

SPECIAL MEETING

The Town Council of the Town of La Grange, North Carolina met in Special Session at the Town Hall on May 9, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the Special Meeting was to discuss the Lawn Maintenance Contract and the Town maintained cemeteries. Those present for the meeting were:

Mayor Woodard H. Gurley, Mayor Pro Tem Bobby R. Wooten, Council Members Larry Gladney, Walter Ellis, Jr. George Koonce, Richard Elliott Sutton, Jeff Thomas; Town Manager, John P. Craft, Town Clerk, Phyllis T. Harrison, CMC.

Absent: Town Attorney, George Jenkins, Jr.

Guest: 2

Mayor Gurley called the meeting to order. Council Member Ellis gave the invocation.

The Mayor then turned the meeting over to Manager Craft. Manager Craft informed Council Members that he and Mr. Jimmy C. Foss (who owns the private black cemetery that was discussed at the May 1, 2006 regular meeting) had talked and Mr. Foss would like to donate the cemetery to the Town of La Grange since we already do the upkeep.

Lengthy discussion was held concerning this matter.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Wooten and seconded by Council Member Sutton to accept the donation of the privately owned cemetery from Mr. Foss. Motion carried 4 to 3 in favor of motion. Mayor Pro Tem Wooten, Council Members Sutton and Ellis voted yes. Council Members Gladney, Thomas and Koonce opposed. Mayor Gurley broke the tie with a yes vote.

Discussion was then held again and a motion was made by Council Member Thomas, seconded by Council Member Gladney to leave everything as it now is and the Town just keep up the maintenance of the privately owned cemetery because of the probable complications regarding the cemetery lots and who owned them since there are no accessible records. Motion carried 4 to 2 in favor of motion. Mayor Pro Tem Wooten and Council Member Sutton opposed this motion.

Discussion was then held concerning the lawn maintenance contract. Manager Craft informed Council Members that after negotiations with the two contactors who submitted the lowest bids, the bids had been reduced tremendously. Manager Craft said that Wheat Swamp Landscaping has now submitted a bid in the amount of \$66,500 and Danny Smith Landscaping a bid of \$66,000. These amounts would remain the same for a three year period. Manager Craft stated that if a contract was awarded to either firm that it would probably be necessary to lay off two employees.

After lengthy discussion concerning the lawn maintenance contract motion was made by Council Member Thomas and seconded by Council Member Ellis to award the lawn maintenance contract to Danny Smith Landscaping. Motion carried 6-0 in favor of motion.

Motion was then made by Mayor Pro Tem Wooten to adjourn.

Phyllis T. Harrison, CMC, Town Clerk

Woodard H. Gurley, Mayor