



**Minutes of Regular Town of Fremont  
Meeting  
October 17, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen/Alderwomen for the Town of Fremont, NC was held at 6:30 p.m. on October 17, 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. Rev. Ira Reynolds gave the invocation. Luke West, a Boy Scout, was present in order to meet his obligation of a merit badge of citizenship from the community. Mr. West led all in attendance in the pledge of allegiance.

**Approval of Agenda**

Mayor Flowers asked that item #1 under Action Items, which is approval of a bid on Hillandale Gold Leaf Grant, be moved from an Action Item to #6 under Information. Mayor Flowers said the reason for the item to be moved is because the bid was opened today and the estimates almost doubled what the estimated cost would be; therefore, there are no recommendations. Administrator Barbara Aycock stated that the grant was for \$275,000, but one of the bids was \$485,000. She stated that the reason for the bids being high is because of the hurricane so we will reapply in a month. Alderman Leon Mooring made a motion to approve the change. 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 September 19, 2017 Board Meeting. Alderwoman Joyce C. Reid made a motion to approve the minutes of September 19, 2017. Alderwoman Annie Lewis seconded the motion. No discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Information**

Mayor Flowers stated the Information Items were self-explanatory, but he did want to bring attention to Item #3 which is the power outage on November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 11:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. He wanted to stress that it was Duke Energy's action and not ours.

Mayor Flowers commented on the Sewer Study stating that it encompasses Fremont, Eureka and Goldsboro. Administrator Barbara Aycock stated that the kick-off will be November 30<sup>th</sup>.

Equipment from Berkley Electric Cooperative, Inc. was discussed by Town Clerk Shannon Daly. She stated that after several phone calls and emails, she had found a company with the FC300 handhelds that we have been looking for. She stated that the Town of Fremont has obtained (3) FC300 Handhelds and a Mobil Unit from this company free of charge. This is a savings of \$26,690.18 and a huge benefit to the town. Before receiving this equipment, the town had only (1) FC200 Handheld that was outdated and no parts could be purchased if needed. This has been an ongoing problem that has been addressed and now resolved at no cost to the town. Mr. Chuck Grady made the trip to Monks Corner, SC to pick up the equipment. The only thing that Berkley Electric Cooperative, Inc. wanted was for the handhelds to go to a good home where they would be used. Alderwoman Joyce Artis asked Town Clerk Shannon Daly to explain to the public what the handhelds were used for. Town Clerk Shannon Daly explained that the handhelds were used to read and collect the electric, water, and sewer readings from the meters. Alderman Leon Mooring and the Board thanked Town Clerk Shannon Daly and Mr. Chuck Grady for doing the research and obtaining the handhelds. Also a big thank you goes out to the Berkley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

There was some discussion about the garbage truck being out of commission for 3 weeks. Administrator Barbara Aycock contacted the International Corporate office about the issues with the truck and they agreed not to charge us for the parts. Alderwoman Joyce Artis asked if we had let the public know about the problems with the truck and suggested that we put it on our facebook page. Administrator Barbara Aycock stated that Chief Paul Moats put it on their facebook page and Finance Officer Shameshia Fennell said that she shared it on the town's facebook page. Administrator Barbara Aycock stated that we made flyers and posted it on the doors and around the town in order to let the public know. Mayor Flowers stated that he was not pleased with what has taken place with the repairs on the truck, but the staff should be commended because they have gone all the way to the corporate office, which is as far as they can go.

## **Public Hearing**

Mayor Flowers opened the public hearing for the variance for lots 1 and 2 of Steve Evans, Jr. subdivision. This will create 4 lots total. He stated that the Planning Board did meet and they are now recommending that this variance be granted for approval since it meets the required square footage of the lots. He asked if there are any comments from the public concerning this variance.

Mayor Flowers closed the Public Hearing.

## **Pubic Comment**

Mayor Flowers opened the meeting for public comment.

Mr. Isaac Artis 507 E Lee Street Fremont suggested to the Board that coming into Fremont from Pikeville on the right side of Ballance Road is very dark on the west side of the street and asked if a light could be placed their. Mrs. Aycock and Mr. Howell said they will check it out and see.

Mayor Flowers closed the public comment session.

## **Action Items**

Mayor Flowers asked if there was a motion to approve the variance. Alderman Leon Mooring made a motion that the variance for lots 1 and 2 for the Steve Evans, Jr. subdivision be granted. Alderman W. T. Smith seconded the motion. No discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Flowers asked if anyone had any suggestions on how to use the \$4,000.00 grant money from ElectriCities. Individual phone calls were made to all of the Board and was asked how to spend the money. At that time it was to be used for the businesses to paint the buildings or whatever they saw the need as long as it was used for the outside of building. These monies are to be used in the down town area of Fremont. Finance Officer Mrs. Fennell suggested that the some of the money could be used to paint the gazebo on North Goldsboro Street and put a light on it. Alderwoman Joyce Artis had several suggestions from her constituents and after much discussion Alderman Leon Mooring made a motion to use \$2,200 for flowers downtown in the flower pots and Mayor Pro-tem W. T. Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously. Mayor Flowers differed the action on the remaining \$1,800 until the next meeting and stated that anyone who had a suggestion on how to spend the rest of the money should bring in quotes for their projects.

Mayor Flowers asked Administrator Barbara Aycock to talk about the loan/grant for the F-150 truck replacement. Public Works Director Tim Howell asked if he could comment and stated that about 8 years ago a used truck was purchased and has been used as an

electrical service truck. He said that the truck is no longer in service and the 4-wheel drive truck from the sprayfield is being used as the electrical service truck; therefore, the sprayfield needs a truck. Administrator Barbara Aycock stated that we have an opportunity to get a 55% grant and we would be responsible for 45% in order to purchase a new Ford F-150 truck. She said our cost would be about the same if we were to purchase a used truck. She stated that this is part of our asset management plan, which states that we need to replace vehicles every so often. Alderwoman Joyce Artis asked how much the total cost of the truck would be and Administrator Barbara Aycock said about \$29,000. Mayor Pro-tem W. T. Smith made a motion to approve the grant and Alderman Al Lewis Seconded the motion. 4 were in favor with 1 opposed (Alderwoman Joyce Artis).

### Reports

Financial Summary report was given by Finance Officer Shameshia Fennell.

Public Works Director Tim Howell gave the report on jobs completed.

Public Works report (Ava Rogers) was given by Shannon Daly.

Chief Moats reported that we had our 1<sup>st</sup> breaking and entering this year at the first of October and it happened on Norwayne Alumni Way. He stated that the report was taken on Tuesday and by Thursday four people were arrested and taken to Wayne County Jail. Two firearms had been recovered along with other property, and on Friday, two more firearms were recovered. He stated that the case was resolved within 36 hours and it is a great accomplishment to the officers that worked on this case. He stated that other than that one incident the town has been quiet. Mayor Flowers stated that the break in was terrible but to say that it was resolved within 2 days speaks extremely well of our police department. Mayor Pro-tem W. T. Smith said to keep up the good work.

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

W. Darron Flowers  
W. Darron Flowers, Mayor

Shannon L. Daly  
Shannon L. Daly, Town Clerk