

## **REGULAR MEETING**

The Town Council of the Town of La Grange, North Carolina met in Regular Session at the Town Hall on July 10, 2006, at 7:30 p.m. with the following present:

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

Absent: None

Guest: 6

### **ITEMS 1,2,3: CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION, WELCOME**

Mayor Gurley called the meeting to order. Invocation was given by Mayor Pro Tem Wooten. Mayor Gurley welcomed all guest and Council Members.

### **ITEM 4: PUBLIC HEARINGS**

There was no Public Hearing scheduled.

### **ITEM 5: PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no citizens present for the Public Comment period.

### **ITEM 6: AMENDMENTS TO AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Town Manager Craft requested that the following items be added to the original agenda.

- (1.) Item 8D: Discussion on Council Members Compensation**
- (2.) Item 8E: Railroad Crossings**
- (3.) Item 8F: Closed Session – Personnel Matters**

### **ITEM 7: CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **A. Approval of Minutes**

- 1. June 5, 2006 Regular Session**
- 2. June 12, 2006 Budget Work Session**
- 3. June 14, 2006 Special Session**

#### **B. Approval of Resolution Recognizing North Lenoir Baseball Team's Accomplishments**

Motion was made by Council Member Ellis and seconded by Council Member Thomas to approve the consent agenda with one correction to the June 14, Special Session. The minutes reflected motion carried 6-1 in favor of adoption of the 2006-2007 Budget. Council Member Gladney opposed. It should have read "Motion carried 5-1 in favor of motion". Motion carried 6-0 to approve the consent agenda. Copy of North Lenoir resolution hereto attached and in Resolution Book III, Page 2006-07-180. .

### **8: NEW BUSINESS**

#### **ITEM 8A: DISCUSSION PERTAINING TO THE SIGNAGE FOR THE NEW TOWN HALL BUILDING (FORMER JOHN C. WARD CLINIC)**

Manager Craft discussed with Council Members the renaming of the clinic building since the building is in the process of being renovated for the new Town Hall.

Mayor Gurley stated that he thought before the building could be renamed we needed to delete the name of "John C. Ward Clinic" since it was formerly named by vote of Council Members at a regular Town Council meeting. Attorney Jenkins agreed with Mayor Gurley.

Lengthy discussion was held by Council Members concerning what the building should be named and what should be put on the sign out front.

Motion was made by Council Member Ellis and seconded by Council Member Gladney to no longer have the clinic named the "John C. Ward Clinic". Motion carried 6-0 in favor of motion.

Motion was then made by Mayor Pro Tem Wooten and seconded by Council Member Ellis to rename the building the "La Grange Town Hall". Motion carried 4-2 in favor of motion. Council Members Gladney and Koonce opposed.

#### **ITEM 8B: DISCUSSION PERTAINING TO STREET RESURFACING PRIORITIES**

Manager Craft reminded Council Members that he had included funds within this year's budget to resurface some of our Town maintained streets. He stated that in order to proceed with the resurfacing project we need to prioritize the streets that we want to have repaved. Once the priority list is completed Manager Craft said he would obtain prices for the repaving.

Manager Craft stated that if the closure of the railroad crossings were approved that might provide funding for the resurfacing of both railroad streets (one of which is Town maintained.) The estimated cost of this resurfacing is \$50,000. Manager Craft said this could be a basis for how much resurfacing we will be able to accomplish with \$65,000 which is the amount in this year's budget.

Manager Craft said he had asked Aubrey Rouse to prepare him a list of streets that needed repaving and he had given him the following:

- 1. Hadley Street (100 & 200 block) 21 feet wide, 745 feet in length (estimated 97 yards of asphalt.)**
- 2. Lincoln Street; 19 feet wide, 225 feet in length. (Estimated 26.5 yards of asphalt.)**

Manager Craft said he had contacted APAC about a quote on this project and some additional patching in other areas. He stated he had looked at Hadley Street and felt that it is in need of resurfacing and some additional drainage work. He said he did not recommend resurfacing Lincoln Street as its is not that bad and serves only as basically a driveway for three residents.

Lengthy discussion was held among Council Members concerning the streets mentioned and other streets in Town that need attention.

#### **ITEM 8C: INVITATION TO THE INSTALLATION SERVICE FOR THE NEW PASTOR AT ST. LUKE FWB CHURCH**

Manager Craft told Council Members that St. Luke FWB Church has invited everyone to attend the installation service for their ninth pastor, Dr. Stanley A. Williams, Jr. The service is scheduled for Saturday, August 5, at 5:00 p.m. at the church.

#### **ADD ON AGENDA ITEM 8D: DISCUSSION PERTAINING TO COUNCIL MEMBERS COMPENSATION**

Manager Craft informed Council Members that in the future they would receive their Council Member compensation through the payroll instead of accounts payable and would be issued a W2 form at the end of the year. He told them they could receive their pay monthly, quarterly or however they chose. Council Members decided to get paid every six months as they now do.

#### **ITEM 8E: DISCUSSION PERTAINING TO RAILROAD CROSSINGS**

Manager Craft presented to the Council two options that had been given to him by Norfolk Southern Railways for the closure of the railroad crossings:

**Option 1: Would close School Street, Charles Street and Wooten Street crossings and reopen Carey Street. They would contribute \$7,500 to the Town for each closure plus \$4,000 for landscaping and barricading. The Town's part would be waived. They would add additional parking behind La Grange Elementary School on West James Street in order to eliminate parking on railroad right of way. They will resurface all of South and North Railroad Street. Total cost of Option 1 would be \$518,000 with no cost to the Town.**

**Option 2: Would close Forbes, School and Wooten Street crossings and reopen Carey Street. Contributions would be the same as Option 1 with a total project cost in the amount of \$518,000 with no cost to the Town.**

Lengthy discussion was held among Council Members. It was decided to have a Public Hearing at our August meeting or a special meeting if necessary.

#### **ITEM 8F: CLOSED SESSION**

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Wooten and seconded by Council Member Ellis to go into Closed Session pertaining to G.S. 143.318A-3 to discuss personnel. Motion carried 6-0 in favor of motion.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Wooten and seconded by Council Member Ellis to approve the minutes of the Closed Session held on June 5, 2006. Motion carried 6-0 in favor of motion.

Motion was then made by Council Member Ellis and seconded by Council Member Thomas to go back into Regular Session. Motion carried 6-0 in favor of motion.

#### **ITEM 9: OLD BUSINESS**

##### **ITEM 9A: REUSE GRANT**

Manager Craft gave Council Members an update on the status of the Reuse Grant.

##### **ITEM 9B: CLINIC RENOVATION**

Manager Craft informed Council Members that the renovations on the clinic were going well and hopefully we would be able to relocate by September 1, 2006.

With no further business to come before the Council motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Wooten and seconded by Council Member Thomas to adjourn.