

**TOWN OF LONG VIEW
TOWN ALDERMEN MEETING
October 11, 2010**

The Town of Long View Board of Aldermen met on Monday, October 11, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers of the Government Center in Long View, North Carolina.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: The following members of the Board were present: Mayor Pro Tem Vernon Moyer, Alderman Ken Bumgarner, Alderman John McDaris, Alderman Randall Mays, and Alderman Jackie Bowman.

STAFF PRESENT: The following members of staff were present: Town Administrator David Epley, Town Clerk Stephanie Watson, Town Attorney Redmond Dill, Finance Director James Cozart, Town Planner Charles Mullis, Public Works Director David Draughn, Fire Chief Eric Shepherd, Police Chief Cecil Rogers and Police Officer Justin Roberts.

OTHERS PRESENT: Town resident Luther Rudisill; Andrew Pitts from Tailored Chemical, Inc.; Mark Huckabee from Tailored Chemical, Inc.; and others were present.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Mayor Pro Tem Vernon Moyer called the meeting to order and Alderman John McDaris gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mayor Pro Tem Vernon Moyer asked for approval of the minutes. Motion was made by Alderman Randall Mays seconded by Alderman Ken Bumgarner to approve the September 13, 2010 minutes. The vote was unanimous, by all Board members present at the respective meeting.

RESOLUTION FOR APPROVING WATER SHORTAGE RESPONSE PLAN

Town Administrator briefly went over the Resolution for Approving the Water Shortage Response Plan. He explained that the Department of Environment Health and Natural Resources requires that the Town update the Water Shortage Response Plan every few years. The Town is using a similar plan as the City of Hickory.

Alderman Randall Mays asked if a public hearing would need to be called before the approval of the resolution.

Attorney Redmond Dill suggested that if a public hearing was held before the original resolution was adopted, it would be prudent to call for a public hearing before the adoption of this resolution.

Alderman Jackie Bowman asked if the Water Restrictions are initiated, would there be any restrictions on the amount the Town may pull out of the river for the water system. Mr. Epley explained that there would not be any major restrictions until stage four was reached.

Mr. Epley noted that the local area has barely entered into Stage 1.

After a brief discussion, motion was made by Alderman Randall Mays, seconded by Alderman John McDaris to call for a public hearing on Monday, November 8, 2010 to discuss the Water Shortage Response Plan. The vote was unanimous.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief Cecil Rogers briefly went over the that have occurred since the last department report.

Narcotics Report

Mr. Rogers listed the street value of the controlled substances seized. He explained that since the last department report that the police department seized 1,311 grams of cocaine with a street value of \$262,000.00; 8,132 grams of marijuana with a street value of \$43,506.00; 758 dosage units of crack cocaine with a street value of \$15,160.00; 12 dosage units of zanex with a street value of \$240.00; methamphetamine with a street value of \$600.00; 35 dosage units of hydrocodone with a street value of \$700.00; 38 dosage units of muscle relaxers with a street value of \$760.00; and 10 dosage units of morphine with a street value of \$200.00.

The total value of controlled substances was \$323,366.00.

The Narcotics Officer has served 21 drug related search warrants. He has seized six stolen guns, \$12,825.00 in US Currency, 21 sets of digital scales for weighing controlled substances for sale, and 8 pipes used to smoke illegal substances.

Vehicles seized by the Police Department and turned over to the Department of Revenue include a 98 Ford Windstar Van, 2001 Dodge Durango, 2004 Chrysler PT Cruiser, 2005 250CC Four Wheeler, 2003 GMC Denali, 2002 Chevrolet Tahoe, and 1998 Ebttide Pleasure Boat. Total amount of money owed to the Department of Revenues as a result of the seizure of these vehicles is \$106,888.00. If the vehicles sell for what is expected, the totaled that will come back to the Town would be \$80,166.00.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Eric Shepherd briefly went over the events of the last few months in the Fire Department.

Regular Activities

He explained that the Fire Department had taken 73 calls and had 848.5 hours of training. The Property Risk Value was \$276,400.00 and the Property Loss Value for the quarter was \$30,000.00.

Fire Prevention Activities

Mr. Shepherd explained that Fire Prevention activities are usually quiet during the summer. Activities will pick back up now that school has started back. Fire Prevention Week was October 3-9, 2010.

50/50 Grant

In July, the Fire Department applied for a 50/50 grant through the NC Division of Forestry Resources. The grant program is offered to departments serving a population less than 10,000 people. It is a matching grant awarded to qualifying departments, and receiving a maximum of \$1,200.00. The funds may be used to purchase wildland firefighting personal protective equipment and hand tools. The Long View Fire Department will be purchasing shirts and pants that are made of a flame resistant material called Aramid.

Practice House Burn

The Long View Fire Department hosted a practice house burning on 23rd St NW. About fifty-five firefighters participated in the exercise, representing five counties (Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, and Watauga).

Fire Alarm System Inspection

The Fire Alarm System was serviced on October 5, 2010. This included checking pull boxes, heat detectors, smoke detectors, the annunciators and horns, duct work detectors, LED panel, and the elevator recall system.

The inspector had two recommendations which were to add an annunciator/horn in the weight room and add a pull station at the back door of the Long View Police Department.

The inspector added that in the ductworks on the Administrative side, one of the protectors had a slight crack. He requested that the Town inspect it often to see if the crack grows larger.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Public Works Director David Draughn briefly went over the events that occurred in the Public Works Department in the last few months.

Sewer Maintenance

Mr. Draughn explained that approximately 241 million gallons of wastewater was billed by the City of Hickory for treating Long View wastewater. Long View employees spent 200 hours performing daily checks and maintenance on Long View's three wastewater pumping stations. Routine maintenance to pump station generators was performed in June. Sewer flume meters were calibrated.

Long View employees performed 10 hours of cutting out roots on the sewer line on 1st Avenue Place NW. There were previously four backups on this line.

Special Projects

JW Grading was hired to demolish the building, an old hosiery mill, on the Town owned property on 28th Street SW. The project is underway. Plans are to move a 20 x 20 building from the site to the town property in the Town owned fenced lot behind Dr. Gill's office for storage purposes. The building will be used for storage.

Mr. Draughn informed the Board that JW Grading will also be hired to replace a drain system box culvert that collapsed on 1st Avenue NW off of 19th Street.

A paving company was hired to patch 34th Street NW and repair the curb on 37th Street SW.

Maintenance was performed on fuel pumps.

Mr. Draughn explained that the Town has worked with engineers moving sewer and water lines and new water taps for Maple Springs Laundry on 30th Pl Street NW. Project will be completed soon but still lacks meter vaults, 30th Street Pl NW road and drainage improvements, and the replacement of the walking track.

Plans have been finalized for the Frye Creek rehab project and bids are going out to bidders this week.

Continue to finalize plans for the 2nd Avenue NW Sidewalk Project.

Plans are being finalized for the Sewer Line Rehab Project on 3rd and 4th Avenue NW. Drawings are complete and have been submitted to the State for permits and a secured State loan. Mr. Draughn estimated early in 2011 for the project to go to bid.

Meters

Mr. Draughn explained that Public Works has been replacing the older meters around Town for radio read meters. He explained that when the software is updated, the Town will begin to rely more on radio read meters.

Leaf Collection Schedule

Mr. Draughn informed the Board that leaf collection will begin November 1, 2010.

WATER PLANT

Town Administrator David Epley informed the Board that Water Plant Superintendent Rani Holland could not be present for tonight's meeting but will give her report at the November 8, 2010 meeting.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Town Planner Charles Mullis briefly went over the events that occurred in the Planning Department in the last few months.

2010 Census

Adjusting for population increase from 2000-2010 the Town of Long View's mail participation rate increased 2% from a 73% participation rate in 2000 to a 75% participation rate in 2010. This was about average for most municipalities in Catawba County. Catawba County's mail participation rate increased from 72% in 2000 to 77% in 2010.

For the Town, the 2010 Census Program initially began with the Local Update of Census Addresses Program (LUCA). This is where the Federal Government sent the Town a list of all addresses they had from the 2000 Census and requested that the Planning Department update the list.

Long View also participated in the distribution of 2010 Census promotional items that were obtained through a grant by Catawba County.

Long View Town Hall served as a training center for where the Town Hall Meeting Room was used by a recruiting assistant for census job training. Town Hall was also used as a questionnaire assistance center for the 2010 Census.

The effort by the Town of Long View was a success and the Town received a certificate from the U.S. Department of Commerce thanking the Town for its participation.

Mr. Mullis explained that all data recorded from the 2010 Census should be published by the first of the year.

Development

Town Planner Charles Mullis informed the Board that residential planning in the community is still very slow.

Commercially it appears that Penelope Baptist Church is almost finished with its new sanctuary. The Maple Springs Project is also coming right along.

The Planning Board has approved the minor subdivision for the property that the new Western Piedmont Council of Governments (WPCOG) building will be built. Mr. Mullis is expecting them to soon submit the building site plans.

Mr. Mullis briefly explained his day to day duties.

Watershed Agreements

Mayor Pro Tem Vernon Moyer requested information dealing with the watershed and the renewal of those agreements. He explained that John Tippett of the WPCOG said that the renewal date was coming up and Mr. Mullis should contact him about the Town being exempt.

Mr. Mullis said that he had spoke with Mr. Tippett.

FINANCE REPORT

As Finance Director James Cozart could not be present for tonight's meeting, Town Administer David Epley gave the Finance Report.

Finance Report

Town Administrator David Epley informed the Board that Revenues in the General Fund at August 31, 2010 totaled \$413,965.81. That is an increase of \$22,089.28 over last year. Local Government Sales Tax disbursements have been more normal for the first quarter of the year which has strengthened our revenues this year. Expenditures in the General Fund at August 31, 2010 totaled \$468,800.22. This is up \$40,443.52 from last year. This increase in expenditures over last year is due to the Town Hall roof repairs and the debt payment the Town made on the Fire Truck equipment loan, both were expenditures the Town did not have last fiscal year. The Town did meet its "break even" point during September this fiscal year, which is a month earlier than in the last fiscal year. Expenditures exceeded revenues in the General Fund by \$54,834.41 at August 31, 2010.

The Utility Fund continues to remain stable. Revenues totaled \$313,072.14 at August 31, 2010. The Town's monthly billing totals have returned to normal levels as the amount of vacant homes in Town have reduced. Expenditures totaled \$301, 671.56, which allowed the Utility Fund to have a surplus at the end of August of \$11,400.58.

Mr. Epley briefly went over the other items that the Finance Department is working on.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Project's Report

Sidewalk Project – Town Administrator David Epley informed the Board that the plans for the Sidewalk Project are moving forward. The plans have been given to District Engineer’s Office.

Financing Agreement – Town Administrator David Epley informed the Board that the Town is still working with BB&T Local Government Finance to finance the upcoming projects. There should be some items to present to the Board at the next meeting.

Thank you to Alderman Randall Mays – Town Administrator David Epley wished to act on the behalf of all the staff and offer a thank you to Alderman Randall Mays for sponsoring the Employee Appreciation Lunch on October 7, 2010. It was well received by all the employees at the Town of Long View.

Alderman Randall Mays wished to say that he felt this was a small thing the Board could do as a thank you to the Town of Long View’s employees for their hard work.

OTHER BUSINESS

Town resident Luther Rudisill requested that “Slow.... Children At Play” signs be posted at certain areas. He requested the signs be placed at:

- From the entrance at 2nd Ave to 24rd St NW
- From the entrance at 23rd St on 1st Ave PI NW
- 25th St on 2nd Ave

CLOSED SESSION

Motion was made by Alderman Jackie Bowman, seconded by Alderman Ken Bumgarner to adjourn to closed session at 8:07 p.m. to discuss a possible property acquisition. The vote was unanimous.

Motion was made by Alderman Randall Mays, seconded by Alderman Jackie Bowman to adjourn the closed session and return to the regular meeting at 8:36 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Randall Mays wished to thank all the staff for coming to the Employee Appreciation Lunch.

There being no further business, motion was made by Alderman Ken Bumgarner, seconded by Alderman John McDaris to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Stephanie C. Watson
Town Clerk, CMC

Vernon Moyer
Mayor Pro Tem