



Minutes of the Regular Town of Fremont Meeting November 19, 2024

The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen/Alderwomen for the Town of Fremont, NC was held at 6:00 p.m. on November 19, 2024. Present were:

Eddie Yelverton, Mayor
Leroy Ruffin, Mayor Pro tem
Oscar Mooring, Alderman
Tim Howell, Alderman
Wayne Jackson, Alderman
Joyce M. Artis, Alderwoman/Interim Town Clerk

Absent: Annie Lewis, Alderwoman

Also in attendance were Town Administrator Jonathan Allen, Finance Officer Shannon Moats, Police Chief Paul Moats and Assistant Police Chief Greg Bottoms.

Quorum Present: Yes

Call to Order: Mayor Yelverton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Invocation: Mayor Pro Tem Leroy Ruffin gave the Invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance: Alderman Wayne Jackson led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda: *Mayor Yelverton asked for a motion to approve or amend the agenda. Alderman Howell asked to add under Action #5, 4-way stop signs, and under Action #6, One-Way Street. Mayor Yelverton asked to add to the agenda item #5 to discuss the Wreaths Across America. Alderman Jackson made a motion to accept the amended agenda. Alderman Mooring seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*

Approval of Minutes: *Mayor Yelverton asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2024 Regular Board Minutes, October 15, 2024 Closed Session and the October 29, 2024 Board Retreat. Alderman Howell stated that on page 5; item 4 of the Regular Board minutes should read "Sewer Collections" not "Trash Collections." Alderman Jackson brought to the Board's attention that the title for Alderman Mooring was incorrect in the minutes of the October 15, 2024 Closed Session minutes. He stated that it should read "Alderman" not "Alderwoman."*

Alderman Mooring made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2024 regular Board meeting, minutes of the October 15, 2024, Closed Session meeting, and minutes of the October 29, 2024 Board retreat as amended. Alderman Jackson seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: Mayor Yelverton opened the meeting for public comment.

- Sarah Perkins, who resides at 103 N. Vance Street, Fremont, addressed the Board with her concerns about citizens feeding feral cats. She stated that she feels that feeding feral cats has led to numerous problems, which may cause the feral cat population to grow uncontrollably. She was also concerned about cats roaming the streets, loud cat fighting in the middle of the night, bad odor of male cat marking his territory, dead kittens being eaten by vultures, stepping in cat feces, kittens hiding in car engines that fall out while car is in motion, flea infestations of sheds and homes, and cats killing rabbits and small birds. Ms. Perkins went on to say that she and her partner had experienced all that she had aforesaid. She proposed two solutions to solve the issue with feral cats. 1.) The Town should be proactive by enforcing ordinances related to this issue. 2.) Call the local animal shelter who could set and trap the cats. She also stated that her experience with feral cats has shown how feeding feral cats could negatively affect one's life and home.

Alderman Howell stated that Chief Moats would be in contact with her concerning this issue. Ms. Perkins stated that she had already been in contact with Chief Moats, but wanted to address the Board as well.

Mayor Yelverton closed the Public Comment Section.

Speaker – Town of Fremont Viable Utilities Update and the Wayne County Partnership Efforts – Bob Taylor, Program Development Coordinator w/ the Viable Utilities Unit at the Division of Water Infrastructure at Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

1. Mr. Taylor stated that he had been working with the Town for approximately two years, and wanted to introduce himself to the newly elected officials. He went on to say that he had spoken with Town Administrator Jonathan Allen and they both felt that it would be a good idea for him to come and reintroduce the Board to the Viable Utilities Program. Mr. Taylor presented a hard copy of a power point presentation, which provided some background of the Viable Utilities Program, and the progression of the program as well. Mr. Taylor informed the Board that a Statewide Masterplan had been conducted in 2017, which discovered that a large amount of Utilities across the State were not generating enough revenue to meet their expenses, and who were in search of grants and loans to make up the difference. Mr. Taylor encouraged the Board to read the report in its entirety at their convenience. He did point out three key factors that were used to establish whether or not an utility was viable, which were: Technical Capacity (the know how to maintain a certain level of service), Financial Capacity (being financially able to keep the service in operation, and the financial ability to maintain and/or rehab the system), and Managerial Capacity (does our utility have management in place that would make sure that we have the technical and financial capacity). He went on to say that the Viable Utilities Unit's goal was to move non-viable utilities towards being more viable. Mr.

Taylor also informed the Board that the LGC's Unit Assistance List (UAL) is not the same as the Distressed Utility/Non-viable Program. He went on to say that if a municipality is on the Unit Assistance List, it does not mean that the municipality is a distressed utility or vice versa. Mr. Taylor stated that he realized that the Town had ongoing needs, but he wanted the Town to concentrate on completing Asset Inventory Assessment (AIA), and a rate study. Mr. Taylor also stressed the importance of at least 4 Board members participating in a training and education program for Distressed Local Government Utilities.

Wayne County Partnership

Mr. Taylor stated that in 2021 the State Water Infrastructure recognized that there was a concentration of distressed units within a certain geographical area, so they "invited" applicants from each unit for funding, and the Towns would not have to go through an editing process. He went on to say that this funding was for each unit to perform an Asset Inventory Assessment (AIA), and for the group of units, if agreed, to perform a Merger and Regionalization and Feasibility Study (MRFS). He stated that State Water Infrastructure has completed stage one of the study. He went on to say that phase 2 would entail a more in-depth study of the merger.

Mr. Taylor stated that it is a well-known fact that the Town of Eureka is not a viable utility and has been the biggest challenge that the partnership has faced. He went on to say that "We needed to see another utility that was willing to take on that utility, and Town of Fremont, you agreed that you would be the utility that would do that."

He went on to say that State Water Infrastructure wanted to make sure that taking on Eureka would not harm the Town of Fremont, and they were careful to develop a MOU that outlined what the merger would entail, and to make sure that protections for both Towns were in place. Mr. Taylor also stated that the Town of Eureka has secured the funding to replace their sewer collection system, and the process will take approximately 3 years.

Alderman Mooring asked, "In those three years, how are we going to do this?" Mr. Taylor responded by saying that the funding that the Town of Eureka was able to secure for construction could not be used for operating expenses. Mr. Taylor went on to say that although they have secured a large amount of funding, they do not have the revenues in their budget to take care of their expenses.

Alderman Jackson asked Mr. Taylor if making the citizens of Fremont pay for the sewer bills for the Town of Eureka was a logical decision. He went on to say that the Town of Eureka's sewer intake is about 45% of our bill to Goldsboro, which would mean that each citizen of Fremont's bill would double. He went on to say that the cost to pay the Town of Eureka's sewer bills for three years would be approximately \$1,000,000, after which Fremont would be bankrupt.

Mr. Taylor stated that due to the fact that the Town of Fremont was already burdened by the cost of excessive inflow and infiltration, the Town decided to help secure the funding to replace Eureka's sewer system, and by doing so, it would help Fremont.

Alderman Mooring asked Mr. Taylor if the Town of Eureka could secure the funding to pay their sewer bills to the Town of Fremont. Mr. Taylor stated that he understood the Town's predicament, and without any success, he has not been able to obtain any help for Eureka to pay their sewer bills.

Mayor Pro Tem Ruffin stated that the Town of Fremont agreed to assume control of the Town of Eureka's sewer system once they were viable, and not before then. Mr. Taylor agreed.

Alderman Howell stated that this Board would not put our citizens under a burden for the Town of Eureka.

Mr. Taylor stated that he agreed with the Board. He went on to say that Fremont had been challenged with excessive flow for years from Eureka. He stated that the challenged started in 2008.

Alderman Jackson stated that we have lost over \$300,000 to Eureka, and now the Town stands a chance of losing approx. \$1,000,000 more, and that would not be fair to our citizens.

Mr. Taylor stated that there is special funding that a unit is eligible for when it is under the control of the LGC. He went on to say that when the Town of Eureka's charter was reinstated, they were no longer eligible for that funding.

Alderman Artis asked Mr. Taylor if the Town could discontinue going forward with the MOU with Eureka, since they are having a hard time paying their bills.

Mr. Taylor responded by saying: "The consequence of breaking the MOU is that it would jeopardize the funding that Eureka has received, but Fremont could do whatever it deems necessary."

Oaths of Office

During the meeting, Mayor Yelverton administered the Oaths of Office for Finance Officer to Shannon Moats and for Deputy Finance Officer to Town Administrator Jonathan Allen.

Action

1. New Tractor for Public Works – Mayor Pro Tem Ruffin

Mayor Pro Tem Ruffin stated that the tractor the Town purchased approx. 5 years ago is in great need of repair, and suggested that it would be sold and to purchase a new tractor. Finance Director Shannon Moats stated that the balance owed on the tractor is \$13,351.25. Mr. Allen stated that the main issue with the current tractor is that the

hydraulic arm of the tractor is malfunctioning. He went on to say that there is some other issues with the tractor itself. He also stated that, from his understanding, the tractor was purchased to have a longer arm reach to clean out ditches. He went on to say that there was a need for a wider base, which would increase the balance and stability of the tractor. The Board agreed to instruct Mr. Allen to obtain 3 estimates for a new tractor for the Public Works Department.

2. Correction of Minutes Concerning Deputy Finance Officer- Need to Recind or Correct Motion Made in October 15, 2024 – Finance Officer Shannon Moats

Finance Officer Shannon Moats stated that while reading the October 15, 2024 minutes, she noticed the motion that read impart “If the a check is over \$2,000 then two Board members would have to sign the check.” Mrs. Moats stated that, by General Statue, the finance officer/deputy finance officer has to sign every check, which is something that Mayor Pro Tem Leroy Ruffin brought to the Board years ago. She went on to say that in her absence, Mr. Allen would be acting as the finance officer, and the clerk would also sign checks. She also stated that if the check is over \$2,000, the deputy finance officer and a Board member, who is authorized to sign checks would be required.

Mayor Yelverton asked Alderwoman Artis to rescind her motion that she made on October 15, 2024.

Alderwoman Artis made a motion to rescind the motion that she made on October 15, 2024 concerning the deputy finance officer and the signatures that were required on each check. Alderman Mooring seconded the motion.

Mayor Yelverton asked for any discussion. There was none.

All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Yelverton asked Alderwoman Joyce Artis to correct the motion that she originally made on October 15, 2024.

Alderwoman Artis made motion to appoint Town Administrator Jonathan Allen as the Deputy Finance Officer, who would only sign checks in the absence of Finance Officer Shannon Moats. The Motion was seconded by Alderman Wayne Jackson.

Mayor Yelverton asked for any discussion. There was none.

All were in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Permission to Use Town Pole to Mount Security Cameras – Alderman Wayne Jackson

Alderman Jackson stated the First Missionary Baptist Church has requested to mount a security camera on an utiltiy pole that belonged to the Town, which is located across the street from their Church. He went on to say that the purpose for their request is to keep general oversight of the elderly population of the church, and it would also serve as

security for the Sunday School children, and to keep watch for those persons that wish to cause bodily harm to the parishioners. Alderman Jackson also stated that the cameras that the church plans to install are solar, would be directed only towards the church property, and would be installed out of the reach of the general public. He went on to say that First Missionary Baptist Church would not hold the Town liable if the cameras were stolen or damaged.

Alderman Mooring made a motion to allow the Fremont Missionary Baptist Church to use the Town's utility pole to mount security cameras. The motion was seconded by Alderman Tim Howell.

Mayor Yelverton asked for any discussion. There was none.

All were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Fire Department Officers – Fire Chief Jeff Brooks

Mayor Yelverton asked Fire Chief Brooks to present the names to the Board. Fire Chief Brooks asked the Board to consider approving the following people as officers of the Fremont Fire Department for 2025, who were selected during their annual election.

Chief - Jeff Brooks
1st Assistant Chief - Steven Marlowe
2nd Assistant Chief - Steve Evans
1st Captain - Scott Yelverton
2nd Captain - Josh Pulley
1st Lieutenant – Charles Gurley
2nd Lieutenant – Carl Lawrence
Secretary/Treasurer - Gene Howell

Jeff Brooks - Fire Chief. He has been on the department since 2008 and been Fire Chief since 2010.

Steven Marlowe - 1st Assistant Chief. He has been on the department since 1980 and been 1st Assistant Chief since 2012.

Steve Evans - 2nd Assistant Chief. He has been on the department since 2002 and been an Assistant Chief since 2009.

Scott Yelverton - 1st Captain. He has been on the department since 2009 and been a Captain since 2013.

Josh Pulley - 2nd Captain. He has been on the department since 2006 and been either a Captain or Lieutenant since 2012.

Charles Gurley - 1st Lieutenant. He has been on the department since 2017 and was the Fire Chief of Polly Watson for 2 years and Lieutenant for 1 year for us.

Carl Lawrence - 2nd Lieutenant. He has been on the department since 2009 and has been either a Captain or Lieutenant since 2019.

Gene Howell - Secretary Treasurer. He has been on the department since 1999 and has been the Secretary Treasurer since 2005.

Alderman Howell made a motion to approve the Fremont Fire Department Officers as listed. The motion was seconded by Alderman Wayne Jackson.

Mayor Yelverton asked for any discussion. There was none.

All were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief Brooks stated that the Officers would be sworn in on Thursday, December 12, 2024.

5. 4-Way Stops – Alderman Tim Howell

Alderman Howell asked for the Board's thoughts on removing the 4 way stop signs in front of the old school. He stated that since the school has moved there would not be a need to make that intersection a 4-way stop.

Chief Moats stated that if the signs are taken down, speed violations may increase.

Alderman Mooring stated that being a resident of Wayne Street, he would like for that intersection to remain a four-way stop.

See #6 for action on this item.

6. One-Way Street – Alderman Tim Howell

Alderman Howell asked the Board's thoughts on removing the one-way street sign on the 100 block of Pine St, between the funeral home and the old school, and making that street into a two-way street. He went on to say that if the Board agrees to do so, we would need to remove 1 "one way sign" and 1 "no right turn sign."

Alderman Jackson asked if there was enough room for two way traffic in addition to the side-street parking spaces. Chief Moats stated that those parking spaces could be eliminated due to the fact that they were only there for school purposes. He went on to say that he would make sure if there was enough room on that street and would let the Board know what he was able to obtain.

Mayor Yelverton asked for a motion.

Alderman Howell made a motion to remove the one way sign located on the 100 block of Pine Street, remove the no right turn sign coming out of the funeral home, and to remove the time restriction sign on Wayne and Pender Streets. The motion was seconded by Alderman Mooring.

Mayor Yelverton asked for any discussion. There was none.

All were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Jackson asked Mr. Allen to make sure that our ordinance concerning street signs coincides with the motion that was made concerning the street signs.

Reports:

(1) Finance Report – Shannon Moats

Mrs. Moats stated that the financial reports are in each member's packet and she would be happy to answer any questions. She went on to say that in October she had transferred \$25,000 from the Town's Southern Bank account into to the Town's Capital Management and Trust account. She also informed the Board that the interest made from our Capital Management Account for the month of October was \$8,399.00

Mrs. Moats also informed the Board that our auditor, Dana Layne, would be here on December 3, 2024 to do our audit. She went on to say that the auditor informed her that the audit would be completed before Christmas, and would be ready to present during the January Board meeting. Mrs. Moats informed the Board that if they wanted Mrs. Layne to make the audit presentation before January to please let her know.

Purchase of CD's

Mrs. Moats informed the Board that she had spoken with a representative of the State Employee's Credit Union, who informed her that they do not offer CD's to businesses, therefore, the Town could not purchase a CD from the credit union.

She went on to say that she also called Southern Bank concerning purchasing a CD and was told that for a 6-month CD, the interest rate would be 4.25%. She informed the Board that we are currently making 4.6%. Mrs. Moats went on to say that she had spoken with the finance committee concerning it, and was told that it was not a good idea to put money on a CD for six months that would draw less interest than what we are currently earning with our Capital Management Trust Fund.

New Credit Card

Mrs. Moats also informed the Board that she was trying to obtain some information on applying for another credit card that offers cash back rewards each time it used, such as the SAM's Club Master Card because our current credit card with Southern Bank/First Citizens offers no money. She went on to say that Mr. Allen would have to speak with the SAM's Credit Card to start the process. Mrs. Moats asked the Board if they had any objections with her obtaining the information on the new credit card. There was none.

(2) Billing & Collections Report – Interim Town Clerk Joyce M. Artis

Mrs. Artis asked the Board if they had any questions concerning the Billing and Collections report. She went on to say that the reason that we were in the negative \$124,000 was due in part of not receiving the sewer payments from Eureka and the money from vouchers for the Utility Assistance Program.

CDBG-CV Grant/ Utility Assistance Program – Shannon Moats

Mayor Pro Tem Leroy Ruffin asked Finance Officer Shannon Moats to share with the Board the information that she had obtained from Town Engineer Mike McAllister concerning the Utility Assistance Program. Mrs. Moats stated that before the Utility Assistance program began, she made sure to obtain a clear understanding of when the Town would receive its money from the NC Department of Commerce. She went on to say that she was told by Shycole Simpson-Carter of the NC Department of Commerce, that as long as the request was submitted to them before a Thursday, the Town would receive its money the very next week.

Mrs. Moats also informed the Board that the Norwayne Alumni Association, who processes the Utility Assistance Applications on the 2nd Thursday of each month, sent her a list of the qualified recipients in October. She went on to say that she sent the list to Grant Administrator Mike McAllister, who was supposed to send the list, along with an invoice and other documentation, to the Department of Commerce.

She went on to say that after waiting a week or so to hear from Mr. McAllister, she called him and he told her that he was waiting for his secretary to print an invoice for his work, in which he wanted it to be attached to the Town's request for reimbursement. She went on to say that Mr. McAllister informed her that he would send it to Commerce within a week. Mrs. Moats informed the Board that Mr. McAllister did not send the information to NC Commerce as he stated. She went on to say that sometime later, she was able to personally speak with Mr. McAllister when he visited the Town Hall. During that conversation, he informed her that the Town's paperwork was still on his desk and had not been sent to Commerce. Mrs. Moats informed the Board that she expressed to Mr. McAllister her concerns about not having received the first reimbursement, and having received a second list of

approved applicants for November. She informed him that utility assistance recipients were calling the town hall with their concerns about their bills not being paid, and she also stated that she expressed to him her concerns about the Town not being reimbursed within a timely manner.

Mrs. Moats stated that she does not have the authority to call Mr. McAllister to ensure that the Town received what we needed from him. Mayor Yelverton stated that if she needed to call him on daily basis to ensure that the Town received what we needed, then she should do so. Mrs. Moats stated that she would call Mr. McAllister immediately.

(3) Police Reports – Chief Paul Moats

Chief Moats reported that there were 982 calls that were either self-initiated or dispatched by 911. He also provided a written report for the Board as well. Chief Moats informed the Board that the Police Department had been approved for a \$24,500 grant, which was written by Assistant Chief Greg Bottoms. Chief Moats went on to say that due to the hard work of Assistant Chief Bottoms, two of the police cruisers had been equipped with In-Car Camera Systems, which allows police officers to view and record the activity of an arrestee. He also stated that the cameras are activated by the use of each police car's sirens or blue lights. Chief Moats went on to say that the information on the cameras is automatically downloaded on the system in the police department's office as soon as the car pulls in the back alley, and is retained for court purposes.

Police Car

Chief Moats stated that the white marked patrol car had been sitting at the Dodge Dealership for approx. six months, and the cost to repair it would be \$9,800.00. He went on to say that, as a favor to the police department, the service manager had reduced the price of installing the brand new motor by \$3,000.00. Chief Moats informed the Board that the car was back in service.

Full-time Police Officer

Chief Moats reported that the department was in the application process with a part-time officer, which would eliminate some of the non-coverage hours. Chief Moats went on to say that the officer comes with experience, and there was a great possibility of filling a full-time position in January or February.

Chief Moats stated the PD was preparing for Christmas events as well.

Ride Along Program

Mayor Pro Tem Leroy Ruffin asked if the police department offered the ride-along program. Chief Moats stated the department does offer ride-along program, and anyone interested has to complete a form in order to do so.

Alderwoman Joyce Artis commended Assistant Chief Bottoms for writing the grants that the police department has received.

(4) Town Updates – Town Administrator Jonathan Allen

Code Enforcement Officer

Mr. Allen mentioned a few things that were listed in his report, which was included in each agenda packet. He informed the Board that the application deadline for the Code Enforcement Officer has ended, and that he had received two applications. He went on to say that he would be meeting with the personnel committee as soon as possible.

Grading of the Street Shoulders

Mr. Allen reported that the grading of the street shoulders began today, November 19, 2024, on Carolina, Goldsboro, Main, and Vance Streets.

New Phone Systems

Mr. Allen stated that the new phone system had been installed in Town Hall, the Police Department, and Public Works. He stated that the new phone system was Board approved and was included in the budget. He went on to say, “As with any new system, we are going to have some kinks to work out, but so far, everything seems to be working out.

Mr. Allen also gave the following important dates:

- **November 28 & 29** - Thanksgiving Holiday - Town Offices Closed
- **December 3rd** - 12 Noon - Documents Due for Planning Board Meeting
- **December 6th** - 6PM - Fremont Tree Lighting Ceremony
- **December 7th** - 1PM - Fremont Christmas Parade

Discussion:

(1) Reasons to Go Into Closed Session – Alderwoman Joyce Artis

Alderwoman Artis gave the Board a list of the nine reasons for a Board to go into a closed session. She stated that a general statute has to be listed on the agenda each time that the Board goes into a closed session.

(2) Food Bank Lines on Wayne Street

Alderwoman Artis stated that a citizen has made several complaints about her driveway being blocked during the foodbank on Goldsboro St. She went on say that when the line backs up down Wayne and Vance Street, the citizens has stated that she has trouble exiting and entering her driveway. Alderwoman Artis stated that both Chief Moats and Assistant Chief Bottoms has assisted with traffic on several occasions. Alderwoman Artis went on to say that she has spoken with the person in charge of the foodbank, who said that she has spoken with the citizen in order to try to resolve the issue.

Chief Moats stated that the issue with this citizen’s property is that she does not have a defined driveway, and it’s a grassy area. He went on to say that she has placed signs and cones out to let drivers know not to block her driveway. He also stated the he and Assistant Chief Bottoms has watched out for her driveway on numerous occasions, and has even asked people not to block her driveway. He went on to say that he or neither one of his officers can watch her driveway each time there is a food bank, but he has instructed Assistant Chief Bottoms to keep watch on that area, since there will be an additional officer available on Wednesday, November 20, 2024, which is the next food bank give-a-way. He also stated that his hopes are to come up with a solution, but he doesn’t know what the solution is at this point.

Finance Officer Shannon Moats asked if the Board had the authority to demand the people who operate the food bank to provide the staff needed to control traffic. Mayor Pro Tem Ruffin responded by saying that, “The Board has the authority to direct Chief Moats speak with the operator of the food bank about the issue, and then proceed from there.” Chief Moats stated that he would speak with the operator of the food bank again, as soon as possible.

(3) Adding Old Business to the Agenda – Alderman Wayne Jackson

Alderman Jackson stated that, in the past, the Board has passed motions that is not followed up on in a timely manner. He went on say that he would like for the topic/ motions to say on the agenda as old business until they have been completed. All agreed.

(4) Recycling – Alderman Tim Howell

Alderman Howell stated that the Board had previously discussed discontinuing recycling pickup. He went on to say that the benefit of discontinuing the service could be saving the Town money, but if each citizen would need an extra recycling bin, it would not be a benefit to the Town. Alderman Jackson asked if having two garbage bins be any different from have one garbage bin and one recycling bin. He went on to say that if we could discontinue recycling, GFL would have only one weekly pick up.

Finance Officer Shannon Moats stated that some years ago, the Town had inquired about discontinuing recycling, and was told by a GFL representative that it would be a small savings to the Town. Alderwoman Artis asked Alderman Howell why he wanted to discontinue recycling. Alderman Howell replied by saying, “You don’t have to recycle in North Carolina; it is not mandated.”

Mayor Pro tem Ruffin stated that he believed that there should be more than a small

Savings to the Town being that the GFL truck would not have to come to Fremont more once a week.

Finance Officer Shannon Moats stated that the Town needed to determine how many people were in need of two trash bins. Alderman Jackson stated that the inquiry could be placed on the utility bills to get the word out to the citizens.

(5) The Wreaths Across America – Mayor Eddie Yelverton

Mayor Yelverton stated that, starting next year, he would like for the Town to participate in the Wreaths Across America program, which started in 2010 or 2012. He went on to say that this organization places wreaths on the grave plots of veterans on the second Saturday in December. He informed the Board that if the Town would like to participate in the program, we could contact civic organizations, (*i.e. The Rotary Club, Norwayne Alumni Assoc., or the Christian Fellowship Alliance*), to see if they would be willing to participate. He went on to say that this year’s cost for two wreaths was \$37, and an extra wreath would be given at no cost. He also informed the Board that they would determine the length of time that wreaths would remain in each cemetery, after which, the group would retrieve the wreaths. Mayor Yelverton asked Mr. Allen to obtain more information about the program.

Closed Session: Personnel - General Statute § 143-318.11(6)

Mayor Yelverton asked for a motion to go into Closed Session for personnel. Alderwoman Artis made the motion. Alderman Ruffin seconded it. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Eddie Yelverton, Mayor

Joyce M. Artis, Interim Town Clerk