

Zebulon Board of Commissioners
Work Session
Minutes
April 20, 2011

Present: Robert S. Matheny-Mayor, Curtis Strickland, Roy Collins, Beverly Clark, Dale Beck, Don Bumgarner, Rick Hardin-Town Manager, Lisa Markland-Town Clerk, Mark Hetrick-Planning, Emily Lucas-Finance, Chris Ray-Public Works, Tim Hayworth-Police, Jim Furr-Attorney

Mayor Matheny called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Bumgarner made a motion, second by Commissioner Clark to approve the agenda. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING

Stormwater Management Program

Chris Ray introduced Marty Stone with the Wooten Group who would present the plan for the public.

Marty Stone gave a PowerPoint presentation about what was required in the plan and what was being proposed in the plan for the Town. The time frame of when different elements of the plan were required and how the plan would meet the requirements were also presented. It also spoke about having volunteers participate in the program to get the word out and to educate people on the program.

Commissioner Strickland asked about the houses per square mile method of implementing the program instead of the mileage of curb and gutter. Marty Stone explained that it was based on density and population and he explained that the discharge into Little Creek and the fact that creek was on the 303d list was what actually caused Zebulon to have to implement the plan.

There was some discussion about where the runoff into Little Creek was coming from and causing the problems.

Mayor Matheny asked if there was anyone who wished to speak. There were none.

The public hearing was declared closed and the matter to be discussed later.

OLD BUSINESS

Public Works

Stormwater Management Program

Chris Ray stated that the goal was to gather all additional information from the public and Board to finish up the plan and then bring it back to the Board for adoption at the May work session.

Commissioner Strickland asked when the document had to be finished. Chris explained that it was due into DENR by July 2011.

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Nutrient Buy Down

Chris Ray stated previously it was discussed about developing and implementing a nutrient buy down program and since that time staff had learned that the Town was not required to have such a program. Nutrient reduction through best management practices was all that the Town was required to do.

Staff therefore was recommending that the Town not implement a nutrient buy down program and to remove such language from the Town Ordinance.

The Board agreed with that recommendation and directed staff to make the necessary changes.

Planning

Triangle Transit

Mark Hetrick introduced Jenny Rogers to present the changes that were proposed for the Zebulon, Wendell, Raleigh express route.

Jenny Rogers stated that the changes, if approved by the Board of Trustees, would be implemented around the end of August.

The nature of the changes was to improve the productivity of the route and they were proposing that the route in the morning come into service in Zebulon and then go out of service in Zebulon. That was being proposed since the buses would be housed in the evening at the Poole Road CAT operations facility and the ridership from Raleigh to Zebulon in the morning was very low.

There would be a couple of changes to the stops and one of those would be at Wake Med on New Bern Avenue instead of having to go around the back of hospital. The changes should save about \$4000.

Mayor Matheny asked if they had surveyed any of the industries about the number of people that commute from Raleigh to Zebulon. The initial discussions were to have a park and ride lot in Raleigh for people coming to Zebulon. Jenny stated she was not aware of that being done.

Mayor Matheny said that based on the current ridership their decision made sense but thought that the positive employment in Zebulon warranted study.

There was discussion about getting a trip in the middle of the day so that people would not have to wait until the end of the day to do it. There was also discussion about the emergency ride home program. A taxi would take them home and it was fully subsidized.

There were no further questions.

Finance

Ordinance 2011-33

Emily Lucas explained that the sponsor for the Parks & Recreation Tar Heel League Tournament, GlaxoSmithKline, was unable to continue with the \$5000 sponsorship. All profits from the tournament were going into a reserved capital line for the baseball program.

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Staff was recommending that \$4,820 be moved from a reserved capital line into the operating budget to purchase new nets for the batting cages.

Commissioner Beck made a motion, second by Commissioner Clark to adopt Ordinance 2011-33. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Budget Draft

Emily gave a PowerPoint presentation on what staff was proposing for the 2011-12 budget. She presented the challenges, revenues, taxes, expenditures, and capital improvements proposed.

Revenues were proposed to increase less than one percent over the previous year, staff was proposing to increase the garbage fee to \$17.76 and to add a stormwater fee of \$2.24 per account. There was discussion about the Parks & Recreation fees and if s should charge out of town people more than the additional \$10 currently being charged. Staff was instructed to look at those fees and how many participants were from outside of Zebulon.

Expenditures were proposed to increase 3.6 percent due mainly to the new stormwater program and three additional firefighter positions. Mayor Matheny asked if any actual positions were being added to the stormwater program. Emily explained that there would two additional people and some part-time people would be phased out.

Merit raises were at five percent but staff was proposing a 2.5 percent maximum increase merit plan.

The planning department was recommending the completion of the UDO by hiring a company to do such a project.

The operating expenditures would increase \$245,800, and the capital improvement plan was decreased \$293,000 from what was presented at the retreat. Staff was recommending \$475,000 be appropriated from fund balance to balance the budget. If that were done and it was spent it would bring the percentage down from 82 percent to 70 percent.

Water and sewer rates would need to increase 7.5 percent to try to get the proforma back in line with projections needed to pay it off by 2023. That would make an average bill increase about \$6.30 a month. What Raleigh decided to do with their rates would affect what the Town had to do with their rates.

Commissioner Strickland expressed his total distain for the water rates and how it would affect the sale of property within the Town. Commissioner Beck also stated that it was unfair to have mandates that were not funded by the state or the federal government.

BOARD COMMENTS

No comments at this time.

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MANAGERS REPORT

Rick Hardin stated that Town offices would be closed Friday, April 22 for Easter, the Festival on the Lawn would be April 30 at the Municipal Complex, a handout for the census number and the review that was in the process.

Commissioners Strickland made a motion, second by Commissioner Clark to go into closed session for the purpose of personnel discussion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

NOTE: In closed session, Commissioner Beck made a motion, second by Commissioner Strickland to come out of closed session. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Beck made a motion, second by Commissioner Strickland to give Rick Hardin a five percent raise and to roll his monthly travel allowance into his salary. There was no discussion and the motion passed with a 4-1 vote with Commissioners Beck, Clark, Strickland and Collins voting in favor and Commissioner Bumgarner voting against.

Mayor Matheny stated that even though he was not able to vote he wanted it noted that he was opposed to the motion as well.

Commissioner Bumgarner made a motion, second by Commissioner Collins to adjourn. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Date

Robert S. Matheny—Mayor

SEAL

Lisa M. Markland, CMC—Town Clerk