

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

October 22, 2015

The Board of Commissioners for the Town of Cramerton met in workshop session on Thursday, October 22, 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; and Wilene Cunningham, Town Clerk. The Finance Director and Planning Director were absent.

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

Adoption of Agenda for this Meeting: Mayor Worley stated the agenda needed to be amended with the addition of the proclamation from Gaston County to be presented tonight. The Town Manager stated a closed session needs to be added regarding a personnel matter per N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6). Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen made a motion to adopt the amended agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawrence and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Public Comment: Commissioner Tom Keigher stated he was glad to be here tonight to assist in presenting a proclamation in recognition of the Town's recent Centennial celebration.

Proclamation for honor Veterans in recognition of Wednesday, November 11th as Veterans Day: Mayor Worley stated one of the Town's veterans, Wayne Queen, recently passed away. Mayor Worley read the proclamation recognizing Wednesday November 11th as Veterans Day.

Proclamation for November as Alzheimer's Awareness Month in the Town of Cramerton: Mayor Worley read the proclamation for November as Alzheimer's Awareness Month in the Town of Cramerton.

Proclamation from Gaston County in recognition of the Town's Centennial Celebration: Commissioner Mickey Price read the proclamation. He stated this proclamation will also be presented at the County Commissioner's meeting on October 27th. Mayor Worley stated that one of the Cramer men was wearing a seersucker suit while in attendance at the Centennial event and explained that this cloth had been originally considered for use by the military but it did not work out.

AGENDA ITEMS REQUIRING A PUBLIC HEARING:

Continuation of Public Hearing: A public hearing regarding an Ordinance Revising Title VII, Chapter 76: Parking Schedules that will create no parking zones on certain areas of streets surrounding Central Park. A motion was made by Commissioner Lawrence to continue the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen and approved by all.

Staff Comments/Board of Commissioners Questions and Answers: Chief Ratchford stated no additional comments or calls have been received. He stated the street measurements would be confirmed. It was recommended the ordinance be approved.

Public Comments: No one signed up for public comment.

Closing of the Public Hearing: A motion was made by Commissioner Koutsoupas to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawrence.

Chief Ratchford stated the measurements would be confirmed and the ordinance would officially be in effect on November 1st. The motion passed to close the public hearing by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ware to approve the Ordinance Revising Title VII, Chapter 76: Parking Schedules that will create no parking zones on certain areas of streets surrounding Central Park. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Koutsoupas and approved by all.

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

Planning and Zoning:

- **Update on Lakewood Petition:** The Town Manager stated the Planning Director is not present tonight as he is away accepting an award for the Town regarding the Build A Better Boulevard project. The Planning Director has been in contact with Mr. Milton to discuss the steps necessary for the traffic calming device process.

Finance: The Town Manager stated the finance statement was presented in the agenda packets. A meeting was held with the health insurance vendor and the increase will be 3.5 percent. Dental insurance will be locked in for two years with a 7.5 percent increase.

Parks and Recreation: Cam Carpenter is not present at tonight's meeting.

Branding and Marketing Initiative: Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen stated at the last Board meeting nine parties were recommended for the steering committee. Ms. Lyerly was recommended but is unable to participate due to other commitments. Mayor Worley stated Dave Starrett said he would consider being on the steering committee. Commissioner Koutsoupas stated there was an issue for some proposed members due to the time commitment. He stated Jim Van Pelt stated he could not participate. Anna McMahan had stated she would be able to participate but needed additional details. The Town Manager stated the roundtable committees and leadership interviews need to be scheduled. Discussion was held regarding having an alternate with possibility choosing someone from the Montcross Chamber of Commerce. The steering committee would consist of Cathy Young, a representative from Cramerton Drug Store, Dave Starrett, John Abernathy, Anna McMahan, David Pugh, Kevin Krouse, Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen and Commissioner Lawrence. Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen made a motion to set the steering committee as proposed along with possibility of an alternate. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawrence and approved by all.

Discussion was held regarding the setup of the 45 minute interviews with various groups. Commissioner Lawrence recommended there be a representative from Floyd and Blackie's Coffee Shop. Mayor Worley stated he could attend one of the 45 minute sessions.

Commissioner Lawrence asked Commissioner Ware to attend one of the sessions. Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen stated someone from the local faith based groups should attend. It was recommended the Town Clerk, Finance Director and the Police Chief also attend individual sessions. Chief Ratchford recommended Charles Hastings be contacted. Mayor Worley stated Andrew Lineberger might be willing to attend as a local contractor. The Board discussed Regina Moody, Wayne Farris, Allen Durst, along with the Leazers and Conrads being contacted. A lunch will be scheduled for November 17th for the steering committee. A motion was made by Mayor Tem Cauthen for the 45 minute leadership interviews members to consist of Mayor Worley, Chief Ratchford, Cam Carpenter, the Town Clerk, Commissioner Koutsoupas, the Finance Director, Commissioner Ware, a representative from Floyd and Blackie's Coffee Shop, Charles Hastings, Regina Moody, and either Allen Durst or Andrew Lineberger as alternates. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawrence and approved by all.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

Centennial Celebration: A full financial report will be offered at the November 19th Board meeting.

Fire Apparatus: The new fire apparatus should be delivered in time to be in the upcoming holiday parade in December.

Grand Marshal: A motion was made to contact Wayne Farris to be the 2015 parade's grand marshal. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Koutsoupas and approved by all. Mayor Worley said he would contact Wayne Farris regarding his availability.

STAFF REPORTS:

Two Rivers Utilities: Mike Bynum with Two Rivers Utilities stated TRU responded to 23 water meter related events, completed nine video inspections, relocated four water lines, repaired one water leak, and completed seventeen lift station inspections. The digester cleanout project has been completed. Commissioner Koutsoupas stated there had been some phone calls received at Town Hall and there was some confusion as to the area that is being serviced by Two Rivers Utilities. Mr. Bynum stated he would follow up to see what may be happening.

Town Attorney: Nothing to report.

Town Clerk: Town Hall has received a lot of positive comments and feedback regarding the Centennial celebration.

Police Chief: Chief Ratchford stated preparations are being made for Halloween.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Commissioner Koutsoupas stated he had nothing to report and the next meeting would be held next month.

Centennial Committee: Commissioner Koutsoupas stated the next meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 11th. The Town Manager reminded him that Town Hall would be closed on that day in observance of Veterans Day.

BUSINESS ITEMS/TOPICS OF DISCUSSION FOR EACH COMMISSIONER:

Commissioner Lawrence thanked everyone for all of their hard work. She stated she would like to have a picture made with the Fire Department with their staff as a keepsake.

Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen stated the Centennial was amazing and there were a lot of positive comments. He stated he enjoyed the timeline and the fireworks and music were great.

Commissioner Koutsoupas stated everyone came together as a team and it was a very positive experience. He said he also enjoyed the timeline.

Commissioner Ware said she was proud of everyone and the event was quite successful. She said Powell Kidd traveled from Tennessee and attended the event.

The Town Manager stated he personally watched the entire staff give their full effort to ensure the success of this event.

Mayor Worley stated a lot of attention went into the details to ensure the event was a success. He said the Board may want to consider a permanent location for storage of the historical items. Commissioner Ware recommended using one of the side rooms at the Community Center. Mayor Worley stated proclamations were received from Senator Harrington, Representative Bumgardner, the Gaston County Chamber, and Gaston County Board of Commissioners.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ware to enter into closed session to include discussions per N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3) consult with the attorney to protect the attorney-client privilege and also a personnel matter per N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6). Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Koutsoupas to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen and approved by all.

Mayor Ronnie Worley

ATTEST:

Wilene Cunningham, Town Clerk