



**TOWN OF WENTWORTH
MINUTES
OF
THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
WENTWORTH, NORTH CAROLINA
July 1, 2014
7:00 p.m.**

The regular monthly meeting of the Wentworth Town Council was held on Tuesday, July 1, 2014, at the Wentworth Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Council Members Present: Mayor Dennis Paschal Jr., Mayor Pro Tem Evelyn Conner, Cheryl Moore, Dennis Paschal III, Iris Powell

A quorum was present.

Staff Present: George Murphy, Town Administrator
Yvonne Russell, Town Clerk/ Finance Officer

Others Present: Patrick Kane, Attorney – Smith Moore Leatherwood
T Butler – Friends of the Chinqua Penn Trail

Article I. Call to Order

Mayor Dennis Paschal, Jr. called the meeting to order.

Article II. Invocation

Councilman Dennis Paschal, III gave the invocation.

Article III. APPROVAL OF TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA –

- A. Requests and Petitions of Citizens**
- B. Approve/ Amend Agenda**

No one signed the speaker register.

Mayor Pro Tem Evelyn Conner made a MOTION, “*We approve the agenda*”.

Mayor Paschal seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Article IV. Approval of Minutes for June 3, 2014

Councilman Paschal III made a MOTION, *“The minutes stand as written”*.

Mayor Pro Tem Conner seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Article V. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Proposed Use of an Installment Financing Contract as Allowed Under NCGS§160A-20, for Renovations to Property Located at 200 County Home Road, Wentworth, North Carolina; Approximate Contract Amount: \$150,000

1.) Consideration of Resolution Approving Financing Terms

Mayor Paschal called the public hearing to order. He explained the reason for the public hearing is to notify citizens of the Town’s intent to enter into an installment financing agreement for the purpose of renovating property located at 200 County Home Rd. in Wentworth in order to provide a more modern and accessible Post Office facility.

Mayor Paschal asked Town Clerk/Finance Officer Yvonne Russell to comment.

Ms. Russell stated, “This public hearing is a requirement by the Local Government Commission and it will go with the application packet that we will file with them for approval to enter into an installment financing contract”.

Mayor Paschal stated that no one had signed the speaker register.

Mayor Paschal made a MOTION, *“To move out of the public hearing and into the regular session”*.

Councilman Paschal III seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Mayor Paschal made a MOTION, *“We approve the Resolution Approving Financing Terms with Branch Banking & Trust Company”*.

Mayor Pro Tem Conner seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Article VII. New Business

A. Consideration of Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Application for Approval of a Financing Agreement Authorized by North Carolina General Statute 160A-20

-Yvonne Russell, Town Clerk/Finance Officer

Ms. Russell stated, “This resolution is also a requirement by the Local Government Commission (LGC) and will go with the application packet for their approval to enter into an installment financing contract”. She noted that the Town Attorney has reviewed the resolution and made one minor amendment. In section 7 of the resolution he changed the wording from “The attorney for the Town has rendered an opinion” to read “The attorney for the Town will render with the application to the North Carolina Local Government Commission an opinion”. Ms. Russell noted that this amendment was discussed with the LGC and they approved.

Councilman Paschal III pointed out that there are two #5 paragraphs. Ms. Russell said the second #5 paragraph which reads “The Town is not in default in any of its obligations and does not have any long term debt”, should be labeled paragraph #6. She said that correction would be made before the resolution is signed and included in the LGC application packet.

Mayor Paschal made a MOTION, “*We approve the Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Application for Approval of a Financing Agreement Authorized by North Carolina General Statute 160A-20, amended to make the second #5 be #6*”.

Mayor Pro Tem Conner seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Article VII. New Business

B. Consideration of Funding Request from Friends of Chinqua-Penn Walking Trail for a 5K Fun Run/Walk to Raise Funds to Support Repairs Along the Trail – Amount Requested: \$500.00

-T Butler

Mayor Paschal invited T Butler to address Council. **Ms. Butler** explained that the purpose of the 5K Run/Walk is to raise funds to make the Chinqua-Penn Walking Trail safer and more sustainable. She said the Friends of the Chinqua Penn Walking Trail (FCPWT) are working with a trail expert to make changes to ensure the trail is more sustainable and to control erosion.

The FCPWT are planning to advertise the event in the Greensboro and Rockingham County areas. They are asking for funds from the Town to help with the cost of advertising. She noted that those who support at the \$500 level will be designated as a Big Bull sponsor, and she explained the perks with that.

Ms. Butler said she hopes Council will show their support by donating and by joining the FCPWT for the 5K Run/Walk.

The 5K Run/Walk will take place on September 21, at 2:30pm. Registration begins at 1:30pm.

Mayor Paschal thanked Ms. Butler for addressing Council.

Mayor Paschal made a MOTION, “*To donate \$500.00 to The Friends of the Chinqua Penn Trail for a 5K Run/Walk to raise funds to support repairs along the Trail*”.

Mayor Pro Tem Conner seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Article VII. New Business

C. Consideration of Proposals Received for Banking Services

-Yvonne Russell, Town Clerk/Finance Officer

Mayor Paschal asked Ms. Russell to comment on the proposals that were submitted.

Ms. Russell noted that three proposals were submitted. She explained that after reviewing all of the proposals, she recommends staying with Fidelity Bank due to their higher rate of interest on the Town's checking account. Ms. Russell further explained that Fidelity Bank has offered to provide Remote Deposit service to the Town at no cost for twelve months. At the end of twelve months, Fidelity will review the Town's account and decide whether charges need to be implemented going forward.

Mayor Paschal made a MOTION, *"To stay with Fidelity Bank for the next twelve months"*.

Mayor Pro Tem Conner seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

(Note: A memo and spreadsheet comparing the proposals submitted to the Town are herein incorporated and made a part of these minutes.)

Memo

To: Council
From: Yvonne Russell, Clerk/ Finance Officer
Date: July 1, 2014
Re: Banking Services Proposals

Attached is a spreadsheet comparison of three proposals we received for banking services. Some of the services quoted are for services that we currently do not use, such as "Pay Vendors by ACH", Online Banking, Safety Deposit Box. Pay Vendors by ACH is an option whereby you can pay invoices from your vendors electronically.

All three proposals offer interest checking. All three include a monthly service fee; however, Fidelity offers more interest earned. The spreadsheet shows that for a month of the Town's typical transactions, we would **earn** approximately \$4.00 in interest (after subtracting the monthly service fee from total interest earned) with Home Savings Bank; we would **pay** approximately \$4.00 in service charge (after subtracting interest earned from service fee) with NewBridge Bank; we have earned approximately \$18.00 per month (after subtracting the service fee from interest earned) with Fidelity Bank. The remaining services in the comparison are fairly even and may be worth considering if we ever feel the need to use them; however, at this time, I don't feel the need to use payment by ACH or a safety deposit box.

After comparing the proposals for the services that we are currently using, I feel that we would be best served at this time to remain with Fidelity Bank. Although they are closing the Wentworth branch, they have offered to provide the Town with free Remote Deposit Service for 12 months. The monthly fee is typically \$75 and after the initial 12 month period, the waiving of that fee will be revisited and reassessed.

Article VIII. Town Administrator's Report

A. Post Office Project

Mr. Murphy, with the aid of photos he had taken of the construction site, reported the following:

- The Post Office address will be 200-A County Home Rd.
- They're working on an alternative to the delivery ramp on the 200-A side.
- A portion of the ceiling that was removed in 200-B will need to be repaired.
- They're working on a way to resolve leaking around the chimney in 200-B.
- The contractor has not run into water damage to the flooring in 200-B as they did in 200-A.
- There are at least four trees that need to come down. One of which is dead, the others are in the way of construction.

Mr. Murphy asked for Council's direction regarding the following issues:

- Repairs to the ceiling in 200-B
- Removal of trees
- Removal of the ceiling HVAC unit in 200-B
- Having contractor install conduit and outlets on the firewall separating side A and B
- Having the septic tank inspected and pumped

Mayor Paschal suggested that Council may want to consider some cosmetic repairs that could be made to the 200-B side while construction of the Post Office space in 200-A is taking place. He said 200-B could be used as storage.

Councilwoman Powell asked if there would be enough space in 200-A to accommodate a rural route delivery.

Mr. Murphy said if they ever decide to deliver to a rural route, they would probably need more space than what is being renovated at this time.

Councilwoman Cheryl Moore asked if 200-A would be handicapped accessible. **Mr. Murphy** confirmed it would be.

Councilwoman Powell asked when the contractor plans to be finished with the renovation.

Mr. Murphy said the contract states four months and because we're already one month into it, he estimates construction will be completed sometime in October.

Councilman Paschal III said he believes Council should consider at least a few updates to 200-B as opposed to leaving it as is.

Mayor Paschal agreed and said perhaps the Town could get some estimates on cosmetic updates before the next meeting.

Article VIII. Town Administrator's Report

B. Interlocal Agreement Between Rockingham County and the Town of Wentworth for Use by the Town of the County's Animal Sheltering, Holding, and Disposal Services

Mr. Murphy happily reported that the County Commissioners approved the agreement from the Town.

Mr. Murphy also informed Council of two additional updates that were not listed on the agenda.

1. The Rockingham County Partnership is reverting to its legal name, Citizens for Economic Development, Inc.

The current Partnership duties will be executed by the County and will be funded by the County.

The local municipalities will not have to donate funds to the Partnership. This will save the Town \$6,000/year.

2. A revised Interlocal Agreement for the Consolidation of 911 Service may negate the Town's financial obligation, which would have been approximately \$13,000.

Mayor Pro Tem Conner asked Sheriff Sam Page, who was seated in the audience, what the date for the opening of the 911 center will be.

Sheriff Page said he believed the date is September 2, 2014.

Councilman Paschal III asked if there will be any changes made to the 911 governing board due to the fact that the municipalities will not contribute funding.

Sheriff Page said it is his understanding that the governing board will remain intact.

Article IX. Public Comments

No one signed the speaker register.

Article X. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Paschal made the following announcements:

- The grand opening of the new ADTS (Aging, Disability & Transit Services) Center for Active Retirement is scheduled for Wednesday, July 9, 2014.
- The next regular meeting of the Wentworth Planning Board is July 15, 2014, at 7pm in the Town Hall Council Chambers.
- The next regular meeting of the Wentworth Town Council is August 5, 2014, at 7pm in the Town Hall Council Chambers.
- The Wentworth Town Council and Staff wishes everyone a safe and happy Fourth of July!

Mayor Paschal noted that he would not be able to attend the August 5 Council meeting. **Councilmembers Cheryl Moore** and **Dennis Paschal III** said they would not be able to attend either.

In light of the fact that so many would be absent on August 5th, **Mayor Paschal** made a MOTION, *“That we change our August regular meeting to August 12, 2014 at 7pm”*.

Mayor Pro Tem Conner seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Article XI. ADJOURN

Mayor Paschal made a MOTION, *“We adjourn”*.

Mayor Pro Tem Conner seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by: _____
Yvonne Russell, NCCMC
Town Clerk

Approved by: _____
Robert Dennis Paschal, Jr.
Mayor