

May 16, 2006
Minutes of Town Council Regular Meeting
6:00 P.M.

Council Present

Bobby Austin
Bob Gibbs
Eddie Bowman
Gerelene Blevins
Joe Wesson
Joe Norman

Staff Present

Robert Frye
Terry Taylor

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

INVOCATION: Pastor John Greene of Mt. Zion Baptist Church gave the invocation.

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

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: April 18th regular meeting minutes were approved on a motion made by Gerelene Blevins and seconded by Joe Wesson. All were in favor.

ADOPT AGENDA: On a motion made by Joe Wesson and seconded by Bob Gibbs the agenda was adopted with the following changes. Item 10 Request for Speed Bumps was changed to Item 7 with the remaining items numbered accordingly. All were in favor.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

Included in the current year's budget are funds to cover the purchase of a tractor and mowing deck for use by the Streets and Public Works departments.

The Town received the following bids.

Corriher Implement Co.	\$37,250.00
James River Equipment	\$29,130.00
Parker Farm Service	\$40,973.00
Tarheel Tractor Inc.	\$39,733.00

Town Administrator Robert Frye stated that while the bid from James River Equipment was the lowest bid, it did not meet the Town's bid specifications and had to be disqualified. Of the remaining three bids, the bid from Corriher Implement Co. was the next lowest bid. Mr. Frye stated that this bid was \$1,250.00 over what was budgeted for this purchase.

Mr. Frye then stated that as a result of coming in under budget on the skid-steer purchase earlier in the year, sufficient funds could be made available to make up the difference on the aforementioned bid.

Council agreed to use the remaining funds from the skid-steer purchase to make up the difference. On a motion made by Joe Norman and seconded by Joe Wesson the bid was awarded to Corriher Implement Co. in the amount of \$37,250.00. All were in favor.

REQUESTS:

Request for Speed Bumps: Pastor John Greene of Mt. Zion Baptist Church addressed Council and requested that the Town install speed bumps along Duff Drive. Pastor Greene stated that the Church felt that the road was unsafe due to speeders and that speed bumps would alleviate the problem.

Due to costs associated with the installation and maintenance of speed bumps, Council was reluctant to agree to this request. Council did however suggest a willingness to have the requested speed bumps installed on Duff drive if Mt. Zion Baptist Church would be willing to pay the cost of having them installed. Pastor Greene stated that he did not feel that the church would be willing to pay for the entire cost of installation but the church might be willing to pay for some part of the installation costs and that he would take the matter up with the church deacons.

Pastor Greene is to report back to Council on whether or not Mt. Zion is prepared to bear the cost of the speed bump installation at the June 20th Council meeting.

No action was taken.

DISCUSSION:

Yard Sale Signs: Councilwoman Gerelene Blevins asked that this topic be placed on the agenda for discussion. Councilwoman Blevins stated that she had noticed that too many yard sale signs were being left along the road sides and not being collected by the persons who had set them out. She asked if anything could be done to alleviate this problem.

Town Administrator Robert Frye remarked that this was a problem that came up from time to time and that in the past, the Public Works Department would make a concerted effort to keep the signs off the road right of ways. Mr. Frye suggested having the Public Works crews clear remaining signs on Mondays as most yard sales are held on the weekends.

On a motion made by Gerelene Blevins and seconded by Joe Wesson, Council instructed the Public Works Department to use Monday as a day to pickup yard sales signs throughout the Town. All were in favor.

Groups Soliciting Money along the Roadside: Councilwoman Gerelene Blevins asked that this topic be placed on the agenda for discussion. Councilwoman Blevins stated that she had noticed and had received several complaints concerning groups soliciting for money along various intersections within the Town.

While not opposed to the soliciting efforts, Councilwoman Blevins was never the less concerned for the safety of those involved in the soliciting. After much discussion, Council decided that a formal policy should be developed concerning this issue.

Town Attorney Terry Taylor and Town Administrator Robert Frye were instructed to develop such a policy and to report back to Council with a recommendation at a later date.

NCLM Town Hall Day: After a brief discussion, it was decided not to send a delegation to attend the North Carolina League of Municipalities Town Hall Day in Raleigh.

No action was taken.

TOWN HALL MEETING: There were no speakers during the Town Hall meeting.

Closed Session: Personnel Matters

At 6:50 p.m. a motion was made to enter closed session by Joe Norman and was seconded by Bob Gibbs. All were in favor

At 7:15 p.m. a motion was made by Eddie Bowman and seconded by Joe Norman to come out of closed session.

Action taken: Council informed Town Administrator Robert Frye that he would be receiving a two percent cost of living increase and a five percent merit raise effective July 1st.

ADJOURN: A motion was made to adjourn the Town Council meeting by Joe Wesson and was seconded by Bob Gibbs. All were in favor.


Robert Frye, Town Administrator


Bobby Austin, Mayor