

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF GASTON  
TOWN OF CRAMERTON**

**October 6, 2015**

The Board of Commissioners for the Town of Cramerton met in regular session on Tuesday, October 6, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the G.M. Michael Room at the Cramerton Town Hall.

**Board members present:** Mayor Ronnie Worley; Mayor Pro Tempore Will Cauthen; Commissioners Demetrios Koutsoupas; Tammy Lawrence; and Sandra R. Ware. Commissioner Sam Carpenter was absent.

**Staff present:** David Pugh, Town Manager; Bill Brown, Town Attorney; Chief Greg Ratchford; Joel Lineberger, Finance Director; and Wilene Cunningham, Town Clerk.

**Call to Order and Determination of Quorum:** Mayor Worley called the meeting to order and determined a quorum was present.

**Invocation:** Given by Attorney Brown.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Given by all.

**Adoption of Agenda for this Meeting:** Commissioner Ware made a motion to adopt the proposed agenda. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Public Comment:** Brad Milton, 210 Armstrong Drive, stated he lives in the Lakewood neighborhood. A petition for traffic calming devices was presented. He stated there were only two households in the neighborhood which did not sign the petition. Mr. Krouse stated he would need to contact the parties who signed the petition and discuss the different methods of traffic calming. The Planning Director stated he would not be in attendance at the October 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting but would update the Board at the November 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Proclamation for October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month in the Town of Cramerton:** Mayor Worley read the proclamation recognizing October as Breast Cancer Awareness month.

**AGENDA ITEMS REQUIRING A PUBLIC HEARING:**

**Continuation of Public Hearing:** A public hearing regarding an Ordinance Revising Title VII, Chapter 76: Parking Schedule that will create no parking zones on certain areas of streets surrounding Central Park.

**Staff Comments/ Board of Commissioners Questions and Answers:** Chief Ratchford stated there had been no additional contacts from citizens regarding the parking zone changes. Mr. Lineberger stated that one of the residents thinks the striped line is extended by more than seven foot. Mayor Worley asked that the striping be confirmed. Chief Ratchford stated he would have Rodney Baker confirm the distance of the striping. Chief Ratchford stated several warning citations had been issued.

**Public Comments:** No one signed up for public comment.

**Action Item:** A motion was made by Commissioner Koutsoupas to continue the public hearing until the October 22, 2015 Board of Commissioners meeting regarding an ordinance revising Title VII, Chapter 76. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawrence and approved by all.

## **REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS NOT REQUIRING A PUBLIC HEARING:**

**Discussion and Possible Action to approve the proposed September 1, 2015 meeting minutes.** Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen made a motion to approve the September 1, 2015 meeting minutes as proposed. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ware and approved by all.

### **Planning and Zoning:**

**Village at Cramerton Mills Update:** The Planning Director stated the graded area is being stabilized by the grass that is now growing. Work continues with the developer regarding the plat. A meeting is scheduled for Friday and discussion will include the homeowner's association covenants. Attorney Brown is reviewing the covenants. Commissioner Koutsoupas asked about erosion control as there has been a lot of rain fall recently. The Planning Director stated there had been erosion along the ditch line as there is no fabric currently in place. Once the fabric is installed the erosion should end.

### **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**Transmission Line Update:** A letter was distributed to the Board from Duke Energy stating the removal of the transmission line towers will begin in the fall of 2015 with completion in early 2016. The project will begin with the removal of two towers at Peach Orchard Road and Wilkinson Boulevard. The Planning Director stated the property owners will be given an opportunity to purchase easements.

**Centennial Mural:** The cost for digital printing of an 18 by 80 foot mural would be \$6,000.00 plus \$1,200.00 to purchase the rights to the art work. Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen stated unless the digital printing could be completed and put in place prior to the Centennial celebration he would recommend this item be considered later and discussed as part of the branding and marketing process. The Town Manager stated Arnett Muldrow & Associates provided him with a vendors list for digital printing. Commissioner Lawrence recommended the mural be incorporated with the branding. The Town Manager this could be incorporated along with the wayfinding.

**Grand Marshal:** Wayne Farris, recently retired from the Cramerton Drug Store, was suggested for the grand marshal for the parade. The Town Manager stated the Board could offer their decision at the October 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

### **STAFF REPORTS:**

**Two Rivers Utilities:** Mike Bynum with Two Rivers Utilities stated TRU responded to 23 water meter related events, responded to four sewer calls, repaired seven water leaks, and installed two new irrigation taps. The digester cleanout and improvements at the Eagle Road Wastewater Treatment Plant have been completed. Water quality samples were taken at six locations in Cramerton and all samples were in compliance with state drinking water quality standards. TRU completed 79 lift station inspections which included maintenance requests for replacement of the number two pump at Lineberger I lift station; replacement of both pumps at Lineberger III lift station, installation of a new pump controller and transducer at Baltimore lift station; Stanley Environmental cleaned debris out of the Town Hall lift station, and completion of generator repairs at Baltimore lift station.

**Town Attorney:** The legislature has adjourned and he will update the Board on items that are significant.

**Town Clerk:** Will be on vacation beginning October 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Police Chief:** Chief Ratchford stated preparations are being made for the upcoming Centennial celebration.

**Planning Director:** Mr. Krouse stated Food Lion is making some interior updates with upgrades to the deli and coolers.

The NCDOT contracts have been received for the Cramer Mountain sidewalk project.

Mr. Krouse stated the vehicle propane conversion kits are difficult to find and are only good for the life of the vehicle it is installed on. He stated the Town would need to invest \$30,000.00 for installation and possibly have little return. Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen asked that this concept be monitored in regards to future fuel prices. The Planning Director stated the grant monies could be used for the Cramer Mountain sidewalk project instead of vehicle propane conversion. A motion was made by Commissioner Ware to no longer pursue the bi-fuel conversion grant and request to NCDOT and the MPO that the \$120,000.00 be applied to the Cramer Mountain Road sidewalk. Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

The Planning Director discussed the Lakewood and Lake Road intersections. He stated he was waiting on feedback from NCDOT but the Town could proceed with painting a crosswalk. Mayor Worley commented that the Carolina Thread Trail might be willing to assist with this project. Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen recommended Jeff Booker, superintendent of Gaston County Schools, be contacted. Mr. Krouse stated an encroachment agreement will be needed from NCDOT and this will take approximately 30 days. Cost of the project would be \$10,000.00 to \$15,000.00 for purchase and installation of two units (one on each side of the street). This would include solar panels for powering the units, pad lighting, indication lights for both sides of the street with rectangular rapid flashing beacons in the back and front of each unit, signage on both approaches, all posts, and either passive infrared detection or push buttons with audio instructions. A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen to proceed with the painting of a crosswalk and the Town try to acquire partners to assist with this project during the wait period. Commissioner Lawrence seconded and it was approved by all.

**Finance Director:** Mr. Lineberger stated the September financial monthly report was not ready at this time. He stated the increase for health insurance would be 3.8 percent.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board:** Cam Carpenter stated there had been no issues with flooding due to the recent rain fall.

**Centennial Committee:** Cam Carpenter stated there were 33 Centennial banners sold, four platinum sponsors, three bronze sponsors and ten gold sponsors. There are twenty-five golf teams which have turned in their forms and payment. The Charlotte Observer will have an article about the Centennial on October 10<sup>th</sup>. The Gaston Gazette will have a sixteen page pull out section. The Centennial coins will be delivered next week. Welcome signs are being printed. The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday at 10:00 a.m. and will include a trial run with speakers. The timeline will be set up at the C.B. Huss Recreation Complex next Wednesday. The Gaston Gazette pull out section will be available for purchase at the event. Mayor Worley thanked everyone for their hard work.

The Town Manager stated he spoke with department heads and the preparedness level was exceptional in expectation of possible flooding due to inclement weather. There was some limited flooding on the back side of Goat Island.

**Steering Committee:** The Board decided the name of this committee would be the Branding and Marketing Steering Committee. The committee would be approximately eight members and needed to be limited to two Board members. Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen stated he wanted to be a part of this committee. Commissioner Lawrence also expressed her interest. Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen thanked Commissioner Koutsoupas for all of his hard work regarding the Centennial. Commissioner Lawrence recommended Cathy Young. Commissioner Koutsoupas recommended someone be asked to serve from the Cramerton Drug Store. He also suggested either Greg or Jim Van Pelt be contacted to serve. Commissioner Lawrence recommended Kathy Summitt. Commissioner Koutsoupas stated Melia Lyerly has a lot of expertise and is involved with the Montcross Chamber of Commerce. The Board asked John Abernathy to serve and he agreed. Mayor Worley stated there should be alternates. The Town Manager stated the committee needed to include some staff members. Mayor Worley stated the Town Manager should be on the committee. The Town Manager asked that the Planning Director also be on the committee. Mayor Worley stated Dave Starrett may be willing to serve.

**BUSINESS ITEMS/TOPICS OF DISCUSSION FOR EACH COMMISSIONER:**

Commissioner Ware had nothing to report.

Commissioner Koutsoupas reminded everyone to attend the Centennial.

Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen had nothing to report.

Commissioner Lawrence thanked everyone for all of their hard work and stated she was looking forward to the event.

Mayor Worley encouraged everyone to attend the Centennial.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen to enter into closed session for personnel matter and attorney-client privilege. Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Ware to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Koutsoupas and approved by all.

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Mayor Ronnie Worley

**ATTEST:**

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Wilene Cunningham, Town Clerk