

**Minutes of Regular Town of Fremont Meeting  
October 16, 2018**

The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen/Alderwomen for the Town of Fremont, NC was held at 6:30 p.m. on October 16, 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

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.

Those not in attendance was Alderwoman Joyce M. Artis.

**Quorum Present: Yes**

**Call to Order**

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

Rev. Shannon Berry gave the invocation.

Alderwoman Reid 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 a motion to approve the agenda. Alderwoman Reid seconded the motion. No discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comment**

Mayor Flowers opened the meeting for public comment.

Michael McAllister showed a video he had taken from his drone on the infrastructure of the Hillandale pump station, the lagoons, and other areas of Fremont. Administrator Aycock asked Mr. McAllister to update us on the next project. He said that he is working on applying for two grants. One for the Asset Inventory Assessment for water and one for sewer. He is asking for \$150,000 for each one. He said this will allow us to map the entire sewer system and locate all the valves and hydrants. He said the other grant is a 1.2 million dollar grant for sewer rehab which will allow us to rehab all the pump stations and fix other sewer issues. Mayor Flowers asked what the status will be on the pump stations once we are finished working on them and Mr. McAllister said that all of the pump stations will be rehabbed and there will be no problems other than normal every day issues. Mayor Flowers said that as of right now we are on par with some of the better towns in the state as far as our sewer systems. Mr. McAllister said that we have come a long way in the last 5 years accomplishing a lot in our infrastructure and financially. He said that we have brought in about 4 million dollars in grant money and recovered money from the school system. Mr. McAllister said that the hurricane money for the ditches has been post-poned until December.

Brenda Jackson from 403 E. Wayne St. stated that at the corner of Wayne and Aycock there are 2 houses that were affected from the hurricane. She said that water is standing under her house which is causing mold and termites. She stated that she has called Tim and she wants to know what can be done to get the drains cleaned out. Public Works Director Mr. Howell stated that it is an issue with the roots growing into the pipes and it is on the list to be fixed by FEMA. Alderman Mooring wanted to know if our guys would do the work and Administrator Aycock said that we would not do it, we would contract it out. Mrs. Jackson offered to help in any way she could to get this resolved.

Alderman Mooring stated that on Thursday night there will be a speaker at the Rotary Club Meeting by the name of Joel Dobson. He was on the plane that had an atomic bomb that crashed in Eureka. He stated that the meeting will be at Capital Café and everyone was welcomed.

Mayor Flowers closed the public comment session.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Flowers asked for a motion to approve the minutes of August 21, 2018 Board Meeting. Mayor Pro-tem Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of August 21, 2018. Alderman Lewis seconded the motion. No discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Information**

Mayor Flowers said that he presented the Proclamation for Constitution Week to Phyllis Edmundson at the Rotary Club Meeting.

Mayor Flowers stated that Odie's Place Animal Rescue from Massachusetts came on September 22<sup>nd</sup> and gave out dog food, cat food, and some other treats for the animals. He presented a poster that was given to him that had messages from the people that had donated the food and treats.

Mayor Flowers asked Administrator Aycock to give the information about the hurricane. Administrator Aycock wanted to thank Brian Taylor and Lancaster Farms for donating their generators and their assistance in hooking them up. She stated that our generators at Hillandale and Norwayne had quit during the hurricane and we had a 22,000 gallon spill. She stated that Greg Honeycutt, Wayne County Manager, sent people from Wayne County to help assist us during the hurricane. She stated that Town Clerk Shannon Daly, Chief Moats and his officers stayed at Town Hall to answer phones and assist the citizens. Public Works Director Tim Howell showed pictures of ditches and streets that flooded during the hurricane, along with the lift stations that had lost generators. He said that we had a crew from Georgia that came in and stayed at the fire department to help if needed. Chief Moats stated that he had all full time staff here during the hurricane and they had a temporary shelter set up in the board room. He said they had 20 cots set up in case there was an emergency evacuation. He stated that the officers did routine patrols around town around the clock except during the times it was too dangerous for them to be out. Mayor Flowers wanted to thank all the staff for the job they had done along with the fire department.

Mayor Flowers stated that he had attended several meetings concerning the distribution of money to Wayne county schools. He said that he had heard nothing to indicate that there will be any growth at Fremont Stars Elementary School and without growth he was concerned as to what will happen to the school. He stated that the school was the foundation of the town.

Mayor Flowers asked Chief Moats to recognize one of his officers, David Loving. Chief Moats presented Officer Loving with a Certificate for Criminal Investigator Specialist. He stated that he was very proud of the accomplishment Officer Loving had obtained. It took 384 hours of his own time for him to obtain this certification without any costs to the town.

Mayor Flowers said that the Fall Cleanup will be October 22<sup>nd</sup> – October 26<sup>th</sup> and to make sure all items are placed by the road by 8 a.m. on October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Mayor Pro-tem Smith made a suggestion to sell the garbage truck and get someone else to handle the garbage. Administrator Barbara Aycock said she would have no problem with that.

Mayor Flowers stated that October 31<sup>st</sup> is Trunk-or-Treat, which was not on the agenda. He pointed out that Fremont's Christmas Tree Lighting and the Parade is coming up.

#### **Action Items**

Mayor Flowers asked for a motion to approve FEMA Resolution, which is the designation of applicant's agent. Alderman Mooring made a motion to approve the resolution. Alderwoman Reid Seconded the motion. No discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

## Reports

Finance Officer Shameshia Fennell stated that the audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2018 was just completed and it went well. She said the auditor was concerned about the water and sewer fund which was to be expected because of all the break downs we have had. She said we are waiting for our final report which should be any day now. She stated that we were approved for the art council grant and the lady will be starting on the mural this coming Sunday. She stated that the financials look good. She said that we did have a small sewer spill and that the garbage cost increase was due to us having to get some help due to our trucks being broken down. Administrator Barbara Aycock commended Finance Officer Shameshia Fennell for a job well done.

Public Works Director Tim Howell stated to make sure all items are out by 8 a.m. on the 22<sup>nd</sup> because they are only making one trip to each house around town.

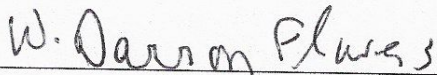
Chief Paul Moats stated that he had spoken with Administrator Barbara Aycock and the town will be following suit with Wayne County and trick-or-treating will be from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. He said that the churches can make their own times for trunk-or-treating.

Administrator Barbara Aycock stated that the 2013 Dodge Charger was totaled during the hurricane and the insurance company will be paying us \$15,289. She said with the board's permission she wanted to apply for a USDA loan/grant to get 55% for a new vehicle. She would like to get a Tahoe to have for situations like the hurricane. She stated that Chief Paul Moats had used his personal vehicle during the hurricane. Chief Paul Moats said that we were able to get the equipment out of the car and it can be used in the new vehicle.

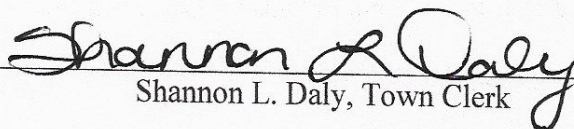
Administrator Barbara Aycock stated that Wayne Community College will be having their job fair on October 24<sup>th</sup>.

Finance Officer Shameshia Fennell stated that today was National Boss' Day and we appreciate our boss, Administrator Barbara Aycock.

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



W. Darron Flowers, Mayor



Shannon L. Daly, Town Clerk