



The Richlands' Board of Aldermen met in Regular Session Tuesday evening, March 11, 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, 1st Sgt. Ron Lindig, Amanda Hickey – Daily News, Abby Cavanaugh – Advertiser News, Rose Whitehurst – Director of the Onslow County Board of Election, Barry Collins – Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources with Onslow County Board of Education.

Approximately six other citizens were also present for the meeting.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Mayor Marvin Trott

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Alderman Steve Marshburn

INVOCATION: Alderman McKinley Smith

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Alderman McKinley Smith, seconded by Alderman Tom Brown 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 McKinley Smith to approve the minutes for February 12, 2008. The motion was unanimously carried.

PUBLIC HEARING / WOODSON SCHOOL ROAD CLOSING & TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP

Mayor Marvin Trott asked for input from Citizens and Board Members concerning Woodson School Road Closing and Transfer of Ownership.

Mr. Barry Collins, representative for Onslow County School Board stated to the Board that Onslow County School Board is in favor of the proposal to transfer ownership of Woodson School Road to Onslow County School for occupation and maintenance.

With no other concerns or input from the Board or Citizens, Mayor Trott declared the Public Hearing closed.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS DISCUSSION / ROSE WHITEHURST

Ms. Rose Whitehurst addressed the Board to provide an explanation and discuss the increase in election costs and the amount the towns are charged for their elections.

After a discussion by the Board, Ms. Whitehurst and Town Administrator, concerning the above matter, the Board asked Ms. Whitehurst to look into the matter of having the increase pro-rated for each municipality.

WOODSON SCHOOL ROAD CLOSING ORDER

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman McKinley Smith to adopt the "ORDER OF ROAD CLOSURE OF WOODSON SCHOOL ROAD".

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman McKinley Smith to amend the above motion that Woodson School Road be closed in that it is not contrary to public interest and that the only property owner adjacent to the street has requested the closure and the closure would not deprive vicinity owners of reasonable access to their property.

The amendment and motion was unanimously carried. A copy of the Order is attached to these minutes.

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR DOWNTOWN INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

A motion was made by Alderman Steve Marshburn, seconded by Alderman Fran Pierce to adopt the Resolution of Support for Downtown Intersection Improvement Project. The motion was unanimously carried. A copy of the resolution is attached to these minutes.

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR SEWER AVAILABILITY ON HUFFMANTOWN ROAD AREA

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman Hans Jacobsen to adopt the Resolution of Support for Sewer Availability on Huffmantown Road Area. The motion was unanimously carried. A copy of the resolution is attached to these minutes.

GOGAS UNIVERSAL FLEET CARD PROGRAM

GoGas Universal is a Wilmington based company and the State Contract provider for fleet gas credit cards. By using the GoGas Universal Fleet Card Program, fuel for the town vehicles can be purchased from just about any gas station. They also provide free of charge, comprehensive monthly fuel reporting, the tax exempt gas tax reporting and a rebate of .50% on any transaction that is more than \$40. There are no fees to be part of the fleet card program.

A motion was made by Alderman Tom Brown, seconded by Alderman Fran Pierce to approve GoGas Universal Fleet Card Program. The motion was unanimously carried.

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. Informed the Board that Johnathan & Doreen did a great job in doing the Census Program local address updating system to get an accurate count of housing in Town for the 2010 Census.
2. Johnathan Jarman stated that in completing the Census update, the housing totals went from 436 to 612, due to the development, of Brookhaven, Spring Wood and Tri-Field.
3. Presented a memoranda on the proposed agenda for the Board's Retreat to be held this month.

A motion was made by Alderman Hans Jacobsen, seconded by Alderman McKinley Smith to schedule a Special Call Meeting for March 28, 2008 through March 30, 2008 for the purpose of holding a Board Retreat. The motion was unanimously carried.

POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT

Chief Thomas Bennett presented a copy of the Police Activity Report for February 2008. 1st Sgt. Ron Lindig informed the Board that the 2004 police car is in need of major repair, which will cost approximately \$1,380.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. John Rodock asked the Board if the sewer availability on Huffmantown Road was approved. Mayor Trott responded no, it is only a request for it to be considered in the engineering plan. Mr. Rodock also expressed concerns of the condition of Huffmantown Road. Mayor Trott instructed Mr. Rodock to follow up with DOT, due to it being state owned.

Mr. Carroll Beaty addressed the Board giving his support on the Downtown Intersection Improvement Project Resolution. He also asked how he could assist in the matter. Mr. Beaty also stated that he supports the sewer availability on Huffmantown Road.

MAYOR & BOARD MEMBERS CONCERNS

Mayor Trott informed the Board that ONWASA received a draft letter on the Special Order of Consent (SOC) this afternoon concerning our request from DENR for additional wastewater capacity. The draft letter states that they are approving 130,000 gallons, which is enough for 371 homes. The draft must be signed by both parties. The 130,000 gallons will be divided into two phases. The first phase being 65,000 gallons and the second phase 65,000. There is more negotiation that has to be done.

Mayor Trott also informed the Board that Taylor Downey Manager, Community Development, Weyerhaeuser Real Estate Development Company has requested to meet with the Board of Aldermen to present their community plans on the housing development on the Gum Branch Road and their interest in being annexed by the Town.

Mayor Marvin called a Special Meeting for Tuesday, March 18, 2008 at 7:00 pm for the presentation of the Developer concerning the future proposed satellite annexation.

CHANGE MEETING DATE FROM APRIL 8, 2008 TO APRIL 15, 2008

A motion was made by Alderman McKinley Smith, seconded by Alderman Hans Jacobsen to change the April 8, 2008 meeting to April 15, 2008. The motion was unanimously carried.

1. Alderman Tom Brown asked for an update on the house on Foy Street.
2. Alderman Steve Marshburn stated that he would like to see the parking lot behind Town Hall paved and asked Town Administrator to check into the cost.
3. Alderman Steve Marshburn announced that Charter Cable has finally moved Up to the twenty first century and now have telephone services available.

CLOSED SESSION / PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Alderman Steve Marshburn, seconded by Alderman Tom Brown 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.

Mayor Trott stated that no action was taken.

ADJOURN

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

Respectfully submitted,

Marvin Trott, Mayor

Eva C. Brown, CMC
Town Clerk