TOWN OF SAWMILLS TOWN COUNCIL
Sawmills Town Hall
Tuesday, September 21, 2010
6:00 pm

Council Members Present
Mayor Bob Gibbs
Beverly Fry
Eddie Bowman
Donnie Potter
Joe Wesson
Gerelene Blevins

Staff Present
Karen Clontz
Terry Taylor
Susan Nagle

Call to Order: Mayor Bob Gibbs called the meeting to order.

Invocation: Pastor Burford Pennell gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Bob Gibbs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes. Upon motion of Eddie Bowman and second by Beverly Fry, the August 17, 2010 Minutes were unanimously approved.

Upon motion Joe Wesson and second by Gerelene Blevins, the August 17, 2010 Closed Session Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved.

Upon motion of Donnie Potter and second by Beverly Fry, the Special Meeting Minutes of September 2, 2010 were unanimously approved.

Adopt Agenda: After the following corrections:

1) Add 7(b) Greenwood Terrace; add 8(a) Appointment of Interim Administrator and adding to #11, Closed Session for Personnel matters.

Upon motion of Joe Wesson and second by Donnie Potter, the corrected Agenda was unanimously adopted.

Public Hearing: Mayor Bob Gibbs called the Public Hearing to order for the CDBG-R Dry Ponds Water Project. Upon motion of Donnie Potter, second by Joe Wesson, the motion to open the Public Hearing was unanimously approved. Staff comments were given by Lisa Helton stating that a total of three areas or 105 people and 51 households were able to be served and 8,191 linear feet of water line was able to be installed under the Grant Project. Additionally, Lisa stated that $227,539.40 was spent for Water Improvements, $12,500.00 was spent on Administration and the total amount spent was $240,039.40.

Johnny Wilson was the only public person to make comments, and he commented that the contractors were very good and that they left the area better than they found it and was thankful for the work that was done by the contractor and the Town for this Project.

Upon motion of Donnie Potter and second by Gerelene Blevins, the motion to close the Public Hearing was unanimously approved.

Upon motion of Eddie Bowman and second by Donnie Potter, the motion to close out the CDBG-R Dry Ponds Water Project was unanimously approved.

New Town Hall / Community Center: Upon motion of Donnie Potter and second by Joe Wesson, the motion to cancel the Public Hearing and the Construction Project at this period in time was unanimously approved. The Mayor and Council Members all thanked Ernie Sills and CBSA Architecture, as well as all contractors who had bid on this project, and stated that the project would be put on hold at this period in time.

The next item of discussion was Greenwood Terrace railroad matters. Eddie Bowman spoke to the Council about the proposed Caldwell County railroad spur line and matters concerning the property of Mattie Starnes. Upon motion of Eddie Bowman and seconded by Gerelene Blevins, it was requested that the Town Attorney look into the railroad right-of-way adjacent to this property and the width of the right-of-way at this location. It was unanimously approved. Councilman Eddie Bowman said he would be in contact with the Public and Economic Development Commission and report bact to the Council as to the proposed railroad activities at the next meeting. Eddie Bowman made a motion that the Town Engineer investigate trucks turning into the highway, and other traffic concerns at this location. Second by Gerelene Blevins and unanimously approved.

Town Administrator Letter of Resignation. The Mayor read to the Council the Resignation Letter of Robert Fry, Town Administrator. Upon motion of Gerelene Blevins, seconded by Donnie Potter, the Letter of Resignation was accepted. Donnie Potter, Joe Wesson, Gerelene Blevins, and Beverly Fry voted in favor of accepting the resignation and Eddie Bowman was opposed.

Interim Administrator. Upon motion of Donnie Potter and second by Gerelene Blevins, Karen E. Clontz was appointed as Interim Town Administrator to serve until a permanent Town Administrator replacement has been found. Unanimously approved.

Financial Matters. The Council discussed the purchase of a lawn mower for right-of-way maintenance. After a discussion of the bids that were received, upon motion of Joe Wesson and second by Donnie Potter, it was unanimously approved to table this purchase until more information concerning the warranty and specifications for each proposal were presented.

Settlement Proposal. The next item of discussion concerned the InSite Development Financial Settlement Offer. The Town Attorney reported to the Council that the bonding company had agreed to a settlement amount of $25,000.00 to the Town of Sawmills for the performance bond claim.

Upon motion of Joe Wesson and second of Donnie Potter, the Settlement Proposal was unanimously approved.

Solid Waste Matters. The next item of discussion was a proposal from Benchmark regarding solid waste issues, and administration of this program, as well as code enforcement for the Town of Sawmills. Richard Smith from Benchmark was present to provide the Mayor and Council Members with information on the alternative if Benchmark Consulting was elected to provide code enforcement and solid waste enforcement services for the Town of Sawmills. The Council was appreciative of this presentation, and the information provided and upon motion of Donnie Potter and second of Gerelene Blevins, the Council unanimously approved the solid waste committee investigating this matter further, as well as meeting with the interim Town Administrator to discuss budget amendment and funds available for a program such as this and then would report back to the Council at its next meeting with a recommendation.

Closed Session. Upon motion of Donnie Potter and second by Beverly Fry, the Council unanimously approved going into closed session for Personnel Matters and Attorney/Client Privilege Matters.

Upon motion of Donnie Potter and second by Gerelene Blevins, the Council unanimously approved returning to open session.

On motion by Donnie Potter with a second by Joe Wesson, (amended motion and second) (both agreed to amend their motion) the motion was made to increase the stipend of the Mayor from $250.00 to $850.00 beginning October 1 during the time that the Mayor would be at the Town Hall on an as-needed basis until a permanent Town Administrator has been selected.

Those in favor: Beverly Fry, Donnie Potter, Joe Wesson, Gerelene Blevins
Those opposed: Eddie Bowman

This motion passed.

Upon motion by Donnie Potter, second by Joe Wesson, the Council unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:20 P.M.

Susan Nagle

Susan Nagle, Town Clerk

Bob Gibbs, Mayor

RESOLUTION

TOWN OF SAWMILLS

THAT WHEREAS, the Town of Sawmills has accepted the Resignation of the current Town Administrator as of this the 21st day of September, 2010.

THAT WHEREAS, the Town of Sawmills does desire to appoint Karen E. Clontz as Interim Administrator to serve in this capacity with the authority to sign on any and all documents and with the authority to sign such permits and other official matters requiring the signature of the Town Administrator until a permanent Town Administrator is selected to fill this position.

THAT WHEREAS, the Mayor, Bob Gibbs, has agreed to be available at Town Hall on an as-needed basis to be available to assist with the day to day activities of the Town so long as said duties do not in any way conflict with North Carolina General Statute 160A-158.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Town of Sawmills, that Karen E. Clontz shall be appointed Interim Town Administrator for the Town of Sawmills to act until a permanent replacement has been selected.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it also resolved, that the Mayor, Bob Gibbs, will be available on a day to day basis as needed to answer questions and assist in Town Activities, to the extent that these activities do not in any way conflict with North Carolina General Statute 160A-158.

This the 21ST day of SEPTEMBER, 2010.

TOWN OF SAWMILLS SEAL JULY 1, 1988 CALDWELL COUNTY, N.C.

Eddie Bowman
Eddie Bowman, Mayor Pro-Tem

Attest:

Susan M. Nagle
Clerk

172180.1