

Town Of Oakboro

**Board of Commissioners
Minutes
July 20, 2020
7:00 PM**

Mayor Little opened the Public Hearing. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to invite public comment, for or against, on a proposed economic incentive agreement that will result in a six (6) year, 60% business development grant between the Town of Oakboro and an existing manufacturer of commercial paper products located in the corporate limits of Oakboro, NC.

Town Administrator, Doug Burgess, presented the package. He reported that this was brought before the Board last month by Candice Lowder, director of EDC. The Stanly County Economic Development Commission is requesting support of this six (6) year, 60% business development grant between the Town and CT paper products, located on South Main Street. This grant will aid and encourage new taxable investment for Stanly County and the Town of Oakboro. The company plans to invest 8 ½ million dollars and create 26 new jobs. Oakboro's tax liability coming from them is \$181,000.00 – with incentives over 6 years at \$108,000.00, netting the town \$72,000.00 over a 6-year period.

With no one signing up to speak, Mayor Little declared the Public Hearing closed.

Mayor Little opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and asked the Town Clerk to call the roll with the following present: Commissioner Efird, Commissioner Huneycutt, Commissioner Smith, Mayor Little, Commissioner Watkins, Commissioner Jackson and Town Administrator, Doug Burgess.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Mayor.

Commissioner Watkins had devotions.

Commissioner Huneycutt made a motion to approve the Agenda for tonight's meeting. Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

**Page Two
Board of Commissioners
Minutes
July 20, 2020**

Commissioner Jackson made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable in the amount of \$165,128,52. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Commissioner Efirm made a motion to approve the minutes from June 15, 2020. Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Joseph Burleson asked for a Public Hearing for a Voluntary Annexation of Phase 4 of the Forrest Creek Subdivision. Legal description of property is attached to minutes.

No one signed up for Open Forum.

Commissioner Efirm made a motion to approve the incentives of 6-year, 60% business development grant with CT Paper Products. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Commissioner Huneycutt made a motion to call a Public Hearing for the Voluntary Annexation of new phase at Forrest Creek Subdivision for 7:00 PM on August 17, 2020. Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

Budget and Finance: Commissioner Jackson recognized Doug Burgess for a report. He shared that for the end of the fiscal year we closed out the year in our general fund with a positive \$76,881.00 – Water fund was a positive \$57,732.00; Sewer was \$62,000 negative and this was due to added expense with I and I throughout the year.

Cemetery and Streets: Commissioner Watkins had no report, however, Commissioner Efirm had been in contact with the NCDOT and reported that the following would be happening around town as far as our streets are concerned. We were told a couple of years ago that we would be getting a roundabout at intersection of Big Lick and Hwy. 205. The State has no money for this, due to the Covid 19 Pandemic, so they are installing a 4 way stop with turning lanes for trucks. He also discussed the problems we have in town as far as pulling out from a side road onto 205. If a car is parked on the corner, you have to pull out into the road to see oncoming traffic. This is a huge problem. The NCDOT said it was up to the town to regulate that and we can stripe all corners so it's much easier to see traffic. Efirm

**Page Three
Board of Commissioners
Minutes
July 20, 2020**

also stated that our town is experiencing a lot of street vendors and food trucks. In the past, we let them park where they need to. We do have an ordinance here in town. These vendors fall under Itinerate Business classification. In our regular town ordinance, it says no peddler or itinerate vendor shall locate their conveyance, temporary stand or merchandise within 300 feet of any public right-of-way or within 20 feet of an intersection of any public right-of-way. No vehicle or temporary stand shall be located closer than 20 feet from any building, structure or licensed property or adjoining property. It cannot be located within 300 feet of the entrance of any business establishment open for business offering as a main featured item similar to products for sale and cannot locate within 300 feet of a public park. No Peddler or Itinerate Vendor shall conduct business as to violate the traffic and sidewalk ordinances or obstruct or cause to obstruct sidewalks, streets, avenue, ally or any public place by causing people to congregate at or near the place where goods, food, merchandise of any kind is being sold or offered. All Itinerate Vendors shall operate from a location with paved surface. This is actually hurting some of our businesses in town and it specifically says you cannot operate within 300 feet of a restaurant. Chief Smith offered that there were food vendors parked on side of road during the Freedom Convoy on the 4th of July. It wasn't safe. He would like to see a designated area for food trucks. It was discussed by the Board Members. The best area would be in front of the Fire Department but would require permission due to liability.

Commissioner Efirm continued that people don't really know how to turn at the new intersection as it is somewhat confusing. The DOT is going to look into installing a sign above intersection – explaining lanes. They are going to close road at Roy Helms Garage. DOT does not have money, now, for crosswalks. Hopefully later in year.

Police Department: Commissioner Huneycutt recognized Chief Smith. Smith reported that his department gave 173 citations, 230 calls to service, 5 arrests and 935 business and neighborhood checks.

Chief Smith also presented two in the Police Department with awards. The first was for Sergeant Jason Eschert. He received the "lifesaving award" that involved exceptional courage of performance. The department is extremely proud of Sergeant Eschert, not only for this award but for everything he does for the department. He adapted well, from day one, coming from a sizeable department to a smaller town. He has helped in acquiring resources such as donated heaters, bookbags and supplies for our

**Page Four
Board of Commissioners
Minutes
July 20, 2020**

school and helping collect toys during our toys for tots' campaign. With his help, we were given two mountain bikes that are fully outfitted simply for community relations and to interact with the public. On December 21, 2018 a subject drove to the Oakboro Fire Department as his passenger had overdosed. Sgt. Eschert arrived on scene and administered 2 doses of Narcan which brought the subject back to life. On July 7, 2018 a subject had overdosed at home, when Sgt. Eschert arrived, he located a female with a heroin needle still in the area, he administered Narcan and it brought her back to life. In February of this year, he responded to a medical call, he could see a woman was suffering from a drug overdose – he administered Narcan and it brought her back to life. He was presented with award.

The second award was present to Captain Craig E. Richards. He has served 8 years with the Oakboro Police Department. He has literally been by the Chief's side their entire career. He was presented with the "Advanced Law Enforcement" certificate. It's the highest official certification that a LEO can achieve in North Carolina. He accumulated 960 training hours. He is extremely proud of his good friend and Captain. He was presented with award.

Parks and Recreation: Commissioner Smith had no report as Josh Almond was away on vacation.

Water and Sewer: Commissioner Efirm reported that the Town has a contract proposal from Chambers Engineering for the engineering of the sewer from Oakboro to Charlotte Pipe in the amount of 148,368.00.

Commissioner Efirm made a motion to give permission to Mayor Little to sign this whenever we receive the actual contract. Commissioner Huneycutt seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Advisory Board/Code Enforcement: Commissioner Efirm recognized Chief Smith. Smith reported that he sent out golf cart regulations to everyone that has had one registered. It is easier to read. To get a certification, the owner must sign a form stating that they have read and understand the rules. Also, the sign regulations have been sent to all businesses in Oakboro. We are having a few issues with temporary flags. They will have 30 days to get their signs to code and then we will regulate. The Town has had 2 house addition requests, 2 inground pool requests with one pending a variance request. The minimum housing issues – 2 properties are completely cleaned up. He further reported that he had a community clean

**Page Five
Board of Commissioners
Minutes
July 20, 2020**

up last month. He had asbestos checks on two houses on Pine Street. The fire department has agreed to do practice training on those two houses. A mobile home on the corner of Claymon and Hamilton needs to be removed. The metal will be sold to offset the dumpster costs. The County has very little money left in the grant that they have for tearing down mobile homes, but they do have enough to tear down 517 N. Pine street.

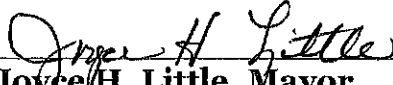
Commissioner Huneycutt made a motion to go into Closed Session to discuss personnel. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

NO ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED

Commissioner Smith made a motion to go back into Open Session. Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Commissioner Huneycutt made a motion to adjourn meeting. Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

This the 20th day of July, 2020.



Joyce H. Little, Mayor



Patti W. Efird, Town Clerk

7

8

9