

**Minutes of Regular Town of Fremont Meeting
August 21, 2018**

The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen/Alderwomen for the Town of Fremont, NC was held at 6:30 p.m. on August 21, 2018. Present were:

W. Darron Flowers, Mayor
W. T. Smith, Mayor Pro-tem
Leon Mooring, Alderman
Joyce C. Reid, Alderwoman
Annie Lewis, Alderwoman
Al Lewis, Alderman
Joyce M. Artis, Alderwoman

Also in attendance were Town Administrator Barbara Aycock, Town Clerk Shannon Daly, Finance Officer Shaneshia Fennell, and Public Works Director Tim Howell.

Those not in attendance was Chief Paul Moats.

Quorum Present: Yes

Call to Order

Mayor Flowers called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Rev. Ira Reynolds gave the invocation.

Alderwoman Lewis led all in attendance in the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Flowers asked to make several changes to the agenda. He asked to take out item #1,

Impact Teens, under information and add in Barry Merrill and add railroad cross arm on Wayne Street as an action item. Alderman Mooring made a motion to approve the amended agenda and Mayor Pro-tem Smith seconded it. No discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Mayor Flowers opened the meeting for public comment.

Mr. Isaac Artis had a concern about pot holes on Green and South Street, Dock and Lee Street, 300 block of East Norwayne Alumni Way, Vance and Norwayne Alumni Way, Cross over Vance all the way down Sycamore Street, and 200 block of West Norwayne Alumni Way. Public Works Director Tim Howell said they are getting a list of pot holes and he thanked Mr. Artis for bringing them to his attention.

Keith Spivey asked what happened to the garbage truck. Public Works Director Tim Howell said it was temporarily out but we would be picking up trash tomorrow.

Mr. Reid said they lost their church, United Holiness Church. They found a place to put a church at 568 Hooks Road and they bought the property. He said he went to the City of Goldsboro and they sent him back to Fremont and he wanted to know if they can put a church on that property. Mayor Flowers asked if they wanted to use the doublewide on the property as a church and he said yes and then build on to it. There was some discussion about where the property was and it was determined that he needed to go to the Planning Board of Wayne County. Administrator Barbara Aycock said if he had any problems with Wayne County to come see her and she will help him.

Rev. Ira Reynolds reported on the picnic they had the past weekend at Charles B. Aycock Birthplace. He estimated that they had 350 people show up and 18 churches were represented. He said they wanted to have it there again next year.

Travis Moore said that he spoke to one of the editor's from Goldsboro New-Argus, (his wife) about better representation for the Town of Fremont. He said that he would be willing to get information on events going on in Fremont to the Goldsboro News-Argus and told Administrator Barbara Aycock to call and let him know. Mayor Flowers agreed that the town needs more representation and thanked Mr. Moore.

Terry Powell said the past nine years he has provided a block party for the kids before school. He said everything is free for the kids and he has paid for everything in the past, but this year he needs some help. Alderwoman Artis asked how much he spends and he said up to \$2,000. Mayor Flowers stated if anyone could help Mr. Powell to please do so.

Regina Crochrane asked if the town could help with cutting the limbs out of the trees on her property because they have big limbs that can cause damage. Mayor Flowers asked Public Works Director Tim Howell what the process was for hurricane preparation and he said that these trees were very big. Mayor Flowers did not promise anything but we would look at it to see if something can be done.

Mayor Flowers closed the public comment session.

Information

Barry Merrill gave some information on live streaming, which is a service he offers. He suggested that the Town of Fremont consider using live streaming for the board meetings. Alderwoman Artis asked what the cost would be and he said it would be \$200 for the first meeting within a month and \$100 if you had a second meeting that month. Mayor Flowers asked was there any up front cost and Mr. Merrill said that there would be no additional cost. Mayor Pro-tem Smith understood that it would be live but he wanted to know if it was saved so that you could watch it if you missed the meeting. Mr. Merrill said that you could watch it within 5 minutes after it is recorded. Mayor Flowers thanked Mr. Merrill and said that he would get back with him after everybody has time to think about it and discuss it.

Public Hearing

Mayor Flowers opened the meeting for the public hearing concerning a transitional home for homeless veterans with mental illnesses at 604 W. Memorial Church Road. Lisa Wiggins was there representing Mrs. Smith. She gave some information on the proposed facility. After much discussion it was decided that Mrs. Smith needed to attend the meeting in order to answer the questions that the Mayor and the board had.

Mayor Flowers closed the meeting for public hearing.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Flowers asked for a motion to approve the minutes of July 17, 2018. Mayor Pro-tem Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of July 17, 2018 and Alderwoman Lewis seconded it. No discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Information

Jeff Brooks, the fire chief, gave a report from the OSFM NC Department of Insurance. The report showed that the county of Fremont went from a class 6 to a class 5 and the city of Fremont went to a class 4. This means that commercial businesses can get a reduction on their insurance from 4% to 20%. Also, he stated that every home is within 1000 feet of a fire hydrant. Chief Brooks said he would like to get to a class 3. Mayor Flowers thanked Chief Brooks and asked him to tell all the firemen that we appreciated all that they do.

Administrator Barbara Aycock said that the property at 312 S. Goldsboro Street has been condemned and the proper paperwork has been sent to the attorney to begin the next step of the legal process.

Larry Jones discussed the events for Norwayne Alumni and Friends, Inc. homecoming that will begin on Saturday, August 25th and will go through Sunday, September 2nd. Mayor Flowers said that he was looking forward to the parade. Administrator Barbara Aycock asked if the banquet was free and Mr. Jones said that the tickets were \$30 and the dance is \$25.

Action Items

Mayor Flowers asked Administrator Barbara Aycock to explain the two resolutions. She said that it was an inventory list of assets for the sewer system and the water system which we need in order to get a grant. Alderwoman Artis asked if it was a full grant and Administrator Aycock said yes it is. Mayor Flowers asked for a motion to approve the resolution for the water system asset inventory and assessment. Alderman Mooring made a motion to approve the resolution and Alderwoman Lewis seconded the motion. No discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

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Mayor Flowers asked for a motion concerning the transitional house for homeless veterans with mental illnesses. Mayor Pro-tem made a motion to table it until the next meeting and Alderman Mooring seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed. Five favored and one opposed, which was Alderwoman Artis.

Town Clerk Shannon Daly asked the board to table the discussion and/or approval for utility arrangements. Mayor Flowers asked for a motion to table this item. Alderman Mooring made the motion and Alderwoman Lewis seconded it. No discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Reports

Finance Officer Shameshia Fennell stated that the auditor will be here from October 1st – 5th to audit our books for the fiscal year of 2017 - 2018. She also stated that we were approved for a grass roots grant which will pay for a mural to be painted on the building across the street that had collapsed several months ago. Mrs. Fennell stated that we are going to have a rate study from electricities to show how much we are charging our customers for electric verses what we are paying for electric. Mrs. Fennell went over the reports and said that once the auditor audits our books the numbers may change. Mayor Flowers asked if she is expecting any changes and Mrs. Fennell said no. Mrs. Aycock asked Mrs. Fennell to explain what Sharon from the LGC had to say about our financial status. Mrs. Fennell stated that we had to be put on the watch list because we did not have the 8% revenues to cover 3 months of expenses. She stated that Sharon said she was not worried about us because we are improving every year since Mrs. Aycock has been here. Mayor Flowers asked Mrs. Fennell to explain what the LGC is and Mrs. Fennell said that it was the Local Government Commission which is the Finance Officer's police.

Public Works Director Tim Howell showed some pictures of work that had been done around town. Mayor Pro-tem Smith said that the storm drain that is close to his house has grass piled on it. Mayor Flowers asked about the lagoons and Administrator Aycock said that we closed with T.A. Loving today.

Administrator Barbara Aycock said that we are waiting for the lagoons to be lowered in order to get the screws replaced but its been hard to do with all the rain we have had. Alderwoman Artis asked if by closing the loan means that all the money has been paid out. Administrator Barbara Aycock said that the screws are under warranty. Alderwoman Artis said that at the last meeting she was told that some money would be held until the screws were replaced and Administrator Barbara Aycock asked if Michael McAllister had told her that information and Alderwoman Artis said yes. Administrator Barbara Aycock said that Michael McAllister had closed the loan today and Alderwoman Artis said that if the screws are not replaced then the lining can be torn away and that would ruin everything and Administrator Barbara Aycock said yes it can. Administrator Barbara Aycock stated that Michael McAllister said that the screws will be replaced and we would hold him accountable for it. Finance Officer Shameshia Fennell said that we have not paid the last bill yet and Alderwoman Artis said I thought they have been paid. Finance Officer Shameshia Fennell said there was one payment left and she will hold it and not pay it until it is completed.

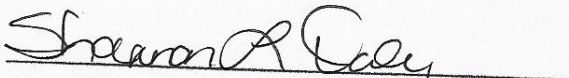
There was some discussion about sewer and how much is coming through our lift station from Eureka.

Administrator Barbara Aycock stated that it will cost \$30,920 to put a railroad crossing on Wayne Street and \$1,200 annually for maintenance fee and she doesn't think that the town can afford this right now. After some discussion Alderman Mooring made a motion to decline the offer and Mayor Pro-tem Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor and motion passed unanimously. Mayor Pro-tem Smith asked Mrs. Aycock to ask if they can put a crossing on Main Street and she said that she would.

Mayor Flowers asked for a motion to adjourn. Alderwoman Lewis made a motion to adjourn. Alderman Mooring seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.



W. Darron Flowers, Mayor



Shannon L. Daly, Town Clerk