

Town of Wallburg, North Carolina
Town Council Meeting - Wallburg Fire Station
TUESDAY 7:00 P.M. MARCH 13, 2007
2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

MINUTES

APPROVED 04-10-07

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Allen Todd. Present for the Council were Mayor Todd, Zane Hedgecock, Steve Yokeley, Jerry Weavil, Lynn Reece, and Chris Yokeley. Also present were Clerk Lynn and Attorney Aaron Clinard.

After a brief invocation by Lynn Reece, the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Zane Hedgecock.

MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS PRESENTED

A motion by Zane Hedgecock, seconded by Steve Yokeley was presented to approve the Agenda as presented. This motion passed with a unanimous vote.

MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF 02-13-07

On a motion by Steve Yokeley, seconded by Lynn Reece, the minutes of February 13th, 2007, were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC SESSION

PLEASE SIGN UP WITH TOWN CLERK IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK

Public Session was opened and closed at 7:03 p.m. with no speakers.

BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED AND/OR ACTED UPON:

1. **PUBLIC HEARING**
 ADVERTISED MARCH 1, 2007
 ORDINANCE #07-002
 SIGN ORDINANCE
 Dean Coe, Planning Board

DISCUSSION:

The Public Hearing on the Wallburg Sign Ordinance was opened at 7:04 p.m. Dean Coe, Chairperson of the Planning Board, gave a brief synopsis of the Sign Ordinance changes. He stated that the Planning Board went through the ordinance, working to ease the restrictions on businesses yet still retain the look that the original Councilmembers were looking for when they came up with the Sign Ordinance. He gave the changes as:

- Page 3 – **SIGN, DIRECTIONAL OR INCIDENTAL**” the word “structional” was deleted and was changed to “incidental” as per Dave Fencil.

- Page 3 – **SIGN FREESTANDING** – “structures” was deleted and replaced with “poles”.
- Page 4 – **SIGN INCIDENTAL** and **SIGN IDENTIFICATION** was deleted because it was a duplication – just repeating what had already been said.
- Page 8 – Changes were under **Freestanding** - took the freestanding sign out of all the residential.
- Page 9 – Under **Maximum Sign Height by Sign Type** under **Directory Sign** – deleted 4 and changed to 5.
- Page 9 – Under **Freestanding** – took it out of residential and changed commercial from 2 feet to **12** feet, with a note that it has to be a minimum of 6 feet. (Trying to get commercial signs high enough that any cars would be able to see under it – but not so high that they would be obtrusive to the background).
- Page 10 – Under **Freestanding** – took out of residential – replaced two signs with one in the commercial – that is one side per store front.
- Page 11 – Under **Freestanding** – took it out of residential – changed square footage in commercial, which was 2 and 4 square feet, and replaced it with 24 in the RC zoning and in the heavier zoning, changed it to 32.
- Page 13 – **Campaign or Election Signs** – Changed from 16 square feet to six square feet.

Mr. Coe reiterated that they were trying to be a little bit more lenient toward the businesses but still retain a good look. He said a freestanding sign is a majority of what you would find.

Mr. Kevin Young spoke that he was in favor of the changes because it would improve visibility of the businesses. It is also going to reduce the cost of the signs because they will be able to be put up off the ground and would also allow shrubs and other landscaping to be put around the signs to make them look better.

Mr. Steve Yokeley said the Planning Board had done a very good job.

Mayor Todd closed the Public Hearing at 7:14 p.m.

MOTION: TO APPROVE ORDINANCE #07-002 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF WALLBURG – SIGN ORDINANCE – WITH CHANGES AS PRESENTED BY DEAN COE

BY: JERRY WEAVIL

SECOND: STEVE YOKELEY

VOTE: MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

2. **FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:**
 DAVIDSON COUNTY SHERIFF DAVID GRICE
 UPDATE ON DAVIDSON COUNTY SHERIFF ACTIVITIES

DISCUSSION:

Mayor Todd introduced special guest, Sheriff David Grice. Sheriff Grice commented that he was there to give his annual “State of the State Address for the Sheriff’s Office”. He introduced the folks he brought with him:

- Patrol Captain - Casey Tarlton
- Head of the Detective Division - Captain Tony Robertson
- Chief Deputy – Brian Grubb

Sheriff Grice gave a brief report on the Sheriff's Department stating that they had no unsolved murders at this point. Hiring is up to speed – it's hard to hire and retain people – they've lost about 16 people to Iraq because some companies pay in the six figures per year for them to hire on. Several positions (animal control officers, etc.) are still open. He spoke of examples of calls for service that the Sheriff's deputies respond to; some of which include:

- Breaking and entering
- Larcenies
- Robberies
- Prowlers
- Domestic
- Disturbance

And many more service calls.

At this time, the jail is full – averaging about 300 inmates a day. This increases food costs as well as medical costs – due to the fact that if a person is in the custody of the Sheriff Department, the department is then responsible for medical conditions.

Drug money from drug busts provides some of their spending money for automobiles, cameras, etc. but Sheriff Grice noted that in his budget, he will be asking for more money this year.

Wallburg is in Zone 1 – out of nine zones – and from March 1st, 2006, to March 1st, 2007, Sheriff's deputies responded to 10,937 9-1-1 calls – just in Zone 1, which would average a call for service about every hour. Deputies run the zones answering calls. Sheriff Grice said that the Sheriff Department would be glad to work with Wallburg on a contractual basis if Wallburg was interested in having a deputy stationed in Wallburg all the time.

Questions for Sheriff Grice from the audience included Leigh Gill asking if the county had put money aside (capital fund) for a jail and was told “no”. Jerry Weavil asked if the Sheriff's Office still help with funeral processions and was told “yes”.

Sheriff Grice was thanked for the Davidson County Sheriff Department responses.

3. **FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:**
PIEDMONT TRIAD COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT
MATT REECE

DISCUSSION:

Matt Reece was introduced as representing the Piedmont Triad Council of Government representative. He started off by calling it “COG” for short and said it is a voluntary association of local governments so they are enabled by state law to work on regional initiatives and provide services back to those member governments. This is done in a variety of areas – planning and environmental services, Land Use Plans, etc. They have a data center with a huge variety of demographic data about different communities – detailed census information is stored there. The Area Agency on Aging is also housed at the COG – this is a federal and state partnership that provides services to caregivers, and older

folks. Mr. Reece heads up the Management Services function, which provides management consultant back to the local governments (i.e.: rate studies – comparison studies between communities – personnel and compliance issues as employers, etc.) Regional Initiatives (such as the Regional Planning Initiative for Transportation; Early Action Compact for environmental compliance, and Stormwater initiatives) is the strongest area that Wallburg would become acquainted with as a small town. Upon joining the COG, Wallburg would appoint a delegate to serve on the Board with a seat at the table when regional initiatives are discussed. This is a strictly volunteer organization – membership is certainly welcome, but not required. In earlier minutes, the membership cost was noted at \$650 – based on per capita assessment – current population. For more extensive services not mentioned, the COG would contract for those (i.e.: staff members from COG to come to Wallburg for a particular project would be a contractual issue).

A question for Mr. Reece was to tell of some initiatives they have achieved with small towns and Mr. Reece answered that they really work with the planning process for towns that have no background in planning by providing information to the town, by focus discussions and by facilitative workshops. They have also helped with environmental compliance – stormwater issues and compliance. And they help with finance, personnel and general management issues. As a town grows and takes on staff, they take on all the responsibilities of employee/employer issues and compliance issues.

The COG likes to think of itself as “...an extension of the Town staff...” They write personnel policy – ordinances, etc.

Mayor Todd thanked Mr. Reece for coming out and said he would be in touch with him.

4. **FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:**

Continued from February 13, 2007, meeting:
EDC CONTRIBUTION

DISCUSSION:

The EDC (Economic Development Commission) contribution was continued from last meeting. Zane Hedgecock said there has been a lot in the paper about the EDC and Wallburg has had the EDC here explaining what it is and what it does. He said that in our budget, we had allotted \$2,000 to go to the EDC although the check has not yet been written. The EDC thought the town ought to pay more than the \$2,000. Mr. Hedgecock thought we should stick with what the Finance Committee suggested and what the council had approved and give to the EDC the amount of \$2,000 – this was in the form of a motion.

MOTION: TO GIVE TO THE EDC (ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION) THE SUM OF \$2,000 AS DISCUSSED PREVIOUSLY AND AS SUGGESTED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND AS VOTED ON AND APPROVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL AT AN EARLIER MEETING

BY: ZANE HEDGECOCK

SECOND: JERRY WEAVIL

VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

FURTHER DISCUSSION:

Steve Yokeley thought previously that we should give more but that we should stick to the budgeted amount this year.

Jerry Weavil said we need to be responsible for what we had approved and stick to what the council had previously voted on.

Attorney Clinard commented that any time you have budgetary items that have been approved - if you go outside of that, you set a precedence for going outside of the budget. The council should be very careful about going outside of the budgeted amounts.

5. **FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:**

RESOLUTION #07-002

AWARD CONTRACT TO AUDIT ACCOUNTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006-2007 TO ALLRED AND CARRICK

DISCUSSION:

Chris Yokeley spoke to this issue saying there were no changes in this year's audit bid. This contract could be bid out but at the price quoted by Allred and Carrick Mr. Yokeley recommended that the Town continue with Allred and Carrick firm for the Town's audit. The contract is year-to-year but the price of \$4,500 is good for three years. Mr. Hedgecock asked if this recommendation was the Finance Committee's recommendation and Mr. Yokeley responded that the Committee had not discussed this topic at this time, but the price was very reasonable.

MOTION: TO CONTINUE THE CONTRACT WITH ALLRED AND CARRICK TO AUDIT THE TOWN OF WALLBURG'S ACCOUNTS FOR 2006-2007 FISCAL YEAR

BY: CHRIS YOKELEY

SECOND: LYNN REECE

VOTE: MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

FURTHER DISCUSSION:

Mr. Hedgecock thought that the full committee (Finance) should come back to the council with its recommendation – that's what the committee is for. Mr. Reece asked if this needed to be voted on tonight or if it could be continued to next month. Chris Yokeley said he felt that the recommendation would not be any different but that it could be done next month. The audit would not be bid out again this year.

REGULAR MONTHLY AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

1. Planning and Zoning UpdatesDean Coe

Dean Coe spoke that the Planning Board met last Thursday and discussed the zoning ordinance book. He spoke with Guy Corman and John Mendenhall about how the book should be done. Mr. Coe felt that the council would want to make up a certain amount of copies to sell to the general public, when requested. The book will be ready either next month or the following month. At this time, they are

working on subdivision changes, for which Guy Corman asked that the Board hold off on doing this due to Davidson County Planning and Zoning working on making some changes of their own right now. He said to wait until they have theirs finalized and then let the Town make their changes from that. Mayor Todd thanked the Planning Board for doing all that they do – it's been a lot of extra work.

2. Finance Update

.....Chris Yokeley

Chris Yokeley spoke to the finances. He said that all the town's CD accounts are straight and the town is now on track and in compliance with the budget. The last thing the town had to do to comply with the budget was the \$2,000 check to the EDC, which will be written later this evening.

Checking Account:

Starting Balance	\$162,222.29
Checks	\$366,401.14 (TO COMPLY WITH BUDGET/CD'S)
Deposits	<u>\$289,506.43</u>
Closing Balance:	\$ 85,327.58

Money Market @ Southern Community:

Balance	\$436,038.09
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CD Accounts:

Building Fund	\$268,486.07
Property Fund	\$186,793.09
Capital Fund	\$127,886.07
Reserve Fund	\$ 74,394.00

(6-month CD's at 5.25% rate)

Chris said he was checking on interest rates and he would like to come back to the Council, possibly next month, to see if the Money Market fund could be moved from Southern Community to the local bank here – LSB – if they could compete, or at least match, the interest rate.

3. MPO - High Point

.....Lynn Reece

Lynn Reece attended the High Point MPO meeting on February 27th and discussion was mainly on the City of High Point and surrounding areas. They talked about the tremendous amount of work that needs to be done all around with all the money coming out of the same pot – the study on 109 should be completed by July. From the radar base, business park, to 311 and to 40, they are going to widen the road – but coming toward us, they're not going to do anything.

4. MPO - Winston-Salem

.....Mayor Todd

Mayor Todd spoke of the Winston-Salem MPO saying it had not met this month so there was nothing new to talk about from their last meeting. The beltway and 109 still have studies – continuing saga on these issues. Mayor Todd mentioned

the possible tollbooth to be put on Interstate 85 to help finance a new bridge across the Yadkin River. He would encourage all citizens to contact their state senator and let them know that (in the mayor's opinion) the gas and fuel taxes in this state are high enough and the mayor fails to see what putting toll roads in this state would accomplish anything except creating more bureaucracy and more public spending!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS:** (2ND TUESDAYS)
7:00 p.m. at the Fire Station on:
APRIL 10
MAY 8
JUNE 12
JULY 10
AUGUST 14
SEPTEMBER 11
OCTOBER 9
NOVEMBER 13
DECEMBER 11

PLEASE NOTE:

- **PLANNING BOARD MEETINGS** (2ND THURSDAYS)
7:00 P.M. AT WALLBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MEETING AT 8:17 P.M.
BY: STEVE YOKELEY
SECOND: CHRIS YOKELEY
VOTE: MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

VISIT THE TOWN'S WEBSITE:

www.townofwallburg.com

ATTEST:

TOWN OF WALLBURG:

Lynn McKinnie
Town Clerk

Allen L. Todd
Mayor