

January 17, 2006
Minutes of Town Council Regular Meeting
6:00 P.M.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Bobby Austin
Bob Gibbs
Eddie Bowman
Gerelene Blevins
Joe Wesson

STAFF PRESENT

Robert Frye
Terry Taylor
Jennifer Nichols

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Bobby Austin called the meeting to order.

MOMENT OF SILENCE: Mayor Bobby Austin called for a moment of silence in honor of Emily Anderson

INVOCATION: Rick Crouse gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Bobby Austin led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVE MEETING MINUTES: December 20, 2005 Regular Meeting minutes were approved on a motion made by Eddie Bowman and seconded by Joe Norman. All were in favor. December 29, 2005 Special Meeting minutes were approved on a motion made by Eddie Bowman and seconded by Gerelene Blevins. All were in favor.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

FIRST ITEM: Mid-Year Financial Report: Finance Director Bonnie Mann presented a Mid-Year Update to the Council. Ms. Mann stated that the town was well within the projected expenses and revenues for the year with the following exceptions:

Revenues: Due to the increase in interest rates the town is showing a 44% increase in estimated Investment Earnings in all funds.

Revenues: The Ad Valorem Taxes have been reduced by approximately \$2,000.

Expenses: Sewer charges are less than anticipated while Water purchases are up 8% due to an increase in City of Lenoir's rates. These should balance each other out overall for the year.

Park Revenues and Expenses: As of December the town has received \$51,806 in reimbursement from Duke Power and have spent \$66,710 of the allocated \$175,000 of the Phase 1-A of the project.

PLANNING MATTERS:

FIRST ITEM: Bernice and Stanley Edwards – Family Subdivision Request: Mr. and Mrs. Edwards submitted a request for a minor subdivision of their property located on the Hickory Nut Ridge Road. The intent of the Edwards is to split the property into two parcels and to deed the newly created lots to their children, as with any subdivision of this nature a right of way agreement is required for access to one of the newly created lots. A motion was made by Joe Norman to approve the request contingent upon the right of way agreement being signed. A second was made by Eddie Bowman. All were in favor.

SECOND ITEM: Shelda Altman – Family Subdivision Request: Mrs. Altman submitted a request for a family subdivision of her mother's property located off Stamey Road. It is Mrs. Altman's intent to split the property into four parcels. As proposed as there is an existing manufactured home which is grandfathered but will be in violation of the proposed family subdivision. The home in question is too old to be moved and the family has asked that the older couple who live in the home be allowed to remain there until they can move or pass away. The Altman's have agreed to sign a bond in the amount of \$1,870.00 which is the cost estimated should the town need to remove the home from the property. The town would hold the bond until such time as the home will need to be removed. A motion was made by Joe Norman to approve the subdivision request contingent upon the right of way agreement being signed and the posting of a bond in the amount of \$1,870.00. The motion was seconded by Joe Wesson and all were in favor.

THIRD ITEM: Ben Griffin – Subdivision Preliminary Approval: Mr. Griffin has submitted a request for a preliminary subdivision plat for review for property located off Helton Road. The property in question consists of eight lots which Mr. Griffin is proposing to develop in two phases. A motion was made by Joe Norman to approve the plat as is. The motion was seconded by Eddie Bowman and all were in favor.

FOURTH ITEM: Planning Board Vacancy – The Planning Board vacancy discussion which was tabled from last month's meeting was revisited. Per the Council's request the Planning Board reconsidered and resubmitted Mr. Bollinger's name for the vacant position. After much discussion Gerelene Blevins made a motion to nominate Earl Clontz for the position. The motion was seconded by Joe Wesson. The vote showed Gerelene Blevins, Joe Wesson and Bob Gibbs voting affirmatively. The vote was opposed by Joe Norman and Eddie Bowman. Philip Bollinger will continue to fill the alternate position on the Planning Board.

Council Retreat – Town Administrator Robert Frye offered for discussion the dates to arrange the Town Council's retreat. Mr. Frye suggested returning to the Broyhill Civic Center this year and offered the dates of Thursday, February 2nd from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or Thursday, February 9th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.. A motion was made by Joe Wesson for the retreat to be held at the Broyhill Civic Center on Thursday, February 2nd from 10 am to 4 pm. The motion was seconded by Gerelene Blevins and all were in favor. Mayor Bobby Austin called for the retreat to be a special meeting.

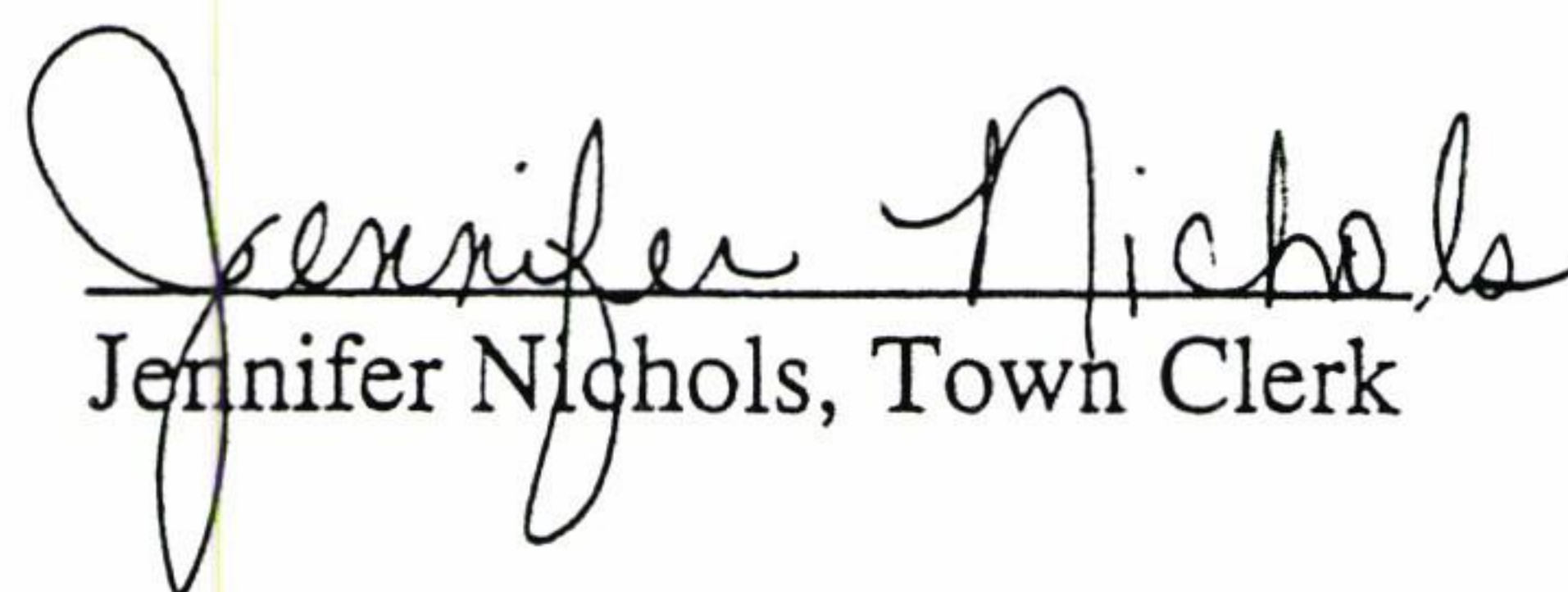
REQUEST FOR PUBLIC HEARING:

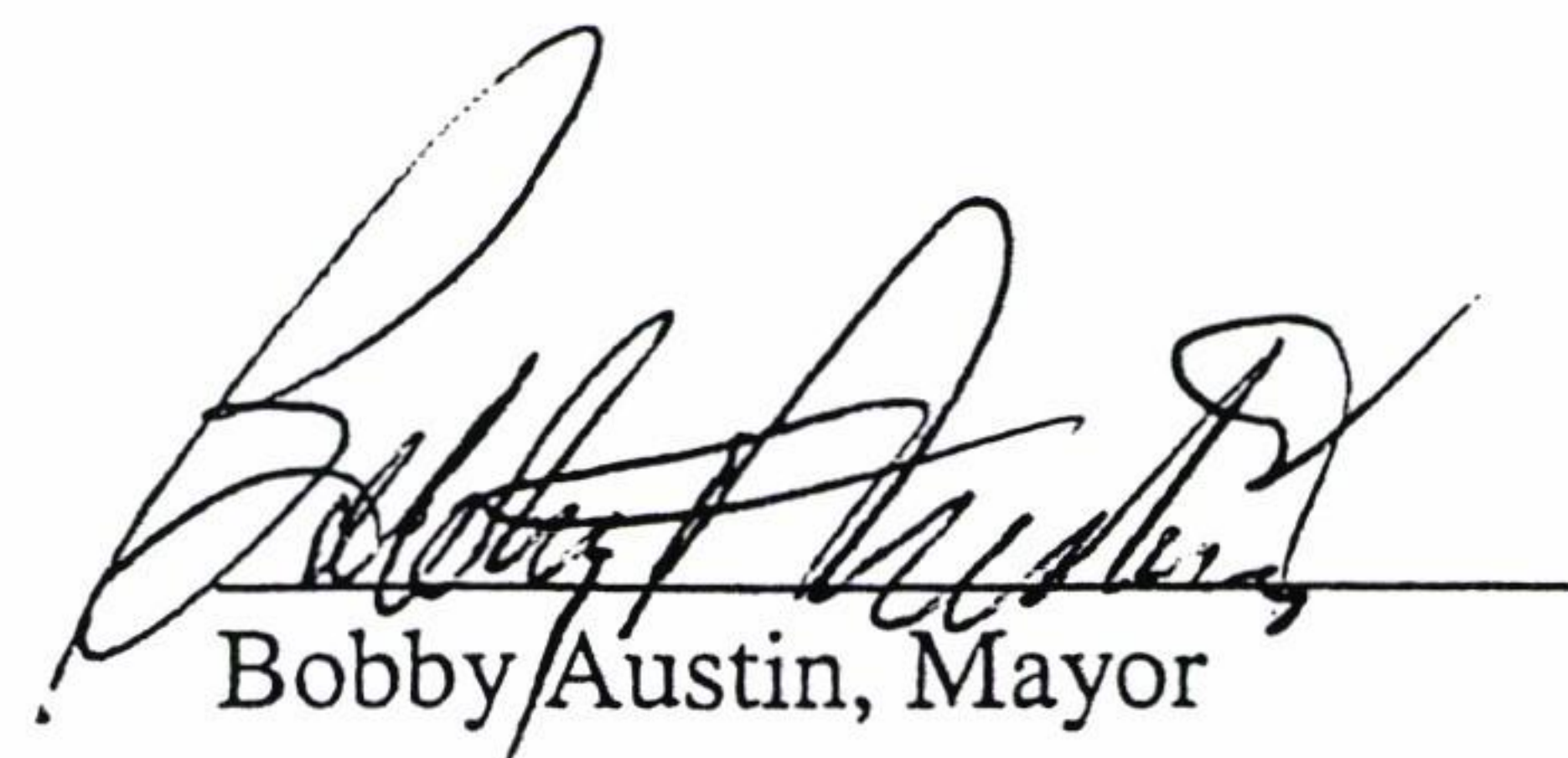
A. Annexation Hearing for Hayes Mill Landing – A request was submitted for voluntary annexation of the Hayes Mill Landing Subdivision by managing partner Walter Moore. A public hearing is required. Town Administrator Robert Frye requested that a public hearing to be held at the Town Council meeting on February 21st. A motion was made by Eddie Bowman to have the public hearing on February 21st at the regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Joe Wesson and all were in favor.

B. Amendment to Sewer Use Ordinance – Town Administrator Robert Frye stated that due to recent changes to state law governing the operation of small town sewer system. This law will require now that we institute a grease containment and treatment program. Mr. Frye informed Council an amendment to the Town's Sewer Use Ordinance is ready but will require a public hearing to be held. Mr. Frye suggested the public hearing the public hearing to be held at the Town Council meeting on February 21st. A motion was made by Eddie Bowman to hold the public hearing at the Town Council meeting on February 21st. The motion was seconded by Joe Norman and all were in favor.

TOWN HALL MEETING: During the town hall meeting one person, Dare Duncan spoke regarding trash pickup on Bucks Drive. Town Administrator Robert Frye addressed the issue with the explanation that the town's garbage trucks had no place to turn and that the installation of a T-turn or cul-de-sac was not possible at this time due to inability to obtain the amount of property necessary.

ADJOURN: A motion was made at 6:40 pm to adjourn the Town Council meeting by Eddie Bowman and was seconded by Joe Wesson. All were in favor.


Jennifer Nichols, Town Clerk


Bobby Austin, Mayor