

**Minutes of Regular Town of Fremont
Meeting
March 20, 2018**

The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen/Alderwomen for the Town of Fremont, NC was held at 6:30 p.m. on March 20, 2018. Present were:

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

Also in attendance were Town Administrator Barbara Aycock, Town Clerk Shannon Daly, Finance Officer Shameshia Fennell, Public Works Director Tim Howell, Chief Paul Moats and Attorney Brian Pridgen.

Quorum Present: Yes

Call to Order

Mayor Flowers called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Flowers gave the invocation. Alderwoman Lewis led all in attendance in the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Flowers asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Alderman Mooring made the motion to approve the agenda. Alderwoman Reid seconded the motion. No discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Flowers asked for a motion to approve the minutes of February 20, 2018 board meeting and the public hearing minutes that was held on February 27, 2018. Alderwoman Lewis made a motion to approve the board meeting minutes of February 20, 2018 and the public hearing minutes of February 27, 2018. Alderman Lewis seconded the motion. No discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Close Public Hearing

Mayor Flowers asked for a motion to close the public hearing that had been recessed on February 27, 2018. Alderman Mooring made a motion to close the recessed public hearing meeting that was held on February 27, 2018. Mayor Pro-tem seconded the motion. No discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Information

Mayor Flowers stated that the Daffodil Festival will be on March 31st and he wanted to thank everyone in advance for their hard work.

Mayor Flowers asked Administrator Aycock to discuss the sewer cost to Goldsboro for the years of 2012 to 2017. Administrator Aycock commented on the graph stating that there is a trend of the cost steadily going down after a peak in 2014. This is due to the repairs made to the Norwayne lift station and to other repairs around the town.

Public Hearing

Mayor Flowers opened the public hearing for the USDA Loan/Grant for the purchase of the Ford F-150 truck for public works department. There were no comments. Mayor Flowers closed the Public Hearing.

Public Comment

Mayor Flowers opened the meeting for public comment. There were no comments. Mayor Flowers closed the public comment session.

Action Items

Mayor Flowers asked Administrator Aycock to explain the details of the USDA Loan/Grant. Administrator Aycock stated that Kim Miller from USDA could not be present, but could join us via phone. Mrs. Miller explained the details of the contract of the USDA Loan/Grant for the purchase of the Ford F-150 truck for public works. Mayor Flowers asked for a motion to approve the USDA Loan/Grant. Alderwoman Lewis made a motion to approve the USDA Loan/Grant. Alderwoman Reid seconded the motion. Five were in favor and one opposed the motion.

Mayor Flowers stated that there was an application submitted to the planning board to open an internet café. The ordinance states that there has to be at least 100 feet between the building and a residential structure and the distance measured 70 feet. The planning board did not give the variance needed to open the internet café. Mayor Flowers asked for a motion to accept the planning board's recommendation for not granting the variance. Alderman Mooring made a motion to accept the planning board's

recommendation. Alderwoman Lewis seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Flowers asked for a motion to go into closed session. Alderman Lewis made a motion to go into closed session. Alderwoman Lewis seconded the motion. No discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Flowers asked for a motion to come out of closed session. Alderman Mooring made the motion to come out of closed session. Alderwoman Lewis seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Flowers announced that we were in open session.

Reports


Financial Summary report was given by Finance Officer Shameshia Fennell. Mayor Flowers asked about the differences on the electric report versus the water and sewer report. Mrs. Fennell explained that it has to do with how the system distributes the payment. Alderwoman Artis asked a question about budget billing and how it works. Mrs. Fennell explained the process of budget billing. Mayor Flowers pointed out that the expenditure versus what was collected on garbage was higher. There was some discussion about why the garbage cost is higher than what we charge our customers. The main reason for the increased cost is that the rates for the landfill has increased. Alderwoman Artis had a question about the pavement cost and how much funds we had received for this project. Mrs. Fennell provided the invoice for the pavement being fixed and explained it.

Public Works Director Tim Howell gave the report on jobs completed. Mr. Howell stated that it is "March Madness." He presented pictures of daffodils that had been planted in the town, a metal daffodil that had been cleaned, and the gazebo and sign that has been repaired and will be painted. Mr. Howell also explained that there were two dogs that were found in the lagoons this morning. He reported that both dogs were rescued and are now at the animal shelter.

Chief Moats reported that there was a break-in on February 20th and the crime was solved within 2 days. He stated that there were a couple of guns and some computers stolen and all property was recovered. He explained that the same person tried to break into the same house while out on bond and was arrested; therefore, they are making the property owner aware that the tenant is a problem for the neighborhood. He said that other than the break-in and the dog rescue this morning everything has been calm.

Alderwoman Annie Lewis made a motion to adjourn. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.


W. Darron Flowers, Mayor


Shannon L. Daly, Town Clerk