

Town of North High Shoals

Jeff D. Thomas
Mayor

Office of the Mayor

108 Jefferson Road
P.O. Box 129
High Shoals, Georgia 30645
706-769-4289
Fax 706-769-5944

Minutes August 9, 1999

Members Present:

Mayor Jeff Thomas
Councilman Carter
Councilman Sosebee
Councilman Thomas
Councilwoman Dawe

Sherry Bales - Clerk
Patrick Beall - Attorney

Others Present:

Ms. Vinnie Williams Oconee Enterprise
Mr. Bob Smith State Representative

Monthly Business:

1. Approval of the **July** Financial Statement. Motion to approve by Councilman Carter. A second to the motion by Councilman Sosebee. Councilman Thomas approved the motion and Councilwoman Dawe abstained because she was out of town on business during the July meeting..

2. Approval of **Draft Copy** of the **July** Minutes. Motion to approve with corrections by Councilman Carter. A second to the motion by Councilman Thomas. Councilman Sosebee approved the motion and Councilwoman Dawe abstained because she was out of town on business during the July meeting.

Old Business:

1. Mayor Thomas reminded the Council that qualifying for the Special Election in September, would be held August 16 - 20, between the hours of 1:00pm and 6:00pm. The Mayor also noted that he had received calls from three (3) different people interested in qualifying for this post.

Mayor Thomas went on to remind the Council of the upcoming election in November. Qualifying for this election will be September 13 - 17, also between the hours of 1:00pm and 6:00pm.

2. Mayor Thomas reported that he was continuing to work on getting some answer for the problem with the storm water drains in Hickory Ridge.

3. The next item on the agenda was Ordinance Additions. Mayor Thomas asked Councilwoman Dawe if she wanted to elaborate on this item.

Councilwoman Dawe stated that the "Best Management Practices" were not laws but rather suggestions made that she would like to see if the Town would like to incorporate into ordinances that would help to better the town. Councilwoman Dawe went on to state that she would like to see a future planning session to work on this project.

Some of the items Councilwoman Dawe would like to see discussed are, protection of zone along the creek from being developed, protection of the creeks from erosion, and protection of our water supply.

New Business:

1. State Representative, Bob Smith visited our town meeting and expressed his desire to see the continuation of the "small towns". Representative Smith went on to touch on the largest bill being discussed at this time was "GRETA" which came about due to the need for air quality.

Mayor Thomas expressed his appreciation in Representative Smith being at the meeting and explained that the Town was in the process of putting a park into the town and asked for any assistance that Representative Smith could give the Town.

2. Mayor Thomas reported that representatives for the proposed Steeple Chase Subdivision had presented the Mayor with a copy of a preliminary plat, which he had copied for each Council member. Mayor Thomas reminded the Council that a rezone for the property had been approved in May. Mayor Thomas went on to note that he could already see some problems with the plat.

Councilman Carter expressed his concern about the proposed subdivision being an equestrian community. Councilman Carter felt that there would have to be definite restrictions worked into the covenants so as to protect the surrounding property owners. It was also noted a concern about the substantial wetland area on the property. Councilman Carter made a motion at this time to table discussion or approval on the preliminary plat until a representative could be present to answer questions necessary prior to a vote.

Mayor Thomas requested the Clerk to contact the representative for the proposed subdivision to make them aware that someone would need to come to an upcoming meeting to answer questions pertaining to the proposed subdivision.

3. Mayor Thomas reported that there would need to be a public hearing prior to the September meeting to discuss and approve the millage rate for 1999.

Mayor Thomas noted that property values in the town had risen by over a million dollars in the last year and he felt that the millage rate could be lowered by a half of a mill or possibly even three fourths of a mill and still maintain the budget set forth for 1999-2000.

Councilman Carter questioned whether this would still leave a reserve fund for the town, considering the upcoming projects, such as a park and water, for the town.

Mayor Thomas stated that he would be getting some figures together this next month, but he felt that the lowering of the millage rate was still a good possibility.

Mayor's Update:

1. Mayor Thomas reported that there were some rental properties in the town that were not up to proper standards. The Mayor went on to note that he would be asking the Health Department for some guidance in this matter and he wanted to move on this problem as quickly as possible.

2. Mayor Thomas reported that Paradiso Falls is continuing to charge admission, but has not obtained a Business License from the town.

There was a concern from the Council as to the protection for the public and also as to liability. Mayor Thomas asked town attorney, Patrick Beall to look into these issues and get back to him by September 1, 1999.

3. Councilwoman Dawe reported that all the landscaping that had been done at the Fire Station was looking bad due to the heat and lack of rain. Mayor Thomas stated that the Clerk could check with Bruce Thaxton to see if there was someone that could keep the area watered during this dry time.

4. Councilwoman Dawe asked if any new residents coming into the area could be reminded that the town does have a leash law. Councilwoman Dawe reported that there had been an incident where a dog had bit a resident and the dog had not had its rabies shot.

Mayor Thomas noted that he had been in touch with animal control himself during June and July due to some reports that he had received. The Mayor went on to state that if the residents involved did not report the problems, there would be nothing that the town or animal control could do to help.

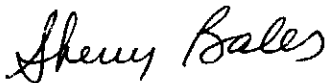
5. Councilwoman Dawe reported that Ann Pickett was continuing to work on the "right to farm" law.

Councilwoman Dawe asked that when Councilman Carter applied for grants for the town, a copy of the grant be on file in the office.

Councilwoman Dawe also proposed a meeting, with citizens of the town possibly, to look at a vision for the future of North High Shoals.

Having no further business to discuss, Councilman Carter made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Sosebee made a second to the motion. All members present were in favor of the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully;

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sherry Bales".

Sherry Bales
Clerk

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July 12, 1999

The Mayor and Council of the Town of North High Shoals welcome you to the regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council. Please sign your noame in the space provided. If you wish to address the Mayor and council concerning a specific issue on the agenda, please indicate this in the space provided. In accordance with the standard practices of this governing body, we desire to give every individual an opportunity to speak; however, in the interest of effective government, we ask that individual speakers avoid repetition of comments. The Mayor reserves the fight to establish time limits as needed.

Name and Address	Agenda Item to Address (if any)
1. BOB Smith P.O. Box 108 WATKINSVILLE, Ga. 30677	
2. Vivine Williams Once Employee - Box 535, Watkinsville	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	

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The draft copy minutes of July 12, 1999 regularly scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Town of North High Shoals are hereby officially approved as of August 9, 1999.

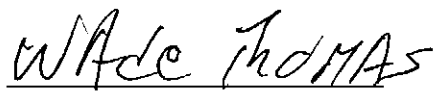
Signed:



Mayor

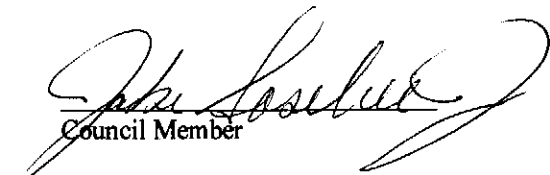


Council Member



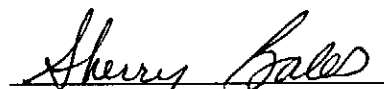
Council Member

Council Member



Council Member

Council Member



Council Secretary

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Agenda

August 9, 1999

Monthly Business:

1. Presentation of *Financial Statement* for month of July.
2. Presentation of *Draft Minutes* for the month of July.

Old Business:

1. Special Election Update
2. Storm water drains
3. Ordinance additions (Councilwoman Dawe)

New Business:

1. Steeple Chase Subdivision - Preliminary Plat (Town of North High Shoals section only)
(submitted by Beall Gonnson & Company 1551 Jennings Mill Road 706-543-0907)
2. Proposal of the Millage Rate
(for public hearing and vote during the September meeting)
3. Mayor's Update