fund raiser the weekend of May 2, 2015, with future hopes of hosting professional and non-professional tournaments. He said the course was 18 holes and there were 3 tee boxes per hole with red measuring 1,000 feet, white at 6500 feet and blue is 8200 feet.

Jeff read the names of the volunteers and said Mr. David Mansfield designed the course and volunteered his tractor, auger, bush hog, chain saws, pole saws and other various equipment needed to design this course. Mr. Mansfield had done a tremendous job on the course and we could never repay him for his work on the course. Jeff presented Mr. Mansfield with a personalized Golf Disc. Mr.

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Mansfield thanked the board for allowing him to build the course in Wendell. You have a beautiful park. Mr. Mansfield He said he had actually approached the Town when he put the course in at Zebulon, but it was not the right time, so it was exciting that Wendell was ready for opening this course. He said disc golf was a great sport for any age group.

Jeff said the course would not be possible without the volunteers and we really appreciate their work and dedication. Jeff said Phillip Smith was addicted to disc golf; he had worked with David too long. Mr. Polaski said he would also like to thank Mr. Gibbs one of the volunteers who was present and spoke at the ribbon cutting, he donated the loaner disc so anyone interested in playing disc golf can check them out for use at no cost. Jeff said the volunteers had been amazing, he just could not emphasize enough about the work that had been done.

Mr. Mansfield said Phillip Smith was an awesome guy. He worked tirelessly on the course and he is a good genuine person. He was a pleasure to work with.

Item 4 – Update on the Downtown Wi-Fi Project

Tamah Hughes said on February 9, 2015, the board approved the Wi-Fi Installation Project with a budget of \$22,591.37. She said the electrical work was bid out in March and the electrician to perform the work has been selected. Work is scheduled to begin the week of April 27th. She said new street poles with street signs have been selected for 2 locations and are scheduled to be install by Tabor Services within a few weeks. She said we selected the poles like the ones on Wendell Falls Boulevard. She said the equipment design was being finalized and the equipment would be ordered once complete. The promotional signage design would be reviewed and ordered the first week of May with installation scheduled once electricity and poles were installed. The upgrade to the internet service would be timed so to maximize the benefit of upgrade. The Wi-Fi is scheduled to be operational this June.

No one had any questions or comment.

Item 5 – Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Gray said we were all at the Ribbon Cutting for the Dog Park and Frisbee Golf this past weekend and she wanted to thank Jeff, Kelley, Phillip, Tim, and Matt for all their hard work. She said she attended the Eastern Wake County Educational Work Group and they were getting a lot done, identifying problems and coming up with solutions to meet our needs. She said she also wanted to remind you of the street dance Friday Night on Main Street, and the Sidewalk Sale, Public Safety Day and the Farmers Market would have their soft opening on Saturday, May 2 as well. She said the Farmer's Market was working on their space and it was looking real pretty. She said there were not a lot of vendors that have vegetables this early, but there were a few vendors that had green houses and a few that don't rely on weather and planting in the ground. She said the main thing they would do on the May 2, would be to hold a plant giveaway so that maybe the residents could get some plants and plant their own garden. She urged the citizens to stop by. A lot of hard work and planning had gone into it this winter.

Commissioner Gray said this past Saturday, Wendell Elementary School was named the top Elementary Magnet School in the country. She said if you see any of the teachers and principals out there, congratulate them. She would like to invite them to our Board meeting and honor them. She was very proud of Principal Shane Bahram and the numerous hard working teachers that made all this possible.

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Commissioner Boyette said as far as the Farmer's Market goes he heard that Asparagus was in season. He said he would also like to congratulate Wendell Elementary School. He stated that he had attended that school for four years as a child and had loved it. He said he was glad to see it doing so well. He said The News and Observer had an article in the paper about Brentwood Elementary getting second place and they saw fit to mention Wendell in that article.

Commissioner Lutz said he would like echo the other commissioner's comments regarding the school, it was fantastic news. Also, kudos to the Town for the great event this past weekend, despite the weather there was a lot of energy out there between the kids running everywhere and vendors, it was just a really good time. He was looking forward to everyone coming downtown on Friday Night for the Street Dance and some food and all the activity.

Item 6 – Mayor Pro-Tem Comments

Mr. Parham said he was pleasantly pleased about the Elementary School because he had said all along that our elementary schools were great and now we had proof that they are. He said this was a window and opportunity for Wendell to grow. If we are going to grow, now is the time. He said we had to take advantage of the window of opportunity. He said we had a very creative person at Parks and Recreation and we had staff that was doing a lot. The Commissioners are creative and we are agreeable on 99 percent of the things so this is a time for Wendell to move forward and he believed we were doing just that. We need to continue to move forward, be creative and take advantage of this window of opportunity.

Item 7 – Adjourn

Commissioner Gray made a motion to adjourn. With no further discussion the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 pm.

Timothy A. Hinnant, Mayor

Attest:

Jonnie S. Driver, Town Clerk