

Council:
Post 1 – Steve Holzman
Post 2 – Eddie Cape
Post 3 – Vacant
Post 4 – Violet Dawe
Post 5 – Fred Johnson

Town of North High Shoals

Mayor Jeff Thomas

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Minutes

October 27, 2008 at 7:30 pm

Present: Council Members Steve Holzman, Fred Johnson, Violet Dawe, Eddie Cape, & Mayor Jeff Thomas

Others Present:

Suzanne & Mike Beall	212 Jefferson Road
Sarah & Wes Donegan	202 Plantation Road
M. Eric Eberhardt	1160 S. Milledge Ave, Athens
David & Lawrence	175 Hillsboro Road
Rich Clark	1230 Castle Dr., Watkinsville
Jason Presley	110 Frazier Hill Rd
Gayner Bracewell, Jr	711 Davis St., Monroe

Statements by the Public

1. Rich Clark is the Democratic candidate for the Oconee County Board of Education. He wanted to raise awareness about the contested seat for the BOE. He asked people to find out more about him on his web site and consider voting for him based on merit rather than party.

Agenda Setting

- Council agreed to proceed with 14 items not completed from the October 13th, 2008 meeting.

Old Business:

1. Law enforcement update
 - Discussion focused of 4-wheelers on Dickens Lane and Rays Church Rd.
2. Street improvements
 - County engineers recommended that the crosswalk on Elder Road not be replaced for liability issues.
 - Discussion of bids for Plantation and Jefferson paving. Mayor Thomas said the city is still on the County's list for repairs on Plantation; David Lawrence reported that he has checked with the county manager who says we are not on the

county list. Mayor Thomas says he will check on this. County is scrapping Dickens Lane.

- Council approved David Lawrence to paint speed bump on Hillsboro. Council Member Cape will look into the feasibility and cost of imbedding reflective triangles in the bumps on Hillsboro Road.

3. HSES

- Report from Council Member Dawe about the ceremony for the opening of the school attended by Council Members Dawe, Johnson, and Holzman. In her capacity as Mayor Pro Tem, Council Member Dawe cut the ribbon in the place of Mayor Thomas.

4. Web Site - at <http://www.northhighshoals.org/>

- Council Member Holzman reported that he has made changes to the web site: placed draft of charter, meeting rules of order, and open council seat.
- Council Member Johnson pointed out that Council Member Holzman is saving the city thousands of dollars compared to the amount that surrounding city's are spending on their web sites. Council Member Johnson was publicly thanked Council Member Holzman for providing the web site which the city could not have afforded to do without his volunteer effort.
- Motion by Council Member Johnson to allow more latitude for web master to post items to the web site in a more timely manner concerning noncontroversial items such as pictures and documents. 2nd by Council Member Dawe. Approved 4-0.
- Mayor showed advertisement for city clerk for the Oconee Enterprise and announced that it would be in that paper; suggestions were made to place it on the GMA web site and Craig's List.

5. Business License

- Discussion of city process of approving business licenses.

6. Follow-up on Advertising for Permanent City Clerk

- Covered during web site discussion.

7. Fire Department

- The Town has not heard from the NHS Fire Chief; open house on Friday.

8. Building Code Enforcement – Presley & Bracewell

- Extensive discussion on the request from the Vicki & Jason Presly and Gaynor Bracewell, Jr.

- Council Member Dawe reported that attorney Joe Reitman said that the 1969 plat did not give the owners the right to build on the lots, but the owners did have the right to ask for a rezone. Extensive discussion followed.
- Motion by Council Member Cape to approve the request for variance for acreage in an agricultural zone for 8 lots jointly owned. No 2nd
- A motion to allow a variance of the 5 ac. minimum for eight jointly owned lots, jointly owned by Victoria Presley and Gaynor Bracewell Jr., fronting Shadyfield Lane if they meet all other criteria for issuance of said building permit and the acreage is consistent with the tax parcel map. Motion by Council Member Holzman and 2nd by Council Member Cape. Approved 3-0-1(Council Member Dawe abstains)

9. Sidewalk Ordinance

- Council decided to consider this item under city code at future meetings.

10.Meeting Schedule Change

- Motion by Council Member Johnson to schedule a work session for 7:00pm to 8:30 pm on November 1, 2008 to cover 1) Town Charter, 2) City Code, 3) SPLOST, and 4) City Park. 2nd by Council Member Dawe. Approved 4-0.

11.Citizen-city council communication

- The council took no action on this item.

12.FEMA Update

- August 27, 2008 letter from Melvin Davis read by Mayor Thomas. Letter stated that the GEMA and FEMA plans approved by the county with participation by cities. New map of flood plain was provided to the city and will be posted in the Town Hall.

13.Presentation and Approval of minutes from January 2008 to May 2008

- Motion made by Council Member Johnson to approve January through May minutes as written. 2nd by Council Member Holzman. Approved 4-0.

14.Community Day

- Item was removed and placed under city park for the next meeting.

Mayor's Update:

(All requests to be on the agenda must be submitted at least 7 days before a meeting. Direct your agenda items to Council Member Steve Holzman directly or to him through the Clerk, or Mayor Thomas. Look for the agenda for the next council meeting on the town's web site 1 week before the next meeting. The next council work session will be held at 7:30 pm on Monday, November 10, 2008.)

1. Agenda Setting: audit, city park, law enforcement, street improvements, HSES, web site, business license, city clerk, fire department, building code enforcement, SPLOST, meeting agenda, town charter, resignation of mayor, city code, special election in March, and golf carts.
2. Motion to Adjourn by Council Member Cape and 2nd by Council Member Holzman. Approved 4-0.

The Mayor and Council encourage all interested persons to attend the monthly meeting of the Council.

Document Prepared by:
Council Member Fred Johnson, Post 5