

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

June 2, 2015

The Board of Commissioners for the Town of Cramerton met in regular session on Tuesday, June 2, 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: David Pugh, Town Manager; Kevin Krouse, Interim Town Manager and Planning Director; 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 that a quorum was present. He stated the Municipal Citizens Academy had their reception prior to the meeting and he thanked them for being a part of that program.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Attorney Bill Brown provided the invocation. Eagle Scout Bonham Ekleberry led the group for the pledge of allegiance.

Adoption of Agenda for this Meeting: Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen made a motion to adopt the proposed agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Koutsoupas and approved by all.

Public Comment: No one signed up to speak.

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

Proclamations for Eagle Scouts Kaleb Setzer and Bonham Ekleberry to recognize their boardwalk construction project on the Goat Island disc golf course: Mayor Worley read the proclamation recognizing Eagle Scout Bonham Ekleberry. Kaleb Setzer was not present at tonight's meeting.

Proclamations to recognize Cramerton residents Susan Neeley and Rick Houser who both recently were awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine: Mayor Worley recognized Ms. Neeley and Mr. Houser for their receipt of the Order of the Long Leaf Pine. The proclamations were read and presented to both Ms. Neeley and Mr. Houser.

Certificate of Appreciation to recognize Michael McCumbee for his successful internship with the Town of Cramerton: Mr. Krouse stated Mr. McCumbee did a good job working as an intern for the Town. Mr. McCumbee assisted with the walking routes, zoning ordinance, and preparation for the grand opening of Goat Island Phase II. Mayor Worley and the Board thanked him for his service to the Town and stated they would be willing to provide him references if needed.

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS REQUIRING A PUBLIC HEARING:

Public Hearing to receive public input regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2016 Town of Cramerton Budget:

Motion to Open Public Hearing: A motion was made by Commissioner Carpenter to open the public hearing regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2016 Town of Cramerton budget. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawrence and approved by all.

Public Comment: No one signed up to speak.

Board Questions and Comments: Commissioner Ware stated she had thoroughly read the proposed budget. Commissioner Carpenter stated he had spoken to Mr. Lineberger about the questions he had. Mayor Worley stated the budget process had been ongoing since February.

Motion to Close Public Hearing: A motion was made by Commissioner Carpenter to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Koutsoupas and approved by all.

Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Proposed FY 2016 Budget: Mayor Worley stated the current budget ordinance maintains the property tax rate at 47.5 cents per \$100.00. A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen to approve the proposed fiscal year 2016 budget and to establish the tax rate of 47.5 cents per \$100.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawrence. The vote was 4 to 1 with Commissioner Carpenter voting nay.

Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Proposed FY 2016 Fee Schedule Effective July 1, 2015: A motion was made by Commissioner Ware to approve the proposed fiscal year 2016 fee schedule effective July 1, 2015. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Koutsoupas and approved by all.

Budget Amendments presented by Joel Lineberger: Mr. Lineberger presented to the Board budget amendments for \$6,600.00 to provide funds for the TIGER Grant application; \$7,000.00 to provide funds for the demolition of structure at 564 Baltimore Drive; \$1,000,000.00 for the BB&T interim financing payment for the Goat Island Capital Project ordinance and recognition of USDA loan proceeds; \$362,000.00 to reclassify prior estimated costs and to reflect updated cost estimates and to recognize grant commitment along with additional Town contributions for the 29/74 Greenway Capital Project; and \$100,000.00 to provide “audit cushion” for each department based on preliminary expenditure projections using known excess of budgeted tax collections. A motion was made by Commissioner Ware to approve all the proposed fiscal year 2015 budget amendments. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Carpenter and approved by all.

Introduction and Oath of Office of New Town Manager David Pugh: Mayor Worley introduced David Pugh as the newly hired Town Manager and welcomed him. The Town Clerk administered the oath of office.

Mayor Worley thanked Mr. Krouse for serving as the Interim Town Manager along with performing the duties of the Planning and Zoning Director during the transition. Commissioner Koutsoupas thanked Mr. Krouse for a job well done and stated he was looking forward to working with Mr. Pugh. Commissioner Ware thanked Mr. Krouse and welcomed Mr. Pugh. Commissioner Carpenter stated he appreciated Mr. Krouse for the services he provided during the transition. Commissioner Lawrence welcomed Mr. Pugh and thanked Mr. Krouse for his service to the Town as Interim Town Manager.

STAFF REPORTS:

Two Rivers Utilities: Mike Bynum with Two Rivers Utilities stated TRU completed 22 weekly checks for lift stations, responded to twelve water meter related service requests, repaired four water leaks, and repaired one fire hydrant. Water quality samples were taken at four locations and the samples have met or exceeded the minimum state drinking water standards. Land application of bio-solids from the Eagle Road WWTP is planned for July and an increase of truck traffic will occur. Mr. Pugh asked where the land application would take place. Mr. Bynum stated the application would cover multiple farms in several counties.

Town Attorney: Attorney Brown stated he would discuss a personnel matter.

Police Chief: Chief Ratchford thank Mr. Krouse for his leadership during the transition.

Finance Director: Mr. Lineberger stated the USDA loan for Goat Island is being prepared to close on June 18th a few days and a monthly financial report was given to the Board.

Planning and Zoning Director: Mr. Krouse stated the completed TIGER Grant application will be submitted in a few days. He said he would keep the Board updated regarding the status.

Town Clerk: Nothing to report.

Mayor Worley thanked Mr. Lineberger for his assistance during the Interim Town Manager transition.

BUSINESS ITEMS/TOPICS OF DISCUSSION FOR EACH COMMISSIONER:

Commissioner Ware stated parking still needs to be discussed. Mayor Worley stated he recently visited Greenville, South Carolina and noted he had to park several blocks from the down town area.

Commissioner Koutsoupas thanked Chief Ratchford and the Town Clerk for organizing tonight’s Municipal Citizens Academy graduation. He presented to the Board several styles of logos for review

for the Centennial Celebration. Mayor Worley stated he liked the stamp logo. Commissioner Lawrence stated she liked the simplicity of the logo with the bridge and river. Commissioner Koutsoupas stated he would like to present this information at tomorrow night's Centennial Celebration meeting. The Board gave their consensus to present this information.

Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen stated that he and Commissioner Lawrence met with the owner and manager of the Mayworth's Public House. Discussion was held regarding development of a merchant's association and involvement with special events. Mayor Worley stated he asked them to be the title sponsor for the Friday night Centennial Celebration event in October.

Commissioner Carpenter stated she liked the logos presented tonight and they were professional looking. He thanked the staff for their commitment during the hiring process for the Town Manager.

Commissioner Lawrence stated there were vendors at the Town Center area on Wednesday and they were not part of the Town's farmers market. She stated vendors had approached Cam Carpenter and Cristy Busler at the Parks and Recreation Department asking about setting up in the Town Center using their own tents. Commissioner Ware asked what type of items these vendors were selling. Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen stated they had vegetables, baked goods, along with jams and jellies. Commissioner Lawrence stated she was concerned that the wrong image was being presented. Chief Ratchford stated the vendors would need to apply for a transient merchant permit to comply with the Town's ordinance. Commissioner Lawrence stated she would be willing to become more involved with the Farmers Market. Commissioner Koutsoupas stated the intent was to have zero costs to the Town and provide a service to the citizens. Mayor Worley stated the Board needs to have further discussion and at this time it is not the will of the Board to allow an impromptu market as it would be in violation of the Town's ordinance.

Mayor Worley stated there had been complaints received from citizens about the use of motorized type vehicles on Goat Island. He stated that someone is riding a scooter on the walkways. Chief Ratchford stated a complaint had been received about a golf cart being driven by an underage driver.

Commissioner Carpenter stated he had received complaints about pet owners not policing behind their pets. Commissioner Lawrence said the mosquito problem is being dealt with on Goat Island. Cam Carpenter stated the geese were an issue currently.

CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made by Commissioner Carpenter to enter into closed session to discuss a personnel matter. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen and approved by all.

Upon returning to open session, a motion was made by Commissioner Carpenter to approve the renewal of the Town Attorney's contract for two years, salary to remain at \$75,000.00, and incentive pay of \$3,000.00. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen. The vote was 4 to 1 with Commissioner Ware voting nay.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, a motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawrence and approved by all.

Mayor Ronnie Worley

ATTEST:

Wilene Cunningham, Town Clerk