

Regular Meeting of the Town Council

December 17th, 2013
Council Chambers

6:00pm

Minutes & General Account

Council Members Present: Mayor Volz, Council Members Montgomery, Nixon-Roney, Thomas & Walls

Staff present: Chuck Smith, Paul Blanchard, Judy Gallman, Matthew Johnson, Jeff Greeson, Martha Wolfe, and Beth Koonce, Town Attorney

Ragsdale High School Representative – Marissa Walsh

Visitors Present: Carol Brooks of the Jamestown News, Paul & Patti Craft, Karen Walls, Tom Johnston, Devard Johnston, Billy Ragsdale, Deana Freeman, Darrell Freeman

1. Call to Order – Mayor Volz called the meeting to order.
2. Community Reflections – Mayor Volz welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. It is the Holiday Season and he wished everyone a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year and safe travels. He announced that the Town Hall will be closed December 24th – 26th, 2013. Regular trash pickup will begin on Friday 12-27-13.

He asked for a moment of silence.

3. Approval of minutes from the November 19th, 2013 regular & closed session Council meetings – Council Member Nixon-Roney made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 19, 2013 regular and closed session Council meetings. Council Member Thomas made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Council Member Nixon-Roney made a motion to seal the November 19th, 2013 closed session minutes until at such time the disclosure will no longer frustrate the purpose for which the closed session was held. Council Member Montgomery made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. Resolution Honoring the Retirement of Paul E. Craft – Mayor Volz called Paul E. Craft to come forward. Mayor Volz read and presented a Resolution in Honor of Paul's retirement as a Physician Assistant from 40 years of practice in the Town of Jamestown.

(Resolution)

Mayor Volz also presented Paul Craft with a key to the city. Paul thanked the Mayor & Council. He stated that it has been a pleasure to serve the citizens of Jamestown.

5. Continuance of Public Hearing to consider a Master Signage Plan for the Forestdale Shopping Center – Matthew Johnson stated the Planning Board has continued the Public Hearing for the Master Signage

Plan for the Forestdale Shopping Center. The owner is still working on some issues. They have respectfully requested a continuance of the Public Hearing until the January 21, 2014 meeting.

Council Member Nixon-Roney made a motion to grant a continuance of the Public Hearing to consider a Master Signage Plan for the Forestdale Shopping Center to the January 21, 2014 meeting. Council Member Thomas made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

6. Public Comment Period - Jay Gardner, 6316 Gardner Lane. Mr. Gardner addressed the Council. He stated he had 2 reasons for being at this meeting. 1. To wish a Merry Christmas to all and to thank the Council for his 23 years here as the past Park Superintendent. 2. His second concern is that a couple of weeks ago, Kristine Brown, vendor at the Grill at Jamestown Park, signed a lease renewal for a year. He has since heard that she is moving out of the grill at the end of this month. He is concerned and would like to know what is happening at the grill.

Mayor Volz stated we intend to find out. Mayor Volz stated that Kristine is a valuable person at the Golf Course.

7. Discussion of utility right-a-way maintenance ordinance – Beth Koonce, Town Attorney, stated at the present time, City of Greensboro, has revised their ordinance in an attempt to get some standard practices for tree trimming and removal of debris. Council had in their packets a copy of the sample Greensboro Utility Vegetation Management Ordinance. Koonce stated she understands that Duke Energy has agreed to the majority of the content in the ordinance.

However, there is an issue between Greensboro & Duke Energy as to where the police powers of the city stops and the authority of the Utility Commission begins. Duke takes the position that the maintenance to their right-a-way is regulated by the Utilities Commission. That is the issue which is being argued before the Utilities Commission now. It was argued last week. The decision will not be until January or February. Koonce thinks Duke Energy is interested in having some standards set, but they want those standards to be set statewide. Koonce stated Duke's position is that they are allowed to maintain their right-a-way in whatever is reasonably required to maintain the right-a-way. Reasonably can mean different things in the eye of the beholder. She advises before Jamestown considers adopting an ordinance wait for the decision from the Utilities Commission in January or February.

Council Member Walls stated he felt the property owner had a right to protect their property. It is unfair to the property owner for their properties to be trashed by Duke Energy. He would like to ask if Jamestown could join forces with City of Greensboro and present Jamestown's material to the Utilities Commission, let them see that other towns, not just Greensboro, are concerned about the issues of right-a-way maintenance.

Koonce said she would be glad to talk with the Greensboro City Attorney, however, her opinion is that it might be too late to do this because the case was actually argued before the Utilities Commission last week. She feels we should see how Greensboro fairs with their case.

Koonce stated she has some sympathy for Duke in that it would be difficult for their contractors to know where municipality lines stops and where county lines begin. Council Member Nixon-Roney requested this subject be included as an agenda item for the February Council meeting as a follow up. We want to see what happens with the Greensboro Ordinance and with the statewide regulations by the Utilities Commission.

8. Set Public Hearing Date to consider amendment to the Animal Control Ordinance – Smith said the Town of Jamestown contracts with Guilford County to provide animal control services within the Town limits. The County Commissioners have adopted a new animal control ordinance. Therefore, the Town of Jamestown should amend their animal control ordinance to be in compliance with Guilford County. He requested a Public Hearing to be set for the January 21, 2014 Council meeting.

Council Member Montgomery made a motion to set a Public Hearing date for January 21, 2014 meeting to consider an amendment to the Animal Control Ordinance. Council Member Nixon-Roney made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

9. Set Public Hearing date to consider various minor Land Development Ordinance changes to reflect new legislation adopted by the N. C. General Assembly – Matthew Johnson stated we are requesting a Public Hearing to consider various minor changes to the Land Development Ordinance due to new legislation by the General Assembly passed this last session. Council Member Nixon-Roney made a motion to set a Public Hearing for the January 21, 2014 Council meeting to consider approving the various minor changes to the LDO. Council Member Montgomery made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

10. Resolution for approving the 2012 Local Water Supply Plan – Paul Blanchard stated the Resolution was included in the Council Packet. He stated this is standard language given to us by the State. He stated the Town is currently under 50% of the water capacity that we have set out from City of High Point and the PTRWA. The Town is in good shape.

Council Member Montgomery made a motion to adopt the Resolution for approving the 2012 Local Water Supply Plan. Council Member Thomas made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

(Resolution)

11. Jamestown Golf Course Monthly report – Smith presented the November report for the Golf Course activity. He stated last year the weather was perfect for the month of November. This November some of our numbers are down. The weather has been a factor in the number of rounds played.

12. Jamestown Park PARTF Matching Funds – Smith stated the Council approved submitting a PARTF Application for grant funding. He is seeking Council approval for the “Sources of the Applicant’s Matching Funds”. We are detailing out where the funds would be drawn from if we are awarded the grant. The one thing to note is that availability of funds is approved in the Town’s annual budget. If we are awarded the grant, we would have to do a budget amendment. General Fund and General Capital Reserve Fund would be the 2 main funding sources. Additional funds may be taken out of appropriated fund balance if needed.

Council Member Thomas made a motion to approve the Sources of Applicant’s Matching Funds. Council Member Nixon-Roney made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

13. Budget amendment – Judy Gallman presented budget amendment #3. She stated this amendment has 2 parts. The first part is to record the pass-thru grant from Guilford County to the Library over and above the base amount already budgeted in the amount of \$43,959.00. The second part is to record a grant received from the N. C. Community Conservation Assistance Program for a pet waste station at Jamestown Park in the amount of \$368.00. Smith stated that this grant was applied for by the Town Clerk, Martha Wolfe. This pet waste station is well needed at Jamestown Park.

Council Member Nixon-Roney made a motion to approve budget amendment # 3 in the amount of \$44,327.00. Council Member Thomas made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

14. Analysis of Financial Position of the Town of Jamestown – Gallman presented the financial statement report for the month ending November 30, 2013. She stated the cash balance for the Town of Jamestown is approximately 8.4 million and of that approximately 2.7 million is in reserve.

The detailed financial report for the month of November 30, 2013 reflects payment to Guilford County for tax collection fee for the year. The Town also incurred expenses for sidewalk capital improvement projects.

There were no questions for Ms. Gallman.

15. Public Comment Period – No one registered to speak.

16. Old Business – Mayor Volz asked if there was any old business to come before the Council. There was none.

17. Resolution Honoring Council Member William T. Walls – Mayor Volz asked Council Member Walls to come forward. Mayor Volz read & presented a Resolution to Council Member Walls in Honor of his service on the Council.

(Resolution)

Mayor Volz also presented Mr. Walls with a certificate acknowledging that the Town had donated a brick in his honor at the Wrenn Miller Park.

Mr. Walls thanked the Council and said it was an honor to serve with them. He thanked the Town Clerk and Town staff for their hard work. He also thanked his wife for her support. Council Member Walls was excused from the table.

18. Oath of Office – Mayor Volz called newly elected William G. Ragsdale, IV forward to take his place at the Council Table. The Town Clerk administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected Council Members.

(Oaths)

19. New Business - As the first order of business, the Council appointed the Mayor Pro Temp. Council Member Nixon-Roney made a motion to appoint Council Member Brock Thomas to serve as the Mayor Pro Temp. Council Member Ragsdale made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

20. Adjournment – Council Member Thomas made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Montgomery made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The meeting ended at 6:40pm.