

**Town of Hamilton
Monthly Board Meeting
September 12, 2019 7:00 PM
Town Hall Building**

Due to the inclement weather on September 5, 2019 the regular monthly Board meeting was rescheduled for September 12, 2019.

Present: Mayor Matthews; Commissioners Williams, Staton, Freeman and Everett. Commissioner Jackson was absent due to his work schedule.

Meeting was called to order/welcome and prayer by the Mayor. Pledge to the flag by everyone.

A motion by Commissioner Williams to approve agenda as presented and motion second by Commissioner Staton. Motion carried 4-0 unanimously.

August 1, 2019 minutes were read by the Mayor, there were no corrections or addendums to the minutes. A motion to approve minutes as read by Commissioner Freeman and second by Commissioner Everett. Motion carried 4-0 unanimously.

Old Business: Mayor reports that the Town Board has received Audit Management Letters from the LGC and asks if letter could be released to public. It was explained to mayor that the letter is a working document for the Bookkeeper and Board to answer concerns that the LGC has concerning the audits.

Mr. Freeman reports that the DOT will be fixing the sinkhole on South and Railroad Streets has marked where they will cut street.

New Business: A motion to approve Workmen Comp Insurance 2019-2020 Policy (\$5075.00) by Commissioner Everett and second by Commissioner Freeman. Motion carried 4-0 unanimously.

A motion to approve NCRWA membership dues in the amount of (\$280.00) 10/1/2019-10/1/2020 by Commissioner Freeman and second by Commissioner Staton. Motion carried 4-0 unanimously.

A motion to allow Dementia Alliance of NC use of the Morris Lynch Center 10/12/2019 for their annual walk at no cost by Commissioner Freeman and motion second by Commissioner Everett. Motion carried 4-0 unanimously. All required paperwork has been received from Dementia Alliance of NC.

Dr. Landon Mason, Director of Economic Improvement Council was out of state and could not attend the meeting.

Mr. Jeff Best, CPA, LLC introduced himself to the Board and gave an overview how his firm operates. Mayor asked if audit would be ready by October 2019. Mr. Best states that no matter who did it at this time it would not be ready. He did commit to having audit done by December 2019.

With no questions from the Board mayor ask for motion to approve the 2018-2019 Audit Contract from Mr. Best's Firm to do the Town of Hamilton 2018-2019 Financial Audit. A motion to approve by Commissioner Williams and second by Commissioner Everett. Motion carried 4-0 unanimously.

Citizen: Ms. Mary Greene presented to the Mayor a Certificate of Appreciation from Dementia Alliance of NC for the Town's 2018 financial support and asks for financial support for 2019. She thanked the Board for allowing the organization use of the Morris Lynch Center. Motion by Commissioner Williams that the Town donate \$500.00 to the Dementia Alliance of North Carolina. The motion was second by Commissioner Staton. Carried 4-0 unanimously.

Ms. Judith Stewart: Asks about the written agreement between the Town and Head Start for use of the Edna Andrews School; why Town employees cutting grass at the school if Head Start is responsible for maintaining

grounds/school building; why was Mr. Freeman seen working after hours at the school (11:00 PM) Why was the playground equipment removed?

In response to Ms. Stewart:

- ✦ Commissioner Williams states that Town has a written agreement.
- ✦ Mr. Freeman states that Head Start has a very small mower and there is no way they can mow the entire property. Since the school belongs to the Town and he does not want to see it overgrown so for now the Town will be cutting the outer perimeter of the property.
- ✦ Mr. Freeman states that the playground equipment was old, unsafe and not up to OSHA standards so at his direction it was removed.
- ✦ Mr. Freeman also states that the night in question that Ms. Stewart is talking about there was a sewer back up and Head Start team did not know where the lines were located; therefore he took Town sewer maps to help locate the lines. There were no costs to the Town for fixing the problem.

The clerk asked to be excused from meeting and Commissioner Williams began to take Board minutes at this point.

Ms. Patricia Morring: Asked if Town could spray for fire ants at the Lynch Center before the Alzheimer's walk; also debris in ditch blocking the flow of water. Mr. Freeman states he will check ditches and report back.

Financial Report: Mayor and Commissioners went over the financials there were no questions or concerns from the Board.

Commissioners' Report: Commissioner Everetts nothing at this time.

Commissioner Freeman: (3) bids for purchasing a truck for the Town: Feyer Ford 2019 Ford F150 XLT \$27,703.41; NC Sheriff's Association 2018 \$26,000.00 Boone NC and Capital Ford 2019 F150 \$30,000.00. Mr. Freeman motion the Town purchase from Feyer Ford 2019 F150 for \$27,703.41. The motion was second by Commissioner Everett. Carried 4-0 unanimously.

He reports a limb from tree behind the Town's maintenance shop fell on his personal ladder (14ft) that he at times uses for the Town's business; he is asking the Town to replace the ladder. Motion by Commissioner Williams that the Town replaces Mr. Freeman's ladder and the motion was second by Commissioner Everett. Motion carried 3-0. Mr. Freeman did not vote.

Commissioner Staton: The problem with tile in ditch on Railroad Street has been fixed by Mr. Freeman.

Commissioner Williams: Set up workshop to discuss rates Electric/water/sewer; signage and business grants.

Motion to go into close session by Commissioner Williams and second by Commissioner Staton.
Motion carried 4-0.

Motion to come out of closed session and back into open session by Commissioner Staton and second by Commissioner Freeman. Carried 4-0.

Back in open session no further business was discussed. Motion to adjourn the meeting by Commissioner Everett and second by Commissioner Staton. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned.

Annie B. Jones 10-3-19
Clerk

DS Matthews III

Mayor

10/3/19

Em Williams
Commissioner Williams