

Town of Fremont, North Carolina

Minutes of Regular Meeting
Fremont Town Hall
January 20, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.

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

W. Darron Flowers, Mayor
Harold Cuddington, Mayor pro-tem
W. T. Smith, Alderman
Joyce C. Reid, Alderman
Annie Lewis, Alderman
Al Lewis, Alderman

Also in attendance were Karen Peeden, Finance Officer, Marti Jones, Deputy Town Clerk, Tim Howell, Public Works Director, Chief Paul Moats, Barbara Aycock Interim Town Administrator and Dianne H. Spellman, Town Clerk. Several other residents from town.

Quorum Present: Yes

Call to Order

Mayor Flowers called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Mayor pro-tem Harold Cuddington offered a prayer. Alderman Annie Lewis led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda

Mayor Flowers asked if anything more needed to be added to the agenda before approval.

Motion made by Alderman Leon Mooring to approve the written agenda for the meeting. Seconded by Alderman Al Lewis. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes

Mayor Flowers states the chair will entertain the motion to approve the minutes.

Motion made by Alderman Joyce Reid to approve the minutes of December 16, 2014. Seconded by Alderman Annie Lewis. The motion carried unanimously.

Announcements

Step Committee meeting January 27th at 5:30 p.m. Fremont Meeting Room.

Public Comment

Mayor Flowers opened the meeting for public comments. Pricilla Cummings 205 E North Street stated she was only here for the meeting to give praise to the administrator and staff for making this town a good place to live in again. There was a problem with bamboo trees growing in the ditches near my property and the employees removed all the

bamboo trees and cleaned the ditch really good. Thanks to the police department and Tim as well for making sure everything is looking good.

Keith Spivey 509 Memorial Church Road. A few times he has gotten home and his mail box was vandalized. This time when getting home I noticed three mail boxes that had been damaged. My question is does anyone know of any person (s) that are doing this. Chief Moats stated that he had not heard of any mail boxes being damaged, but he will ask the officers to keep watch. Alderman Mooring and Alderman Al Lewis stated that they also have noticed some problems in the area.

Levi Cummings 205 E North Street stated that he also is enjoying the town now. The neighborhood watch is enforced.

Mayor Flowers closed the public comment session.

Action Items

Andrew Harris/Auditor for 2013-2014 audits for Town of Fremont

Mr. Harris reported that he has done the audit for the past six years and this is the best that it has ever been. He would like to commend the staff on how much they have improved. Reporting NO violations this year. Thanks to Barbara for a job well done.

Matthew Drummond probation period ended: replacing James Wilder.

Public Works Director Tim Howell reported that Matthew Drummond has completed his probation as a part time employee and along with the Interim Administrator Barbara Aycock we recommend full time permanent status with the Town of Fremont with the customary 5% increase in salary.

Alderman Leon Mooring made a motion to hire Matthew Drummond as a full time permanent employee of the Town of Fremont with the customary 5% pay increase. Alderman W. T. Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Approve Budget Amendment #4

Alderman Leon Mooring made a motion to approve budget amendment #4. Alderman Harold Cuddington seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution for USDA Loan/Rural Development Business Enterprise Grant for Sewer Project

Alderman Al Lewis made a motion to accept the Resolution for USDA Loan/Rural Development Business Enterprise Grant for Sewer Project. Alderman Annie Lewis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Also to mention that the sidewalks must lead to a business in order for it to be considered, and is due by Feb. 1st.

Presentation by Chief Moats to Officer Luke Simeion/Life Savings

Chief Moats reported and presented a life savings certificate to Officer Luke Siemion for above and beyond his call of duty. On December 10th Officer Siemion had received a phone call from a relative that lived at 502 Hillandale Drive that it was very unusual for her sister not to answer the phone or not to give her a call back. The family member was very upset and asked if the officer would just break in to see what was going on. Long story short Officer Siemion was persisted and kept going by to check until he heard a noise that appeared to be someone there but unable to answer. Then precautions were taken. Officer Simeion found Celestine Hardy unresponsive. Two weeks later she passed away. This class A Certificate will go into his personnel file and a pin will go on his uniform.

Keith Spivey (Chairman of Step Grant)

Mr. Spivey reported that the daffodil logos have been printed and will be shown to the committee members at the next meeting. The committee will act first then the Board will make a final decision. Alderman Mooring thanked Mr. Spivey for a job well done.

Chief Moats (Police Enforcements)

Chief Moats reported the robbery at the Dollar General. The suspect was found and charged within hours. Thanks go out to the officers.

Public Works Report

Mr. Howell stated there is nothing new to add to the report in packet.

Mrs. Aycock reported the three manholes that are under water. This water is not being metered. The town pays for it. Also to report is that Eureka is showing improvement now.

Utilities Bought and Sold

Mrs. Peeden was asked to add another column to her report that is given to the board. Please show the amount the town sprays at the lagoons.

Financial Summary

Mrs. Peeden updated the Board on the electric cost of the town buildings which the town pays at no cost to the customer/business building. (Example is the Health Clinic.) It's costing the town \$9,000.00 monthly; this is not including the lift stations that Duke Energy and Tri County bill to the town.

Board to approve to go into Closed Session on a Personnel matter.

Alderman Mooring made a motion to go into closed session on a personnel matter. Alderman Cuddington seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Mooring made a motion to go back into open session. Alderman Annie Lewis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Mooring made a motion to approve the contract of Mrs. Barbara Aycock. Alderman Cuddington seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further discussion Alderman Annie Lewis made a motion to adjourn.
Alderman Cuddington seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

W Darron Flowers, Mayor

Dianne H Spellman, Town Clerk