



The Richlands' Board of Aldermen met in Regular Session Tuesday evening, February 12, 2008 at 7:00 pm, at the Richlands Town Hall. Present for the meeting were:

Marvin Trott, Mayor  
McKinley Smith, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Steve Marshburn, Alderman  
Tom Brown, Alderman  
Fran Pierce, Alderman  
Hans Jacobsen, Alderman

Also present for the meeting were: Eva Brown – Town Clerk, Gregg Whitehead – Town Administrator, Keith Fountain – Town Attorney, Thomas Bennett – Chief of Police, Johnathan Jarman – Public Works Director, 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Ron Lindig, Office Robert Winners & Lori Faircloth and Abby Cavanaugh – Advertiser News.

Approximately six other citizens were also present for the meeting.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** Mayor Marvin Trott

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Alderman Steve Marshburn

**INVOCATION:** Reverend McKinley Smith

### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman Hans Jacobsen to adopt the Agenda as presented. The motion was unanimously carried.

### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman Steve Marshburn to adopt the minutes for January 8, 2008. The motion was unanimously carried.

### **SPEED HUMP INSTALLATION**

After a lengthy discussion by the Board concerning installation of speed humps, a motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman Steve Marshburn to install two speed humps on East Point Street and three speed humps on Dreadnaught Street. Vote 3 yes with 2 opposing, being Alderman Mckinley Smith and Alderman Hans Jacobsen.

## **WOODSON SCHOOL ROAD CLOSING / TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP**

A motion was made by Alderman Steve Marshburn, seconded by Alderman Tom Brown to schedule a Public Hearing for Tuesday, March 11, 2008 at 7:00 pm concerning Woodson School Road Closing / Transfer Ownership of the street to the Onslow County School. The motion was unanimously carried.

## **WASTE INDUSTRIES SURCHARGE**

A motion was made by Alderman Steve Marshburn, seconded by Alderman Tom Brown, **not** to approve Waste Industries request, for the Town to be charged a monthly fuel surcharge. The motion was unanimously carried.

## **DOWNTOWN INTERSECTION PROJECT**

Town Administrator, Gregg Whitehead informed the Board that the Town has requested numerous times for the NCDOT to consider reinstalling a traffic light at the intersection of Hargett Street and Wilmington Street downtown. NCDOT has continuously rejected our request. NCDOT recommends a possible solution that involves the addition of curb extensions and removal of seven current parking spaces, at a cost of approximately \$108,265.

After a discussion by the Board and Town Administrator, a motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman Steve Marshburn to enlist the assistance of local DOT representatives in order to help find funding or bring the cost of the project down. The motion was unanimously carried.

## **BUDGET AMENDMENT # 1**

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman McKinley Smith to adopt budget amendment # 1 to cover the additional costs of the municipal election held last year. The motion was unanimously carried.

## **BOARD WORKSHOP & RETREAT**

By consensus of the Board, it was agreed to schedule a workshop & retreat for March 28<sup>th</sup> through March 30<sup>th</sup> at Sea Trail, Sunset Beach. The Board instructed Gregg Whitehead to follow up with the arrangements.

## **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR NOTES & UPDATES**

Town Administrator Gregg Whitehead presented a copy of notes and updates to the Board. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes. Mr. Whitehead also informed the Board of the following items.

1. A Water Summit is being held at the Global Trans Park Center, sponsored by

Eastern Carolina Council & NC Rural Water Assoc., on March 10, 2008.

2. Informed the Board that he will be meeting with the City of Jacksonville planning staff to look at the possibility of developing an Interlocal Agreement between the Town of Richlands and the City of Jacksonville, so we can utilize their certified inspection staff to assist us in doing our minimum housing code in Town.
3. Mr. Whitehead reported to the Board that he researched the cable franchise fees and we are above target on our revenues.

### **POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT**

Chief Thomas Bennett presented a copy of the Police Activity Report for January 2008. He also informed the Board of the following items.

1. Officer Lori Faircloth became full time as of February 4, 2008.
2. 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Ron Lindig is now a full time officer as of February 4, 2008.
3. Introduced Stephen Bowen as a new Reserved Officer after he gets sworn in.
4. Will be meeting with Sheriff Blake Wallace of Duplin County, tomorrow.

### **SWEARING IN / STEPHEN BOWEN**

Mayor Marvin Trott administered the Oath of Office to Stephen Bowen as a Richlands Reserve Police Officer.

### **BOARD MEMBERS CONCERNS**

1. Aldermen Fran Pierce, McKinley Smith and Hans Jacobsen gave a report of their learning experience at the Newly Elected Officials School they attended in Greenville.
2. Alderman Steve Marshburn & Alderman Tom Brown asked for an update on Bonnie Saunders' house on Foy St.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman McKinley Smith to go into closed session to discuss personnel. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman Steve Marshburn to go into regular session. The motion was unanimously carried.

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR SALARY INCREASE / RETRO ACTIVE FROM  
JULY 1, 2007**

A motion was made by Alderman Steve Marshburn, seconded by Alderman Tom Brown to approve salary increase for Town Administrator Gregg Whitehead as approved by the previous Board, effective July 1, 2007. The motion was unanimously carried.

**ADJOURN**

A motion was made by Alderman Steve Marshburn, seconded by Alderman Fran Pierce to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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Marvin Trott, Mayor

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Eva C. Brown, MMC  
Town Clerk