
**TOWN OF WENTWORTH
MINUTES FOR
THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 3, 2012
7:00 P.M.**

The Wentworth Town Council held its regular monthly meeting on **Tuesday, July 3, 2012**, at **7:00 p.m.** in the Town Hall Council Chambers.

Council members present: Mayor Dennis Paschal, Mayor Pro Tem Evelyn Conner, Councilman Robert Aswell, Councilwoman Iris Powell, and Councilman Dennis Paschal III.

A quorum was present.

Staff Present: Brenda Ward, Town Administrator-Town Clerk / Attorney Tom Terrell, and Captain Perry Brookshire attended in Deputy Travis Loftis' absence.

ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Dennis Paschal

ARTICLE II. INVOCATION: Councilwoman Iris Powell

ARTICLE III. Approval of July 3, 2012, Town Council Agenda

A. Requests & Petitions of Citizens

Mayor Paschal noted that no one signed the Speaker Registers to address Council.

Mayor Paschal made a motion, *"That we approve the Agenda as written."*

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

ARTICLE IV. Approval of Minutes

▪ **Town Council Meeting on June 5, 2012**

Regarding the June 5, 2012, Town Council Meeting Minutes, **Councilman Robert Aswell** made a motion, *"That they be approved as written."*

Councilwoman Powell seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

ARTICLE V. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Consideration of a Petition for Voluntary Annexation of Contiguous Area

- Charles E. Cooke and wife, Barbara T. Cooke /
136 Hearthstone Trail, Reidsville NC 27320

Article V. Public Hearing – Continued

Mayor Paschal opened the Public Hearing and advised that no one signed the Speaker Register, but asked if anyone had any questions. There were no questions, so **Mayor Paschal** closed the Public Hearing and returned to regular session, “for a vote on this item.”

Mayor Paschal then made a motion, *“That we adopt the ordinance annexing the property at 136 Hearthstone Trail, Reidsville, NC 27320, belonging to Charles E. Cooke and wife, Barbara T. Cooke.”*

Mayor Pro Tem Conner seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and all voted in favor of the annexation.

Councilwoman Powell and others welcomed the Cooke’s (back) to Wentworth.

ARTICLE VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Update on Post Office

Mayor Paschal gave the post office report, advising, “Brenda and I rode over to Greensboro and talked to several of the officials there at the Postal Service, and talked about the fact that we had been promised a post office, but when Hurricane Katrina came through, it was taken off the table. We asked them what we need to do to get things going again on the post office.”

“Of course, they expressed that they weren’t spending any money on post offices right now, so we talked to them along the same lines we did before—if we built a new building and rented it to them for the same price they are paying for the Wright Tavern, would that be something that we could do?”

Mayor Paschal continued, “They seemed to agree that this may be something they could do, and they gave us a CD with design standards and stats for a post office building. We could get by with a five-hundred (500) square-foot building, but if we wanted to build something larger, we could, ...to have some extra rental property.”

“I took a poll of council members to see what they wanted to do, and they approved giving the information to our engineers to come up with some pricing on a couple of buildings for us. When they come back to us, we can take it up and decide what we want to do about it.”

Mayor Paschal added, “We already had a lot cut out of our property over here for a post office...we had done several things..., but that’s where we stand right now. Does anyone have any questions?”

Councilman Paschal asked, “Did they give any estimates on cost?”

“No, they didn’t,” said **Mayor Paschal**. “They did say that per square foot cost on their buildings right now, is around \$150.00 so a 500-square-foot building would be somewhere in the range of \$75,000 but the engineers will give us a more fixed price.”

Mayor Pro Tem Conner asked how much rent the Postal Service is paying per month for the space in the Wright Tavern.

Mayor Paschal said they are paying around \$500-550/month.

Councilwoman Powell asked, “What can *we* do to get recognition as being *Wentworth*? We have a post office and a zip code, but nothing here is recognized as being in Wentworth—the schools, and so forth are all listed as being in Reidsville because of the rural route (Reidsville delivery address) through here.”

Mayor Paschal asked, “Are you talking about getting bottom-line delivery, a Wentworth address?”

“No,” said **Councilwoman Powell**. “Leave it like it is. They will take your post office if you do that. Just leave it like it is and find out why we can’t be listed as Wentworth in all this stuff that’s put in books and printed for information.”

The **Town Administrator** commented, “If you look at U.S. Census figures, or look for the schools in Wentworth, there aren’t any because they are all listed as being in Reidsville.”

“They must be just looking at the addresses, then,” said **Mayor Paschal**, who moved on to the next item of Old Business.

ARTICLE VI. OLD BUSINESS – Continued

B. Update on Lobby Floor

Mayor Paschal asked the Town Administrator if she had a report on the repairs to the lobby floor.

Mrs. Ward advised that the work is to be done the week after the 4th (July). She noted that there may be a lot of dust and noise and suggested the staff may have to leave for a couple of days.

Mayor Paschal asked Fire Chief Lee Bedell if he could supply some oxygen masks for Mrs. Ward and Mrs. Russell. (Honest...this is what he said!)

Councilman Paschal had a question for Mrs. Ward, saying he was at a wedding recently and ran into one of the architects who asked if he knew when the work was going to begin on the floor. **Councilman Paschal** wanted to know if Mrs. Ward had contacted Alley, Williams, Carmen and King.

Mrs. Ward said that as soon as she heard from the contractor, she advised Jeff Johnson at Alley, Williams, Carmen and King. "So, yes, they do know about it now," **Mrs. Ward** confirmed.

ARTICLE VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Ratification of a Resolution Approving the Revised Rockingham County Solid Waste Management Plan: 2012-2022

(Note: Approved at June 5, 2012, Town Council Meeting, Pending Approval by Rockingham County Commissioners)

Mayor Paschal explained that this Resolution was approved at the June 5th, 2012, Town Council Meeting, pending approval by the Rockingham County Board of Commissioners.

"The Commissioners have approved this and ratification is necessary at this time," **Mayor Paschal** noted, and made a motion, "*That we ratify the resolution approving the Revised Rockingham County Solid Waste Management Plan for 2012 through 2022.*"

Councilman Aswell seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

B. Proposal for Development of a Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan for Forsyth, Davie, Yadkin, Surry, Stokes, Rockingham, and Caswell Counties

Mayor Paschal asked Mrs. Ward to inform Council of the proposal for a regional hazard mitigation plan.

Mrs. Ward explained that the EMS coordinator, Johnny Bowles, "...came by and brought the proposal you have before you."

“**Mr. Bowles** said he had a deadline to meet, and therefore could not wait for tonight’s Town Council meeting. Since he assured me it is only a proposal to come up with a plan, and that any completed plan would come before Council for approval, I signed it for him. But, if for some reason you choose not to participate or not to approve a regional plan, you are not bound in any way.”

“I am presenting this just for your information,” **Mrs. Ward** said. “You do not have to act on anything tonight.”

“So, the plan would be coming back to us,” **Mayor Paschal** said.

“Right,” replied **Mrs. Ward**.

Mayor Paschal asked if there were any questions.

Councilman Paschal asked, “Is there a deadline this has to be completed by?”

“I’m really not sure,” **Mrs. Ward** said. “I didn’t ask that question...I guess I was focused on the deadline he was giving me to sign at that time.”

Article VII. New Business - Continued

C. Recognition of Community Pride Award Winners for Summer Quarter

Mayor Paschal recognized members of the Appearance Committee, **Dessa Scheffer** and **Anthony Hearn**, who announced the Community Pride Award winners as follows:

- 1) Mel & Anne Covington / 261 Blueberry Road**
- 2) Al & Terri Prusia / 106 Irvin Road**
- 3) Vic & Tammy Wheeler / 9230 NC 87**

Mrs. Scheffer said that two of the winners were on vacation and she wasn’t sure why the others weren’t at the meeting. “They were notified,” she said, “but we will mail their certificates and let them know to come by to pick up their prizes.”

Mrs. Scheffer advised that the prizes were donated by “The Cat’s Meow,” located on Business 29 off Freeway Drive.

Everyone applauded and **Mayor Paschal** commented, “We appreciate everything everybody does to make Wentworth a prettier place to live.”

Article VII. New Business - Continued

D. Consideration of Monetary Donation for Sponsorship of Permanent Exhibit Honoring Jeff and Betsy Penn's Chinqua-Penn Legacy

- Attachment: Lot # /Description / Pledge

Mayor Paschal recognized Councilman Paschal and asked for his comments.

Councilman Paschal explained, "I serve on the Board of Directors for MARC, along with Iris and Brenda, and I am sure everyone is aware that most of the physical items and artifacts in Chinqua-Penn were auctioned off. MARC was able to purchase some of those items, through some gifts and other ways. They are going to be displayed, as I understand it, in the new museum. What they are looking for is sponsorship for some of the items...in other words that you would contribute over a period of five years, the amount in the right column. The five-year total is in the left column."

Councilman Paschal continued, "This is not something you would have to vote on tonight. Since I was not here for the June meeting...was this brought up then or a copy given out?"

Mrs. Ward nodded that copies were given to Council.

"I wasn't expecting us to buy a \$15,000 rare porcelain cover," **Councilman Paschal** said, "but I thought maybe we could contribute to one of the less expensive items, being that Chinqua-Penn has been an important part of our community. These items are priceless and have been in the house."

"My understanding is, that we would receive recognition for that item...our name would be in front of the item we sponsor."

"If Council wants to take some time to look at this and come up with a few items, we can look at it again at the next meeting. I just think it will be a good opportunity for us to help out with this."

Councilwoman Powell commented, "The Historical Society was really blessed this weekend, because a big tree blew down and just missed the picnic table and benches that were moved outside the museum, from Chinqua-Penn."

The **Town Administrator** commented, “That rock table and benches are my favorite items. That’s what I wish we could sponsor, although they are rather pricey.”

She added, “All of those items from Chinqua-Penn were actually purchased by two members of the board. They put up their own money in order to keep these items here in Rockingham County. The good thing is that they have set this up on a payment plan, so you don’t have to pay for it all at once. You can budget accordingly.”

Councilwoman Powell asked Mrs. Ward, “Do we have the money if we wanted to go ahead and vote tonight?”

Mrs. Ward replied, “Well, if you are on a payment plan, and you break it down so much per year, then you can budget for it each year.”

Mayor Paschal said, “The problem is getting everyone to agree on what they want to get.”

Councilman Paschal said he thought everyone may want to look at it and narrow it down to a couple of items to be voted on.

He added, “By the time we have our August meeting, we will just be a few days away from the opening of the museum and archives with the Smithsonian exhibit, and that’s going to be a big deal.”

Mrs. Ward said she should have included the museum opening in the announcements, and noted the opening date is Saturday, August 11th.

Mayor Paschal moved on to the last item of New Business.

Article VII. New Business – Continued

E. Appointment of New Delegate to the Piedmont Triad Regional Council due to Resignation of Councilman Robert Aswell as the Wentworth Delegate

Mayor Paschal addressed Councilman Aswell, “**Robert**, we appreciate you serving in that capacity for the time that you did. Thank you a lot.”

Mayor Paschal asked if anyone on council would like to volunteer to take Robert’s place, and asked how often the PTRC meets.

Councilman Aswell said the meetings are held every other month at 12:00 noon. He advised further, that the meetings are held in Kernersville now, and not in Greensboro.

Mayor Paschal said he has been a delegate in the past, but due to his job, he could no longer go at lunch time.

Mayor Paschal asked the Town Administrator if she usually goes to the meetings.

Mrs. Ward said she does go to most of them, but said the voting delegate must be an elected official.

Mayor Paschal said, “If no one wants to volunteer at this meeting, maybe you need to think about it and be sure you can get off to go...”

Councilman Paschal asked if there were two meetings and were they on the same day...

Councilman Aswell said that both meetings are on the same day—one at 10:00 and one at 12:00.

Mrs. Ward explained, “We don’t need anyone for the Rural Transportation Planning meetings. One person from all the municipalities is selected by the managers to attend and represent all the towns. Someone from Eden has agreed to take Councilman Aswell’s place there, so we only need a delegate for the Piedmont Triad Regional Council that meets at noon.”

“I would be interested in being the delegate to the Regional Council,” **Councilman Paschal** said.

“Will you be able to get off during school?” **Mayor Paschal** asked.

Councilman Paschal said he could.

Mayor Paschal asked if Councilman Paschal was interested enough to have council go ahead and vote on it.

“Sure,” replied **Councilman Paschal**.

Mayor Paschal made a motion, “*That we appoint Dennis, III to the Piedmont Triad Regional Council.*”

Mayor Pro Tem Conner seconded the motion. There was no discussion and all voted in favor.

ARTICLE IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Paschal made the following announcements:

- There will be an “**Old Fashioned 4th of July Celebration**” at Rockingham Community College on **Wednesday, July 4th, 2012**, from **2:00-6:00 p.m.**
- The **Wentworth Planning Board**’s regularly scheduled meeting is **Tuesday, July 17, 2012**, at **7:00 p.m.** in the Town Hall Council Chambers.
- The next regular meeting of the **Wentworth Town Council** will be held in the Town Hall Council Chambers on **Tuesday, August 7, 2012**, at **7:00 p.m.**

ARTICLE X. CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to N.C. General Statutes Section 143-318.11(5) to Discuss the Potential Acquisition of Real Estate

Mayor Paschal made a motion that, “*Council go into Closed Session pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes Section 143-318.11(5) to discuss the potential acquisition of Real Estate.*”

Mayor Pro Tem Conner seconded the motion. All voted in favor and council moved to the Conference Room for the Closed Session.

ARTICLE XI. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Council reconvened in open session.

ARTICLE XII. A D J O U R N

Councilman Aswell made a motion, “*That the meeting be adjourned.*”

All voted in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted By: _____
Brenda Ward, Town Clerk

Approved: _____
Dennis Paschal, Jr.
Mayor