

Minutes of Regular Town of Fremont Meeting November 21, 2017

The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen/Alderwomen for the Town of Fremont NC was held at 6:30 p.m. on November 21, 2017. 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 and Chief Paul Moats.

Quorum Present: Yes

Call to Order

Mayor Flowers called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Invocation was given by Rev. Reynolds and Alderwoman Annie Lewis led all in attendance in the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Flowers asked that under the Information (Blue) that # 11 Waste Industries be added. Also, under the Action Items (Pink) #7 December board meeting be added. Alderwoman Joyce Artis asked to have the personnel policy added to the agenda for review. Mayor Flowers suggested that it be reviewed at the next workshop, which would give everyone an opportunity to review it and there would be more time to discuss it during a workshop. Alderwoman Joyce Artis agreed. Alderman Leon Mooring made a motion to approve the changes. Mayor Pro-tem W. T. Smith seconded the motion. No discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Flowers asked for a motion to approve the minutes of October 17, 2017 Board Meeting minutes. Alderman Leon Mooring made a motion to approve the minutes of October 17, 2017 minutes. Alderwoman Joyce C. Reid seconded the motion. No discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Information

Mayor Flowers stated that there are 11 items on the agenda under information and he is going to be selective where he identifies items and he stated that those who want to identify others then please do so.

- Mayor Flowers stated that we are having the 1st Fremont Christmas Tree Lighting which will be on Friday, December 1st at 6:00 p.m. and we are looking forward to this event and we need to get the word out. He stated that Rev. Reynolds is going to give the Christmas story and we will have music and the big event will be flipping the switch. It was discussed that we will have hot chocolate and cookies along with photo shoots with Santa clause.
- Mayor Flowers stated that Social Services is coming to Fremont for those people that need assistance and we need a good response to show that the need is here. They will be at Town Hall on December 18th to 22nd and December 28th 29th from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.
- 7) Mayor Flowers congratulated Town Clerk Shannon Daly for completing the Clerks Certification at UNC School of Government on October 27th. Town Administrator Barbara Aycock stated that Mrs. Daly was the first Certified Municipal Clerk for the Town of Fremont.
- Mayor Flowers congratulated Jeffrey Hill, even though he was not at the meeting, for completing Level I Lineman Career Development Program at ElectriCities on November 7th.
- Mayor Flowers stated that Alderman Leon Mooring was our representative for ElectriCities. He reminded the board that they had adopted an action in 2015 that had a provision stating that ElectriCities had a right to raise the rates in 2018. Alderman Leon Mooring said that they had not voted on the rates yet.
- Mayor Flowers asked Michael McAllister from Municipal Engineering Services Company to comment on the letter he wrote concerning new and recovered funding since October 2013. Mr. Michael McAllister went over the financial improvements that was in his letter, which showed how much money had been received through grants and refunds. The total amount is \$3,622,438.00. He stated that the town previously was in bad shape and was about to get taken over by the LGC, but with the hard work of the

staff and the council's backing, he was able to do the work needed to get the money. Mayor Flowers added that we have 3 police cars and a truck that was purchased and the town paid less than half the cost due to a loan grant. He also added the meter readers that were donated to the town and the value of the equipment was over \$26,000. He stated that the town is in better shape than it has been in the last 20 to 25 years. Alderman Leon Mooring wanted to give credit to Mayor Flowers, Town Administrator Barbara Aycock and the staff for all the hard work.

Mayor Flowers discussed the increase of our Waste Industries services. Public Works Director Tim Howell commented that the invoice cost was for garbage and recyclables and normally we only take recyclables to the transfer station, but due to the grapple truck being down, we had to take both last month. He stated that the invoice will not be as high next month.

Public Comment

Mayor Flowers opened the meeting for public comment.

Rev. Reynolds stated that the food bank, which was supported by most of the local churches and Charles B. Aycock High School, gave out 9,000 pounds of food which consisted of 189 turkeys. He stated that he had a meeting with Habitat for Humanity and found that they had no applications at this time. After talking with the local people, Rev. Reynolds found that one big problem is not having any jobs in Fremont and asked if we could concentrate on bringing in jobs to Fremont. Town Administrator Barbara Aycock stated that there is a company here that is looking for 3 people and they would be good-paying jobs. She stated that it has been posted on our website.

Mayor Flowers thanked Rev. Reynolds and his supporters for all they do for this town.

Mayor Flowers closed the public comment session.

Action Items

- Mayor Flowers presented Mrs. Tammy Vail who is the advisor for DECA at CBA, who had a proclamation to be presented. Mrs. Vail introduced the president and vice-president of DECA and they presented Giving Tuesday Proclamation. Alderman Leon Mooring made a motion to accept the Giving Tuesday Proclamation. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
- 2) Mayor Flowers asked if there was a motion to approve Budget Amendment# 2287. Alderman Leon Mooring asked Finance Officer Shameshia Fennell what the changes were in this budget amendment. She

explained the changes and Alderman Leon Mooring made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #2287 for budget 2017-2018. Alderwoman Annie Lewis seconded the motion. No discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Flowers stated that it was the board's responsibility to approve the fire department officers and asked for an approval. Alderman Leon Mooring made a motion to accept the 2018 fire department officers as listed; Jeff Brooks – Chief, Steven Marlowe – 1st Assistant Chief, Steve Evans 2nd Assistant Chief, Scott Yelverton, 1st Captain, Josh Pulley 2nd Captain, Zach Brooks 1st Lieutenant, Shaun Phillips 2nd Lieutenant and Gene Howell Secretary/Treasurer. Alderwoman Joyce C. Reid seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

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Mayor Pro-tem W. T. Smith announced that the Christmas party for the fire department will be on December 14th and Town Administrator Barbara Aycock said to let Jeff Brooks know if you are going to attend. It will be at Fremont Methodist Church.

- Mayor Flowers asked Public Works Director Tim Howell to explain the bids for paving and potholes on Goldsboro Street. The bids were \$29,900 from Asphalt Services of Goldsboro and \$38,280 from Barnhill Contracting Company. After much discussion it was decided that the board wanted Public Works Director Tim Howell to get bids for Sycamore Street before making a decision. There was no motion and this item will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Mayor Flowers stated that they needed to appoint a representative for the Eastern Carolina Council and it is presently Town Administrator Barbara Aycock and asked if the board would like for her to continue being the representative. Mayor Pro-tem W. T. Smith made the motion to appoint Town Administrator Barbara Aycock and Alderman Leon Mooring seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
- Mayor Flowers asked Finance Officer Shameshia Fennell to explain the quote for the gazebo. Alderwoman Annie Lewis made a motion to approve the dollar amount of \$1,000.00 to paint and replace all rotten boards on the gazebo and to paint the sign. Alderman Al Lewis seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
- 7) Mayor Flowers suggested that the December board meeting be cancelled due to all the activities that are taken place during the month of December. Alderman Leon Mooring made a motion to not have a board meeting for December 2017. Alderwoman Joyce C. Reid seconded the motion. No discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Reports

Financial Summary report was given by Finance Officer Shameshia Fennell.

Public Works Director Tim Howell gave his reports.

Public Works report (Ava Rogers) and Shannon Daly. No report to be given.

Chief Paul Moats gave a brief report. There were no major issues to report.

Alderwoman Annie Lewis made a motion to adjourn. Alderman Leon Mooring seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

W. Darron Flowers, Mayor

Shannon L. Daly, Town Clerk