

**TOWN OF WENDELL
BOARD OF COMMISSIONER MEETING MINUTES
January 23, 2017**

The Wendell Town Board of Commissioners held their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, January 23, 2017, in the Town Board Room, Wendell Town Hall, 15 East Fourth Street.

PRESENT: Mayor Virginia Gray; Mayor Pro Tem Jon Lutz; Commissioners: John Boyette, David Myrick, Ben Carroll, and Jason Joyner.

STAFF PRESENT: Town Manger Teresa Piner, Special Assistant to the Manger-Town Clerk Sherry Scoggins, Finance Director Butch Kay, Planning Director David Bergmark, Parks & Recreation Director Jeff Polaski, Public Works Director Alton Bryant, IT Administrator Tamah Hughes, and Police Captain John Slaughter.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Gray called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed attendees.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Takoda Valles, 7th grader at Wendell Middle School, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION:

Errol Briggerman of Wendell Baptist Church provided the invocation.

1. ADJUSTMENT AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

ACTION

Mover: Mayor Pro Tem Lutz moved to approve the agenda as presented.

Vote: Unanimous.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (*one hour time limit in total*):

No public comments were received by the Town Board.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

The Board of Commissioners uses a Consent Agenda to act on non-controversial and routine items quickly. The Consent Agenda is acted upon by one motion and vote of the Board. Items may be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda at the request of the Mayor or a Commissioner. The Consent Agenda contains the following items:

- a. Approval of the minutes from the January 9, 2017, regular meeting.
- b. Approval of the minutes from the January 9, 2017, work session meeting.
- c. Approval of the Wake County tax reports for the Town of Wendell.
- d. Approval of the FY 2017-2018 Budget Calendar.
- e. Approval of amendment to the Town's Fee Schedule; incorporation of the amount for the sidewalk fee in lieu.

ACTION

Mover: Mayor Tem Lutz moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Vote: Unanimous.

- 4. RECOGNITION OF WENDELL MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER: KATHY RUSSELL**
SPEAKER: Mayor Gray
ACTION: Recognition

[Staff Report]

Item Summary

Mrs. Russell earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education and psychology from Houghton College in New York. She began her career as a kindergarten teacher in 1997. While teaching kindergarten, Mrs. Russell earned her master's degree in Pre-Kindergarten through twelfth grade reading. After teaching kindergarten for five years, Mrs. Russell became a 5th and 6th grade Language Arts teacher. She moved to North Carolina in 2004. Mrs. Russell has called Wendell Middle School home since August 2010. Throughout her career, Mrs. Russell has received numerous accolades. She was the Wendell Middle School teacher of the year for 2012-2013 and 2017-2018. She was also nominated for the 2016 Outstanding Secondary Mathematics Teacher Awards Program for Public Schools of North Carolina. Mrs. Russell has an obvious passion for children and the learning process. She has high expectations for students, and she doesn't accept anything less. Ms. Russell is very proactive when it comes to offering students extra assistance, her room is often full of children either before or after school with students receiving extra assistance. She is a creative teacher who makes learning exciting and memorable for the students. We are very fortunate to have Mrs. Russell as a teacher at Wendell Middle School.

Mayor Gray introduced and recognized Wendell Middle School teacher Kathy Russell; staff report included above in italics.

- 5. RECOGNITION OF PRINCIPAL STACY ALSTON, EAST WAKE HIGH SCHOOL.**
SPEAKER: Mayor Gray
ACTION: Recognition

[Staff Report]

Item Summary

Opportunity for Principal Alston to share what East Wake School has accomplished for the school year and upcoming EWHS events.

Mayor Gray introduced and recognized East Wake High School Principal Stacy Alston; staff report included above in italics.

Principal Stacy Alston provided the following updates of East Wake High School:

- East Wake High School transitioned from four small schools to one school
- 1,432 students enrolled at East Wake High School

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- June 2016 had a graduation rate of 95.7 percent, which is the third highest graduation rate in Wake County
 - East Wake High School students exceeded expected growth, meaning the students outperformed where they were last year
 - Capitalizing on teaching that incorporates technology for the students
 - Added a theater program to expand the arts opportunities to students
 - New electronic message board
 - New football coach Sean Murphy to begin soon
 - Gym renovated over the past summer
 - Summer 2017, will renovate the track; cost of \$260,000
 - Working to get the facilities up-to-date
- 6. REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF MAIN STREET FOR THE PROTOWN BMX EVENT SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2017.**
SPEAKER: Parks & Recreation Director Jeff Polaski
ACTION: Board may take action.

[Staff Report]

Item Summary:

The Parks & Recreation Department is hosting the ProTown BMX on Saturday March 25, 2017, in downtown to perform two stunt shows, autograph sessions and riding clinics. The first show starts at 11:00 am and the second show will start soon after the conclusion of the first riding clinic. The show wrap up around 3:00 pm.

The Parks & Recreation Department is asking that a section of Main Street be closed for this event downtown.

In the event of rain, the requested rain date is Sunday, March 26, 2017, same time and same location.

Parks and Recreation Director Jeff Polaski provided an overview of the request for a temporary closure of Main Street for the ProTown BMX on Saturday, March 25, 2017; staff report included above in italics.

Parks and Recreation Director Polaski requested the temporary closure of Main Street between the railroad and Third Street. He stated this will allow more space for the event. He contacted the vendors that would be open and all are in favor of the temporary street closure.

ACTION

Mover: Mayor Pro Tem Lutz moved to approve the request for the temporary street closure of Main Street for the [ProTown] BMX event on Saturday, March 25, 2017.

Vote: Unanimous.

- 7. DISCUSSION OF 2017 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR THE TOWN OF WENDELL; CONTINUED FROM THE DECEMBER 12, 2016 TOWN BOARD MEETING.**
SPEAKER: Commissioners John Boyette and Jason Joyner
ACTION: Discussion. Board may take action.











[Staff Report]

Item Summary




The Board of Commissioners will discuss and provide direction.

Commissioner Joyner stated Commissioner Boyette and he discussed this item. He provided the below list of legislative items that were customized to Wendell. He would ask that the Wake County delegates continue to support Wendell with the below list:

2017 Town of Wendell Legislative Positions:

-  Support legislation that provides municipalities with stability during any change made by the county or state in changes its method of distributing sales tax revenue.
-  Support legislation that provides sufficient funding for incentive programs that consider sub-county data in the formula for awarding those incentives.
-  Support legislation to revise the tier method of measuring economic distress that take sub-county data into account.
-  Support legislation to bolster the state's mental health and intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) treatment resources, including resources and solutions to lessen the strain on sworn law enforcement officers when providing custody of individuals in crisis.
-  Support legislation which defends the fiscal integrity of the Local Government Employees' Retirement System and its defined benefit structure, promotes reasonable pension reforms that are prospective in nature, and meets the needs of local employees, employers, and retirees.
-  Support legislation or administrative changes that provide for the long term health and protection of municipal employees.
-  Support legislation that provides increased individual municipal priorities in the allocation of funding and selection of local transportation projects.
-  Support legislation and administrative changes that provide municipalities with a less cumbersome means of accessing state resources. Specifically in the areas of commerce/economic development and transportation.
-  Support legislation that maintains funding for both governmental (NCDPS Governor's Crime Commission) and non-governmental service organizations (Interact/East Wake Education Foundation) that provide direct funding and services to municipalities.
-  Oppose legislation that takes control and oversight away from the Town of Wendell.

Request additional/continued support from Wendell's legislative delegation with:

-  Funding with transportation projects. Specifically in regards to the Old Battle Bridge Road Bride project as well as the Wendell Falls Parkway and Wendell Blvd. corridors.
-  Obtaining resources for economic development and related infrastructure projects within the town's corporate limits as well as the towns ETJ.
-  Recruiting commercial development and industry to locate within the Town of Wendell.

ACTION


Mover: Commissioner Joyner moved to approve the legislative positions as written; incorporated into the minutes.

Vote: Unanimous.

8. UPDATE ON BOARD COMMITTEE(S) BY TOWN BOARD MEMBERS:

 **Technical Review Committee [Commissioner Carroll]**

Commissioner Carroll stated Cruizers Gas Station was approved at Wendell Falls with conditions.

 **Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) [Mayor Gray]**


Mayor Gray stated the executive board bylaws were discussed. Executive board elections results were Mayor Sears of Holly Springs as the chair and Mayor Harold Weinbrecht of Cary as the vice-chair. Discussed various plans and received project updates.

 **East Wake Senior Center [Commissioner Myrick]**

Commissioner Myrick stated the EWSC has two requests:

- Update signage to be more noticeable
- ADA access to entrance door

He added he is working with Town Manager Piner for costs and funding sources.

 **Conference Table (GRCVB) [Mayor Gray]**

Mayor Gray stated received reports on statistics on persons coming to North Carolina and Raleigh.

9. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS.

Commissioner Joyner stated he attended the Town Board Retreat on Saturday. He trusts the decision making of every person on the Board and it was a good feeling at the retreat. Board is hungry for opportunities to make change. He encouraged citizen feedback on opportunities.

Commissioner Boyette stated his thanks to the mayor and town staff for an excellent retreat. He thought a lot was accomplished. He expressed appreciation for Commissioner Joyner's input on the legislative agenda and he looks forward to discussing it at the upcoming Town Hall Day in March.

Commissioner Myrick stated no report.

Mayor Pro Tem Lutz stated his thanks for everyone who participated in the Saturday retreat. He added this Friday at the Wendell Methodist Church is an all you can eat pancake and sausage dinner. This is a fundraiser to support the ministry.

Commissioner Carroll stated his thanks to all the teachers and school staff. Wendell has very good teachers in the area.

10. MAYOR'S REPORT.

Mayor Gray thanked Town Manager Piner and Special Assistant to the Manager Scoggins for their work for the retreat.

Mayor Gray will meeting with Senator Chad Barefoot in the near future to discuss the Town's legislative agenda.

11. CLOSED SESSION.

ACTION: Closed Session will be called if necessary.

No closed session called.

12. ADJOURN.

ACTION:

Mover: Mayor Pro Tem Lutz moved to adjourn at 7:26 p.m.

Vote: Unanimous.

Duly adopted this 13th day of February 2017, while in regular session.

ATTEST:

Virginia R. Gray, Mayor

Sherry L. Scoggins, MMC; Town Clerk