

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2008
TOWN OF SAWMILLS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
6:00 P.M.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Bobby Austin
Bob Gibbs
Gerelene Blevins
Beverly Fry
Eddie Bowman
Joe Norman

STAFF PRESENT

Terry Taylor
Robert Frye
Susan Noll

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

INVOCATION: Mayor Austin gave the invocation.

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

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 21st MEETING MINUTES: Mayor Austin asked for a motion to approve the October 21, 2008 minutes.

On a motion made by Eddie Bowman and seconded by Bob Gibbs, the minutes were approved. All were in favor.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 21st CLOSED SESSION MINUTES: Mayor Austin asked for a motion to approve the October 21, 2008 closed session minutes.

On a motion made by Eddie Bowman and seconded by Bob Gibbs, the minutes were approved. All were in favor.

ADOPT AGENDA: Mayor Austin asked for a motion to adopt the agenda with the following change: add as agenda item 10 A closed session: personnel matters.

On a motion made by Joe Norman and seconded by Beverly Fry, the agenda was adopted with change. All were in favor.

PUBLIC HEARING: REZONING REQUEST: Alan Wood with Caldwell County EDC addressed Council and requested that scheduled public hearing on this matter be postponed until the December 16 meeting in order to give the newly elected commissioner's time to consider the matter.

COUNCIL ACTION TAKEN: Mayor Austin called for the public hearing to be rescheduled until the December 16, 2008 meeting.

On a motion made by Eddie Bowman and seconded by Joe Norman the public hearing for the rezoning request has been postponed until 6:00 p.m. December 16, 2008. All were in favor.

PUBLIC HEARING: AMENDMENTS TO ZONING ORDINANCE:

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Austin asked for a motion to open the public hearing at 6:04 p.m.

Bob Gibbs made a motion to open the public hearing and Eddie Bowman seconded. All were in favor.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Town Administrator Robert Frye presented the proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance (See attached) summary as follows:

Clarifications: Definition of Front and Side Yard: Clarify what defines a front and side yard of a house.

Additions: Mini Storage Buildings: Allow Mini-storage buildings/warehouses to be added in the allowable uses section of the Highway Business Zoning Classification.

Additions/Clarifications: Maximum Billboard Size/Electronic Billboards: Allow electronic billboards in the 321 Highway Advertising District and clarify the maximum size allowable for billboards.

Additions: Farm Animals Within The Corporate Limits of the Town: Address the issue of people keeping goats and pigs as pets.

The Planning board has reviewed these changes and would recommend Council adopt the amendments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Town Administrator Robert Frye asked if there was anyone wishing to speak. There was no one signed up to speak.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Austin asked for a motion to close the public hearing at 6:05p.m.

Eddie Bowman made a motion to close the public hearing and Joe Norman seconded. All were in favor.

COUNCIL ACTION: On a motion made by Joe Norman and seconded by, Gerelene Blevins the changes to the town's zoning ordinance were adopted. All were in favor.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

PRESENTATION OF FY 2007-08 AUDIT: Jim Lowdermilk with Lowdermilk Church & Co., LLP presented to Council the 2007-2008 town audit.

Mr. Lowdermilk stated that the Town received a clean audit and commended staff and Council on their efforts to maintain a strong fund balance.

No Council Action was required.

BID AWARD: VETERAN'S PARK GRADING PROJECT: The Town recently received the following bids for the Veteran's Park grading project:

Baker's Construction Services	\$808,659.79
CK Contracting Inc.	\$579,500.00
Clary Hood Inc.	\$624,395.00
DPI Construction Inc.	\$2,069,914.98
Eagle Wood Inc.	\$673,759.52
Huffman Grading Co.	\$568,838.39
Hunter Construction Group	\$559,001.62
InSite Development	\$486,858.00
Lee Scism Grading Inc.	\$786,735.85
Mountain Creek Contractors	\$619,200.00
Neill Grading and Construction Co.	\$544,881.00
Jerry T. Whitmire Grading	\$862,843.00
Sullivan Eastern Inc.	\$817,362.00
T & K Utilities Inc.	\$1,191,654.00
Wyatt Aldridge Construction Inc.	\$499,849.62
Young and McQueen Grading	\$687,575.00

Town Administrator Frye stated that there were sufficient funds in the Parks and Recreation budget to cover this expenditure and he recommended that Council award the bid to InSite Development in the amount of \$486,858.00.

On a motion made by Eddie Bowman and seconded by Joe Norman Council awarded the bid to InSite Development in the amount of \$486,858.00.

EMPLOYEE LONGEVITY PAY: The Town of Sawmills pays out an employee longevity pay the first pay period in December.

On a motion made by Eddie Bowman and seconded by Gerelene Blevins Council approved the disbursement of longevity pay for employees. All were in favor.

PLANNING MATTERS:

PLANNING COMMISSION REQUEST FOR PUBLIC HEARING: The Town has been approached concerning the possible construction of an indoor firing range and outdoor security training facility.

If the Town is to allow this type of land use, the zoning ordinance needs to be amended.

Council received a recommendation from the Planning Commission to amend to Section 80H (B) General Manufacturing Conditional Uses to include Indoor Firing Ranges as a conditional use amendment and to hold a public hearing during the December 16, 2008 Council meeting.

On a motion made by Eddie Bowman and seconded by Bob Gibbs a public hearing will be held on December 16, 2008 to amend zoning ordinance for allowing conditional use permits for Indoor Firing Ranges.

TOWN HALL MEETING: Mayor Austin asked if anyone signed up to speak at the Town hall meeting.

Garrett Bolick has requested permission to move his car lot beside Bolick's Tire on 321-A in Sawmills from Granite Falls.

Town Administrator Robert Frye stated that the request was under review and that he would respond in writing to Mr. Bolick by end of the week.

CLOSED SESSION: PERSONNEL MATTERS: Mayor Austin asked for a motion to go into closed session.

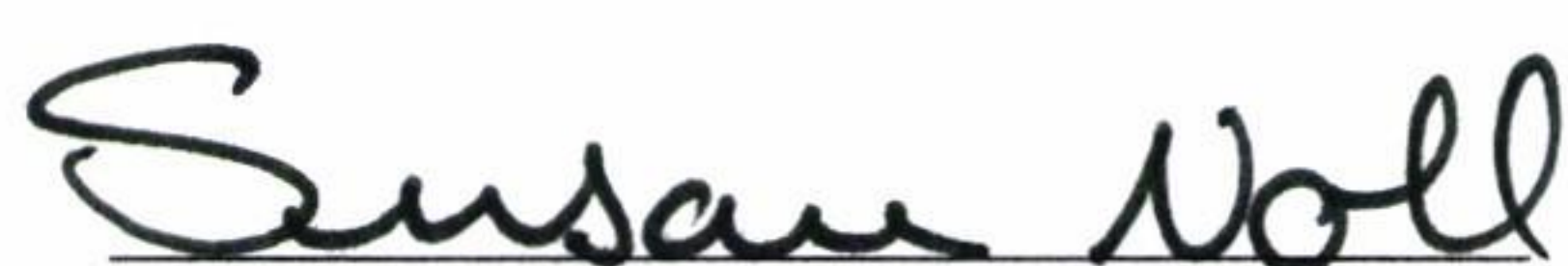
At 6:25 p.m. on a motion made by Joe Norman and seconded by Eddie Bowman Council went into closed session.

ACTION TAKEN: On a motion made by Gerelene Blevins and seconded by Eddie Bowman the Council decided to adjust Town Clerk Susan Noll's salary due to her recent IIMC Clerk Certification. All were in favor.

At 6:35 p.m. on a motion made by Eddie Bowman and seconded by Joe Norman Council came out of closed session. All were in favor.

ADJOURN: Mayor Austin asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

On a motion made by Eddie Bowman and seconded by Joe Norman, the meeting was adjourned.


Susan Noll, Town Clerk


Bobby Austin, Mayor