

TOWN OF NEWPORT
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2017

Present: Mayor Dennis Barber, Mayor Pro Tem Heath, Councilman Chuck Shinn, Councilman Mark Eadie, Councilman Jim McCoy, Councilman Danny Fornes, Town Manager Angela Christian, Assistant Manager and Finance Officer, Tim White, and Maryellen Brown, Town Clerk

Mayor Barber called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by three 4H members, Kacey Field, Shannon Schaffer, and Elizabeth Schaffer.

The Invocation was delivered by Lt. Keith Roland Lewis with the Salvation Army. Lt. Lewis updated Mayor and Council with the contributions that help make a difference in the community and those in need.

Mayor Barber stated that Item #9 (Paving Contract for Johnson Street) was being removed from the Agenda and added Item # 13A, Set a Public Hearing for a Zoning Amendment. Following the changes recommended by Mayor Barber, **Councilman Shinn made the Motion to adopt the Agenda as amended. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Fornes. No discussion. Vote: Unanimous Motion Carried**

Council was requested to review the Minutes from the August 10th, 2017, Council Meeting. There being no changes, **Chuck Shinn made the Motion to adopt the Minutes as presented. The Motion was seconded by Councilman McCoy. No discussion. Vote: Unanimous Motion Carried**

Local residents, William Robinson, Matt Shortway, and Bobby Rice requested time to address Mayor and Council. Mr. Robinson produced a series of photos to address a water drainage problem on his property from the ditches. Mr. Shortway and Mr. Rice both addressed Mayor and Council in support of the Brunch Bill.

Mayor Barber presented the 4H Proclamation to Mr. Nead, Kacey Fields, Shannon and Elizabeth Schaffer. Miss Schaffer read the Proclamation.

Enabling legislation was passed by the North Carolina General Assembly and ratified by Governor Cooper that allows "brunch" consideration for morning alcohol service beginning at 10:00 A.M. on Sunday. The ordinance will allow any establishment within the corporate limits of Newport with an ABC permit to sell beverages beginning at 10:00A.M. Following discussion, **Councilman McCoy made the Motion to adopt**

the Brunch Bill. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Eadie. No further discussion. Vote: Unanimous Motion Carried

The Utilities Department is undertaking several projects to the water distribution system. The scope of work for Well #6 will include the design, bidding and construction services, closeout and reimbursable expenses (travel, permit fees, etc.). As a part of the process, a test well will be installed prior to the production well. Depending on the results, adjustments may be made pre-construction. The total price will be \$48,500. Following discussion, **Councilman Eadie made the Motion to approve the engineering cost with East Group for \$48,500. The Motion was seconded by Councilman McCoy. No further discussion. Vote: Unanimous Motion Carried** The scope of work for the WTP Phase I will include the preliminary engineering report, environmental report funding agency application and coordination and reimbursable expenses. The total price for Phase I is \$40,500. Following discussion, **Mayor Pro Tem Heath made the Motion to approve in the amount of \$40,500. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Shinn. No Further discussion. Vote: Unanimous Motion Carried**

Mr. White addressed Council with three budget amendments. The first amendment moves \$48,500 from the capital account to the operating account for the current year's budget for Well #6. **Councilman Shinn made the Motion to approve the budget amendment as presented. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Fornes. No further discussion. Vote: Unanimous Motion Carried** The second budget amendment moves \$40,500 from the capital account into the current year's budget operating account for the "Water Treatment Plant Improvement Project". Following discussion, **Councilman Eadie made the Motion to approve the budget amendment in the amount of \$40,500. The Motion was seconded by Councilman McCoy. No further discussion. Vote: Unanimous Motion Carried** For the fiscal year 16/17, the community garden had revenues from grants and plot fees of \$4,113.29. Garden expenditures totaled \$1,232.64, leaving a balance of \$2,880.65. The budget amendment will allocate that amount to the current budget for garden expenditures. The Town received \$70.00 in plot fees rentals last year. In October of 2015, Council approved the continuation of the garden for a period of three years. Following discussion, **Councilman Eadie made the Motion to approve the budget amendment as presented. The Motion was seconded by Councilman McCoy. No further discussion. Vote: Unanimous Motion Carried**

During the budget process, Council approved \$18,000 in the Fire Budget to upgrade the bathrooms at Station I. The Fire Staff received two quotes for bathroom upgrades, one from MilCo for \$17,700 and the other from Eddie Cameron Construction for \$15,624. The quote from Cameron Construction includes a new tile floor and sheet rock walls, the MilCo did not. The Staff recommends the quote from Cameron Construction with the additional 15% contingency. The project will still be under the budget amount of \$18,000. Following discussion, **Mayor Pro Tem Heath made the Motion to approve the quote from Eddie Cameron Construction for the bathroom project for an amount not to exceed \$18,000. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Eadie. No further discussion. Vote: Unanimous Motion Carried**

During the budget process, Council approved the scheduled maintenance for lift station #7, next to Bojangles. \$25,000 was budgeted for the project to replace the 1998 control panel and pumps. The new control panel will be to the Town's specification and the controller will be identical to all other lift stations the Town currently has. Staff had a quote for 25,272.85 from HD Supply, and the Expenditure line item is 30-5500-61 Lift Station Maintenance. Following discussion, **Councilman Shinn made the Motion to approve the purchase of the control panel and pumps from HD Supply. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Fornes. No further discussion. Vote: Unanimous Motion Carried**

During the budget process, Council approved the purchase of a spare 40 HP pump for the waste treatment plant. \$25,865 was budgeted for the purchase. The Town currently has two pumps feeding the plant with no spare. The state requires you have a spare pump on site. Staff acquired a quote for \$25,865 from Clear Water INC. The estimated time of delivery is 22 weeks. For the funding source, \$21,553.72 is the remainder of the loan and \$4,311.28 in expenditure line item 30-5500-63, plant maintenance. Following discussion, **Councilman Shinn made the Motion to approve the purchase of the spare pump from Clear Water INC. The Motion was seconded by Councilman McCoy, No further discussion. Vote: Unanimous Motion Carried**

The Heritage Pointe Development team has requested a modification in the time period for the development of the subdivision due to delays in gaining approval from various state agencies. After consulting with legal counsel, it has been determined that this constitutes a major adjustment. Pursuant to the Development Agreement, p. 16, 4.14d, "A delay in completing any phase of the development by more than 210 days or the failure to convey to the Town 7.60 acres of Recreation Area by June 30, 2017, will be considered a Major Modification. Notification is hereby posted on September 7, 2017. During the 30 day comment period, citizens have the opportunity to express any concerns to the Town Council and Town Manager. Following discussion, **Councilman Shinn made the Motion to post notice for Public Comment (30 day period for public comment is required) for the October 2017 Council Meeting. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Eadie. No further discussion Vote: Unanimous Motion Carried**

Staff requested Council make an amendment in the Town's Zoning Ordinance XIV 14-10 (k), Projection Signs, which will require a public hearing. It reads as follows: Projection signs are permitted in addition to the allowance of wall signs when designed and placed for the purpose of identifying the business along the same side of the street as the business they see or under a continuous rain canopy projecting from the building. The sign shall not exceed eight (8) square feet per sign face. The bottom of the sign shall not extend below eight (8) feet above the sidewalk; the sign shall not exceed six (6) feet beyond the wall face of the building. Staff requested Council consider changing the measurement of eight (8) feet to seven (7) feet for the bottom of the sign above the sidewalk. The Planning Board recommended approval at their August 21st, 2017 Planning Board meeting. Following Discussion, **Councilman Eadie made the Motion to set a Public Hearing for the October 12th, 2017 Town Council Meeting. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Shinn. No further discussion. Vote: Unanimous Motion Carried**

116 There were no inquiries to the Department Reports, however, Council requested October reports be
117 detailed.

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119 Following Mayor and Council comments, Mayor Barber requested a Motion to enter into "Closed Session"
120 pursuant to N.C.G. S. 143-318.11(a)(6), to discuss personnel. **The Motion to enter into "Closed Session"**
121 **was made by Council McCoy. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Shinn. There was no discussion.**
122 **Vote: Unanimous Motion Carried**

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124 Council entered into "Closed Session at 7:30 P.M.

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126 Mayor Barber requested a five (5) minute recess.

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128 Respectfully Submitted

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131 Maryellen V. Brown, Town Clerk


Mayor Dennis Barber