



## **Minutes of Regular Town of Fremont Meeting October 20th, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen for the Town of Fremont, NC was held at 7:30 p.m. on October 20th, 2015 at the Fremont Town Hall. Present were:

W. Darron Flowers, Mayor  
Al Lewis, Alderman  
W. T. Smith, Alderman  
Leon Mooring, Alderman  
Joyce C. Reid, Alderman  
Annie Lewis, Alderman

Also in attendance, Interim Town Administrator Barbara Aycock, Town Clerk Marti Jones, , Billings and Collections Clerk Shameshia Fennell, Public Works Director Tim Howell and Chief Paul Moats.

Mayor pro-tem Harold Cuddington was not in attendance.

**Quorum Present: YES**

### **Call to Order**

Mayor Flowers called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Pastor Ira Reynolds offered a prayer. Alderman Annie Lewis led all in attendance in the pledge of allegiance.

### **Agenda**

Mayor Flowers asked for a motion to approve or amend the agenda. Alderman Annie Lewis made a motion to approve the agenda for October 20th, 2015. Alderman Leon Mooring seconded the motion. No discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Flowers asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the September 15th meeting. Alderman Joyce Reid made a motion to accept the minutes of September 15th, 2015 meeting. Alderman W.T. Smith seconded the motion. No discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Flowers stated Alderman Harold Cuddington would not be present due to the recent hospitalization of his wife.

## **Announcements**

- 1) STEP Meeting October 27th, 2015
- 2) Town Hall Closed for Thanksgiving November 26, 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015
- 3) Check out the Town's New Newsletter (Mrs. Shameshia Fennell)

## **Public Comment**

Mayor Flowers opened the public comment session.

Pastor Ira Reynolds with Renewal Place states he wanted to give an update on Renewal Place. The Golden Leaf Foundation had a meeting with the County Manager and stated there had been 3 letters sent in and Renewal Place was one of the three. On November 3<sup>rd</sup> there will be another meeting to vote on what will be sent to the Golden Leaf Foundation. Pastor Reynolds has also asked for donations from BB&T, Southern Bank, Food Lion and Wal-Mart. He stated he has met with WCC and they are wanting to do classes in this area like GED classes. He has met with Mr. Jones of the Norwayne Alumni to discuss the use of their buildings for some of these classes. Pastor Reynolds is looking for open lots to work with Habitat for Humanity to build homes in Fremont.

Mayor Flowers stated Pastor Reynolds is on the Action Items of the Agenda so if there are any questions or discussions to please do so. He stated it is very impressive to see the enthusiasm that is being shown by Mr. Reynolds and others and wanted to thank Pastor Reynolds for what he is doing.

Pastor Reynolds stated he met with WCC about what they could do to help us with the classes they want to teach. They could use these classes to help with rebuilding these houses as classes. They are trying to come up with a program where the tuition would be free since they are helping to build these houses. Norwayne Alumni also is trying to get involved.

Mayor Flowers asked if Pastor Reynolds would introduce the new president of the Norwayne Alumni, Mr. Larry Jones. Mr. Jones introduced himself and thanked everyone. He asked, "What has Norwayne Alumni done for the Town of Fremont?" Mayor Flowers stated that tourism has been a big thing thanks to the Alumni, especially one weekend out of the year. Mr. Jones asks "What else can we do for the Town of Fremont?" He states we want to help do more. Mayor Flowers stated the Alumni has a wonderful facility to meet at and maybe it could be used for more meetings and activities for the Town.

Mr. Jones requests that they would like for the Town to rename Branch St to Norwayne Alumni Way. It would be from Memorial Church to Dock St. The west part of town to the east part of town. Mayor Flowers said he would have to do some research to find out what the process would be. Mike McAllister stated you would have to have a petition and permission from a certain percentage of the property owners. Mr. Jones stated there are 28 homes on that street and they have gone to every house on that street to talk with

them and have them sign a petition if they are in favor of this. Mayor Flowers stated we would contact our attorney and find out what the legal process is and the board would give it consideration. Mr. Jones pointed out some people in the audience that were also involved in the Alumni.

Mayor Flowers closed the public comment session.

### **Action Items**

#### **A) Presentation for Danny Wooten: Citizen Award**

Danny Wooten was not present at the meeting.

#### **B) James Upchurch: NC Dot (Wayne County Comprehensive Transportation Plan)**

Mr. Upchurch is with a Division with the DOT called Long Range or Transportation Planning. Mayor Flowers stated he spoke with him this morning and was unable to come to the meeting tonight due to other engagements. Mayor Flowers stated that Mr. Upchurch had met with 4 of the board members and they had discussed putting sidewalks at Peele Park, Fremont Stars, access to churches and Martin Luther King Park. It is basically designed to give a person the opportunity to walk on the sidewalks safely to different parts of Town. The Mayor asks if everyone is satisfied with just leaving this for discussion later when Mr. Upchurch is able to help guide this discussion. The board is in agreement with this.

#### **C) Keith Spivey (Report on Step Grant)**

Keith Spivey is absent. Mrs. Beatrice Jones stated the final STEP meeting will be October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015. She stated that on 222 West the Welcome to Fremont sign is being constructed. No other discussion or comments.

#### **D) Michael McAllister: Cemetery Ordinance**

Stated this was just a starting point for the ordinance. Mayor Flowers stated on Obstructions that this would have to be enforced if it was put into the ordinance. Planting of flowers, trees or shrubbery should be looked at. Mayor Flowers pointed out a couple of grammatical errors. Alderman Mooring wanted to discuss grave footstones. Alderman Smith stated he thought that the footstone being 4 inches above the ground was too high to keep grass cut around. Alderman Mooring stated keeping them flush with the ground would cause issues with grass covering it and also lawn mowers running over them. Mayor Flowers asked what the board's feelings were for the footstones. The decision was made for the footstones to be 1 inch above the surface of the ground. Mayor Flowers stated once this was approved as a board there has to be a 10 day notice for it to go into affect. Alderman Leon Mooring made a motion to approve with the changes discussed in the cemetery ordinance. Motion seconded per W.T. Smith. Mike McAllister stated we needed to have a public hearing at the next board meeting and then adopt the changes. Mayor Flowers stated if there are no objections we will present this as presented with the changes for public hearing and it will be on the agenda for public action at the next board meeting.

**E) Paving Wayne Street: Bids**

Mayor Flowers stated S.T. Wooten had the lowest bid and no motion was needed for this. This would come out of the Powell Bill money. Motion made for S.T. Wooten to do the work and not sub it out per Alderman W.T. Smith. Motion seconded per Alderman Mooring. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Reports**

**Chief Moats Police Monthly Report**

Chief Moats states there is not a lot to report only a few minor incidents. He stated on a big note they had an audit from the North Carolina State Criminal Justice Training and Standards Division out of Raleigh. This audit is done every 5-6 years. He is required by the state to maintain all personnel files along with required documents that the state requires them to have and maintain which includes training, medical records, and psychological stuff from the hiring process of each employee. The auditor picked 10 files randomly and he went through them page by page. He stated the auditor was very impressed with how each file was maintained and kept in order. He was overall very impressed with the audit.

Chief Moats stated there has been a few vehicle break ins outside of town but nothing in town but the guys are patrolling very frequently and he is monitoring their mileage to make sure they are patrolling.

**Financial Summary**

Mayor Flowers stated he has looked over the Financial Summary. No questions or comments. He stated we are going into the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter and we should have used about 25% of the budget and we are in those means as of right now.

Motion was made per Alderman Annie Lewis to adjourn. Motion seconded by Alderman Reid. No Discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

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W. Darron Flowers, Mayor

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Martha A. Jones Town Clerk

