

Town of North High Shoals

Jeff D. Thomas
Mayor

Office of the Mayor

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Draft

Minutes

January 8, 2007

Present: Councilman Wade Thomas
Councilman B.J. Ivie
Councilman Fred Johnson
Councilwoman Violet Dawe
Councilman Eddie Cape

Others Present:

Donald Dawe 300 Shadyfield Lane
Steve Holzman 349 Jefferson Rd
Sarah Donegan 202 Plantation Rd
Oconee Enterprise

Monthly Business:

1. Presentation of the financial statement for the month of December, 2006. Motion to approve: Councilman Cape; second: Councilman Johnson. All in favor.
2. Presentation of the December 06 Draft Minutes. Motion to approve with minor corrections: Councilman Cape; Second: Councilman Johnson. All in favor

Old Business:

City Park

- a. Mayor Thomas confirmed plans with the council to mulch the playground area between now and February.
- b. Mayor Thomas asked members of council to inspect the 'barn site,' if possible, during the colder days of the month to determine the work needed to preserve the structure.
- c. Councilwoman Dawe inquired as to whether the flower beds in the park would be potted this spring.
- d. Fire ant control measures were discussed.

Law Enforcement Update:

Mayor Thomas reported that Sgt. Brooks continues to patrol our city streets: performing license checks and enforcing No Thru Truck procedures in accordance with the Oconee County Sheriff's Department regulations.

Mayor Thomas also reported that he had not yet investigated the possibility of obtaining a "speed flashing sign" from the city of Monroe.

Paint Contract Bids:

Mayor Thomas presented the council with the advertisement, along with qualifications that would be used in advertising and accepting sealed bids for the painting of city hall, and inquired as to whether members of the council wished to add any qualifiers.

Bella Rosa Subdivision:

Mayor Thomas reported that no new action has been taken by the developers during the previous month.

Web Page Design:

Mayor Thomas asked the Council to approve the expenditure of \$95 for the purchase of a website. A motion was made by Councilman Johnson; seconded by Councilman Ivie and approved by a vote of four in favor and one abstention (Councilman Cape).

New Business:

Lawsuit Ruling:

Mayor Thomas informed the council of the recent favorable ruling by the Honorable Steve C. Jones, JUDGE; Superior Courts, Western Judicial Circuit concerning the lawsuit filed by Donald Dawe vs. the Town. Mayor Thomas pointed out that Judge Jones ruled in favor of the city on all points of the lawsuit. Mayor Thomas informed the council that the total cost to the city for attorney fees during the litigation process was approximately \$10,000.00 with \$9,161.64 outstanding.

Mayor Thomas noted that before he could issue a check for these expenditures he would need for the council to amend the budget and recommended that the budget be amended to show a transfer from the capital outlay account to legal fees. A motion by Councilman Cape and a second by Councilman Ivie to so amend the budget was followed by a vote of four members in favor with one abstention (Councilwoman Dawe).

Computer:

Councilman Johnson presented Mayor Thomas with a computer data disk for use in 'backing up' electronic files concerning the city and requested that a file be kept in addition to the 'hard copy' files.

Accounting Update:

Mayor Thomas stated that he has spoken with Mr. Briscoe and that Mr. Briscoe has stated his intention to be at the February meeting.

Farm Tenant Dwelling:

Councilwoman Violet Dawe requested a farm tenant dwelling for her farm located off of Hopping Road. After some discussion, including such issues as the need for a letter of agreement to remove the structure (a mobile home) if it were no longer being used as a farm tenant dwelling, clarification of what a farm tenant dwelling is verses a rental property, etc..., Councilman Johnson made a motion to allow the use of a farm tenant dwelling on the proposed site so long as it met all of the requirements of the city and county ordinances and that no additional requirements should be required. Councilman

Cape provided a second to the motion and the vote was four in favor with one abstention (Councilwoman Dawe).

Mayor's Update:

Mayor Thomas reported that the advertisement for a city representative to the Joint Comprehensive Plan Stakeholders Committee would be in the paper this month and that the council would interview applicants at next months meeting.

Mayor Thomas Asked the council to reaffirm the 2002 Short Term Work Program resolution and provided members of the council with a copy of the September 9, 2002 minutes concerning the original resolution. The resolution was reaffirmed by all members of the council.

Mayor Thomas asked the members of council to consider adopting the county's new version of the sign ordinance and indicated that it would be on the February agenda.

Council Concerns/Requests for Next Months Meeting:

Mayor Thomas entertained new items to be placed on the February agenda:

Councilman Cape asked for information concerning the procedures involved for a possible recall election. Mayor Thomas said he would have to request the information from the county election superintendent.

Councilman Cape also stated that he had received questions from citizens asking if the existence of the town was necessary and questioning the possibility of a referendum on the subject.

The meeting was adjourned: by a unanimous vote

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff D. Thomas - Mayor