

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TOWN OF MINT HILL, NORTH CAROLINA
OCTOBER 23, 2014**

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Mint Hill met in regular session on Thursday, October 23, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Mint Hill Town Hall.

ATTENDANCE

Mayor: Ted H. Biggers, Jr.

Commissioners: Lloyd Austin, Carl M. Ellington, Richard Newton and Katrina (Tina) W. Ross

Town Attorney: Kevin M. Bringewatt

Town Manager: Brian L. Welch

Police Chief: Tim Ledford

Town Clerk: Michelle Wells Farrar

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Biggers called the meeting to order, ruled a quorum present and the meeting duly constituted to carry on business. Following the invocation offered by Commissioner Austin, Mayor Biggers led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Addition, Deletion or Arrangement of Agenda Items: Consent Agenda Item (d) Adopt Resolution Authorizing the Town Manager to Execute a Contract to Provide Street Sweeping Services to the Town of Indian Trail, North Carolina was removed from the agenda.

Approval of Minutes of October 9, 2014 Quarterly Developers' Workshop and Regular Meeting: Upon the motion of Commissioner Austin, seconded by Commissioner Ellington, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the October 9, 2014 quarterly developers workshop and regular meeting.

Consent Agenda: (a) Accept Streets of Belle Grove Manor for Maintenance- Belle Grove Manor Lane, Nottaway Place Drive and Natchez Lane; (b) Accept September Tax Collectors Report; and, (c) Adopt Amendment to the FY15 Budget: Commissioner Ross asked that Item (c) Adopt Amendment to the FY15 Budget be pulled for discussion.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Ellington, seconded by Commissioner Ross, the Board unanimously approved Consent Items a and b. (Copy filed with minutes of record.)

(c) Adopt Amendment to the FY15 Budget: Commissioner Ross asked why the expenditure would be considered Non-Departmental. Manager Welch said currently the FY14-15 budget specifically cited Parks on Wilgrove and Fairview therefore it would have to be Non-Departmental since it wouldn't be used at either of those locations. The budget for FY15-16 would have a Park Budget.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Ross, seconded by Commissioner Ellington, the Board unanimously approved Item (c) Adopt Amendment to the FY15 Budget. (Copy filed with minutes of record.)

Public Comments: None.

Consider Land Acquisition (Tax Parcel #139-302-15) of Property Located at 9801 Brief Road: Manager Welch stated confirmation of the Park and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) grant had been received and due diligence had been completed. It was time for the Board to finalize the purchase of property located at 9801 Brief Road for \$670,000.

Commissioner Ellington asked if the Town would pay the entire amount of \$670,000 and then be reimbursed \$335,000 by the State through the PARTF grant. Manager Welch said yes; the Town would file for reimbursement immediately and should receive funding in the Fiscal Year 14-15 as the PARTF grant had already been approved and the request for reimbursement was a formality only.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Ross, seconded by Commissioner Austin, the Board unanimously approved the purchase of property located at 9801 Brief Road, Tax Parcel 139-302-15, for \$670,000 and authorized the Town Manager to enter into and execute any documents necessary for the Town to continue utilization of and/or request reimbursement as part of our continued participation in the PARTF grant process related to this land acquisition.

Other Business/Council Matters: Commissioner Newton distributed information from Centralina Council of Governments regarding the December 11, 2014 conference.

Commissioner Ellington said the October Planning Board had been cancelled.

Commissioner Ross stated she had attended the North Carolina League of Municipalities (NCLM) conference in Greensboro and visited an exhibit booth that advertised services from North Carolina State University in regard to free planning services to the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund grant recipients. She attended a Mint Hill Chamber of Commerce meeting that addressed Social Media. She was thrilled to see an uptick in downtown and was very pleased to see the attendance at the Monroe Hardware “Ladies Night” event. She attended the open house and ribbon cutting for Unlimited Possibilities Family Care Home. The 5,500-6,000 square foot brick houses were very nice and three are nearly completed, she said. She stated they were serving a need in our community.

Commissioner Austin stated the NCLM conference in Greensboro was very good. He looked forward to attending next year when it would be held in Winston-Salem. He asked Manager Welch about the status of the light on Matthews-Mint Hill Road near the Publix. Manager Welch stated the last information received indicated the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) thought the manufacturing of the mast arms would be completed by November 3, 2014. Publix wanted a December opening but a signal (either temporary or permanent) would be necessary or the Publix would be delayed. Commissioner Austin asked about the road work near the corner of Matthews-Mint Hill Road and Lawyers Road; the lane was now a right turn and straight lane. He asked if it was a widening project and if they would extend it to Brighton Park. Manager Welch stated NCDOT had considered the project a re-striping not a widening project; it would be expensive for the Town to extend it.

Commissioner Ross said typically there was signage placed at intersections to indicate a change in traffic pattern. There was no signage currently at the intersection of Lawyers Road and Matthews-Mint Hill Road. Manager Welch said he would check into signage and see if our Public Works could do something to help. She asked Manager Welch about the possibility of a brick crosswalk near the

library; she had been under the impression all of the crosswalks would be brick. Manager Welch said he didn't know that specific crosswalk was on the books when the original discussion was held about the mast arms and brick crosswalks. NCDOT doesn't like anything but asphalt in the road. NCDOT had contacted Manager Welch to say that if anything happened to the bricks then it would be up to the Town to make repairs. Based on conversations with NCDOT, the chance of the crosswalk being converted to brick would be slim to none. He would ask the painting contractor about painting and stamping the crosswalk. He said mid block crossings were new to him and he wasn't sure of the NCDOT visibility rules. He said he'd follow up with NCDOT to see what would be allowed.

Commissioner Austin asked if the speed limit would be lowered from 45 mph to 35 mph along Matthews-Mint Hill Road. Manager Welch said he had been in talks with NCDOT; the project would need to be completed and the condition of Matthews-Mint Hill Road would be reviewed before they would consider reducing the speed limit to Phylliss Lane.

Commissioner Austin asked if "Downtown Mint Hill" signs could be installed at the Interstate 485 ramps. He then asked about restaurant and gas signs either in conjunction or independent of the "Downtown Mint Hill" signs. Commissioner Ross stated the Town of Matthews had signs, indicating the Matthews town limit, located on Interstate 485. Commissioner Newton said there were signs along Interstate 85 in Concord that said Pineville and Matthews. Manager Welch said he would check into signage.

Mayor Biggers announced Manager Welch and his wife Bethany would be expecting a baby boy in late March. He announced there would be a reception held at Town Hall on November 18, 2014 in honor of Doris Miller who will be retiring after 30 years of service. He said the Town had lost many good citizens in the last year and the Town would miss Loretta Pharr who was a previous planning board member. He asked Colonel Bill Reid, one of the organizers of the Korean War Memorial, be kept in the thoughts of residents as he was in the hospital. He reminded everyone of the Veterans Breakfast at Philadelphia Presbyterian Church on November 8, 2014 at 8 a.m.

Adjournment: Upon the motion of Commissioner Newton, seconded by Commissioner Ross, the Board unanimously agreed that the meeting be adjourned. Mayor Biggers adjourned the meeting at 7:22 p.m.

Michelle Wells Farrar, CMC, Town Clerk