

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

March 3, 2015

The Board of Commissioners for the Town of Cramerton met in regular session on Wednesday, March 3, 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 Sam Carpenter; Demetrios Koutsoupas; Tammy Lawrence; and Sandra R. Ware.

Staff present: Kevin Krouse, Interim Town Manager and Planning Director; Bill Brown, Town Attorney; Greg Ratchford, Chief of Police; 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 that a quorum was present.

Invocation: Presented by Attorney Brown.

Pledge of Allegiance. Given by all.

Public Comment: No one signed up to speak.

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF ITEMS REQUIRING A PUBLIC HEARING:

Annexation request from TLK Holdings for 6121 Wilkinson Boulevard presented by Kevin Krouse:

Open Public Hearing: A motion was made by Commissioner Lawrence to open the public hearing regarding the annexation request from TLK Holdings for 6121 Wilkinson Boulevard. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ware and approved by all.

Staff Comments: Mr. Krouse stated he attended the City of Belmont's council meeting last night and by a vote to 4 to 1 they relinquished the above property. This property is located in the Town's current sphere of influence. No police or fire services would be provided from the Town. Mr. Krouse stated it was the recommendation of staff to authorize this annexation request.

Public Comment: There were no public comments.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ware to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawrence and approved by all.

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A motion was made by Commissioner Ware to extend the Town's corporate limits to include the annexation of 6121 Wilkinson Boulevard. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Carpenter and approved by all.

Mr. Krouse stated the annexation would take effect at midnight to commence as of March 4th.

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF ITEMS NOT REQUIRING A PUBLIC HEARING:

Review of Minutes of January 14, 2015 and January 22, 2015 Meeting Minutes. Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen asked that an amendment be made on page three of the January 22, 2015 draft meeting minutes regarding the Beautification Committee. He asked that the sentence stating "Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen stated \$750.00 budget in the proposed guidelines" be amended to read as "Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen stated \$750.00 budget estimated for two projects". A motion was made to approve the January 14, 2015 and January 22, 2015 meeting minutes with proposed amendments. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Carpenter and approved by all.

Discussion and Possible Adoption of Goals and Objectives for FY15-16: Mr. Krouse stated he and Commissioner Koutsoupas discussed encouraging citizen involvement and awareness using multiple forms of technology. Economic development would include creating an environment that promotes job creation. Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen stated wellness and evaluation studies should be provided for the staff. The Board discussed creating an environment for jobs; support advisory boards and provide adequate direction; and utilize technology to assist with citizen involvement and awareness. Commissioner Koutsoupas and Mayor Worley recommended the maintenance of assets by promoting employee wellness and retention. A motion was made by Commissioner Ware to approve the adoption of goals and objectives as amended. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen and approved by all.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Commissioner Koutsoupas stated a meeting was held last night and Cam Carpenter gave an update on Goat Island Phase II. Goat Island will reopen on Friday, May 1st starting at 5:30 p.m. Events will include a live radio broadcast. There will be ping pong balls printed with the logo along with the sale of apparel and food vendors. The band from Stuart W. Cramer High School will be performing.

An update was given at last night's meeting on the Central Park study. Commissioner Lawrence asked about phasing of this project such as doing a cleanup and some painting. Commissioner Koutsoupas stated Cam Carpenter discussed the possible availability for grant monies.

Commissioner Koutsoupas stated 300 children are signed up for spring sports. The Easter Egg hunt will be held on Saturday, March 28th, Goat Island Park Phase II grand opening is Friday, May 1st, and the fireworks will be on Saturday, June 27th. The Farmers Market continues to be discussed. The hiring of a possible Farmers Market manager has been discussed. A limited

number of vendors have made a commitment for this year's market. Commissioner Koutsoupas stated consideration is being given to hold the Farmers Market on Wednesday afternoons. Commissioner Lawrence stated local businesses and churches are being encouraged to become involved. Commissioner Koutsoupas stated 44 coats and 18 bikes have been distributed to youth in the area.

Centennial Committee: Commissioner Koutsoupas stated a meeting was held this afternoon and a discussion was held regarding holding a history walk. The golf tournament is confirmed. The committee continues to collect artifacts. Eighteen centennial celebration banners have been purchased. A homecoming event was discussed that would be held on the Sunday of that weekend. Jeff Ramsey is discussing possible mural artwork with the art teacher at Stuart W. Cramer High School.

The Board discussed promoting the Centennial Celebration at the Goat Island Park Phase II grand reopening. It was recommended that the public be given some form of "Save the October Dates" in upcoming months through multiple forms of communication.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS AND TWO RIVERS UTILITIES UPDATES:

TRU Update: Mike Bynum with TRU stated sixteen weekly checks for lift stations had been completed, responded to eight water meter related service requests, repaired two water leaks, entered two survey requests, and responded to four sewer related calls. Operations are normal at Eagle Road Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Town Attorney: Nothing to report.

Police Department: Chief Ratchford stated the annual Operation Medicine Drop will be held on March 14th. The Police Department is hosting the Colt armory course this week. The departmental portraits will be made on March 24th and 25th by Shannon Irish Photography.

Planning Department: Mr. Krouse stated surveying is being done at the Lakewood park trail. He stated costs have increased for the greenway trail project. Mr. Krouse stated he contacted the Carolina Thread Trail regarding a grant for \$65,000.00. An agreement needs to be developed regarding property from Mr. Rudisill as part of the greenway project.

Mr. Krouse stated Nick Parker will be speaking at the Net Zero Symposium regarding the Villages at Cramerton Mills project. A meeting is scheduled with Mr. Parker on Thursday to review recommendations and plan review. Attorney Brown stated the connector road information has been submitted. Rezoning was approved and changed to allow more units per acre. Five homes are scheduled to be built off of Hamrick Road as model homes this spring.

Finance Department: Mr. Lineberger stated he has discussed investment of funds with BB&T. Discussion with department heads regarding capital improvement projects will be done prior to the next Board meeting.

Town Clerk: Nothing to report.

Intern: Michael McCumbee stated since beginning work as an intern for the Town he has spent time working on research for the Centennial Celebration, assisting with information related to the form based code, and updating trail maps. He is assisting with the joint Arbor Day celebration planned with the City of Belmont. Mr. McCumbee stated he has worked with the Parks and Recreation Department about walking loops around Town. He assisted the Finance Department with personnel files.

INTERIM TOWN MANAGER UPDATE:

Fire Department Building Project: Mr. Krouse stated the application for federal assistance has to be updated and resubmitted. A conference call with hazard mitigation is scheduled for Thursday. Three sites are being considered. Chief Foulk is setting up the meeting.

Goat Island: Mr. Krouse stated the bridge rails will be finished next week. Dog park equipment has arrived and will be installed next week. Rowboat Dock and Dredge is installing decks and piers. Alan Hodge with the Belmont Banner newspaper has been contacted regarding an article in the Our State magazine. The landscaping has been approved. Chief Ratchford and Cam Carpenter are working on the rules regarding the dog park. Invitations are being prepared for the grand reopening. Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen stated the plaque for the dedication is one color and needs to be more detailed and the PSNC information needs to be updated.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION FOR EACH COMMISSIONER:

Commissioner Ware stated she will be meeting with the Planning Director along with Demetri Baches regarding parking. She requested that Chief Ratchford be in attendance.

Commissioner Koutsoupas had nothing to report.

Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen had nothing to report.

Commissioner Carpenter had nothing to report.

Commissioner Lawrence had nothing to report.

Mayor Worley thanked the audience for attending and commented on some of the items the Board dealt with during the meeting.

Closed Session: A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen to enter into closed session to discuss a personnel matter at 7:54 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawrence and approved by all.

Upon returning to open session, the Mayor called a special meeting for a personnel matter to be held on Friday March 6th at 4:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Commissioner Ware to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Carpenter and approved by all.

Mayor Ronald E. Worley

ATTEST:

Wilene Cunningham, Town Clerk