

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

# Town of North High Shoals

Mayor Jeff Thomas

108 Jefferson Road  
P.O. Box 129  
High Shoals, Georgia 30645  
706-769-4289  
Cell 706-202-8995

## Minutes

**March 9, 2009 at 7:30 pm**

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

Others Present:

Mike Beall	212 Jefferson Road
Sarah & Wesley Donegan	202 Plantation Road
David Lawrence	175 Hillsboro Road
Joe Reitman	Town Attorney
Felicia Kautz	180 Plantation Rd
Wade Thomas	310 Hopping Road
Horst Klein	1150 Falcon Ridge Drive
John & Joey Westman	221 Hillsboro Road
Jason Wisnienski	219 Shadyfield Ln
Dave Evans	280 Hopping Rd
Judith Cantrell	2371 Rays Church Rd
Stan & Peggy Brown	187 Plantation Rd
Cory Tiller	115 Jefferson Rd
Blake Giles	Oconee Enterprise
Eddy Tiller	113 Jefferson Rd
John Lauth	254 Gober Rd
Scott Wilson	427 Rays Church Rd

## Regular Monthly Meeting

### Agenda Setting

- Council Members discussed reorganizing the agenda to maximize the time of the town lawyer. They decided to proceed with the agenda as set until Attorney Reitman arrives.

### Monthly Business:

#### 1. Presentation of Financial Statement for month of February 2009

- No financial statements were presented. Motion by Council Member Johnson to table the financial statement and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council Member Holzman. Approved 4-0

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## **2. Presentation of Draft Minutes for month of February 2009.**

- Motion to accept February 16 minutes with revisions by Council Member Holzman and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council Member Dawe. Approved 3-1 (Council Member Cape).

**Public Comments:** No public comments were made at this time.

## **Old Business**

### **1. Town Charter**

- Council and public discussed the charter.
- Motion by Council Member Johnson to place a mill cap of seven in the charter and allow our attorney to find the correct wording to add that cap to the present charter and to adjust the title of the charter to reflect a historical reference to our past charter. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council Member Dawe. Approved 4-0.

### **2. March Special Election - updates**

- The superintendent of elections was hospitalized at a crucial moment for the running of the March special election. A replacement superintendent could not be hired in time to meet all deadlines for running this election.
- Motion by Council Member Dawe to remove the ballot for the March special election. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council Member Holzman. Approved 4-0.
- Motion by Council Member Holzman to postpone election for Post 3 to the November election date based on the advice of Anne Hicks from the Secretary of States Office of the Division of Elections & Special Assistant Attorney General Stephan Ritter. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council Member Dawe. Approved 4-0.

### **3. Business License**

- Berry Coating, Northwestern Mutual, Baboon Science Aquatics, ETL Construction Services, Brown Tree Service
- Motion by Council Member Johnson to approve all business licenses. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council Member Cape. Approved 4-0.

### **4. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Personnel/Legal Issues**

Motion to move to executive session by Council Member Johnson for discussion of personnel. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council Member Dawe. Approved 4-0.

Motion to move to regular session by Council Member Johnson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council Member Cape. Approved 4-0.

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## **5. Hiring a Town Clerk**

- Motion by Council Member Johnson to hire Carolyn Pritchett as the new town clerk. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council Member Cape. Approved 4-0.

## **6. Hiring a Town Treasurer**

- Motion by Council Member Johnson to hire Kate George as the new town treasurer. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council Member Cape. Approved 4-0.

## **7. Town Office (update)**

- Motion by Council Member Holzman that the town clerk be provided with keys to town hall. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council Member Cape. Approved 4-0.

## **8. Town Records (update)**

- Mayor Thomas was asked if he would move all town records to the town hall. Mayor Thomas said he would move all town documents to town hall. Council Member Dawe raised a concern that legally the council requesting the town records is an open records request and this has not been done.
- Council Member Johnson asked that both the clerk and the treasurer be placed on the checks. Mayor Thomas said he would look into doing this.
- Council Member Johnson suggested an opportunity to train our clerks through GMA. GMA has offered to come to North High Shoals to offer personal training.
- Council Member Cape offered that he was given computer accessories belonging to the town which he would like give to the town.

## **9. Audit**

- Violet distributed copies of audits which Mayor Thomas had left in the Town Hall.
- The Council discussed making the documents available to the public via the web site and at the town hall.

## **10. City Park**

- Report by Park Chair Lawrence: A large number of people turned out to work. Many trees were mulched and an area near the playground was cleared. Recycle bins have been placed in the park.
- Council Member Dawe asked for invoices for work at the city park to be presented to the council. Mayor Thomas said the city has invoices.
- Council Member Cape asked for the “no parking” by the side of the road signs to be placed in the park.

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- Mayor Thomas reported that the ball field needed work and possibly more dirt on the baselines. Council Member Johnson suggested he go ahead and get more dirt.

## **11. Law Enforcement**

- Council Member Dawe had no new information to report.

## **12. Street Improvements**

- Council Member Cape reported that he has information from two contractors on installing reflectors on speed bumps and information on golf friendly communities. He will email information about the reflectors to the council.

## **13. Web Site**

- Ordinances are uploaded and the garden page is being developed.
- Council Member Dawe asked if building permit application and business license forms were on the web site. Council Member Holzman said he could post both forms if they were given to him. Mayor Thomas said he would get the new clerk to get those forms to him.

## **14. Fire Department**

- Concerns were raised about some of the training equipment behind the fire department.

## **15. Building Permit**

- Motion by Council Member Johnson to approve Mr. Coon's application for a building permit for a 12x12 screened in porch at 2141 Arborwood Court. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council Member Dawe. Approved 4-0.

## **16. New City Code**

- Council Member Johnson will get the Watkinsville City Code and give it to Council Member Holzman to see if we can make a working document out of it.
- Council Member Johnson suggested that this may be something we could look into at our next work session.

## **17. Code Enforcement**

- Council Member Dawe asked who was doing code enforcement now. Mayor Thomas said he has been doing the building permits for small projects and houses but not large ones.

## **18. Meeting Schedule Changes**

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- Council Member Johnson brought up the problems several people have with the June date for our meeting. Council Member Cape suggested that we consider moving the meeting date to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month.

## **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 meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on Monday, April 13, 2009.)*

1. Council Member Dawe reported that she received a letter from FEMA asking for a response from the town to keep the town in compliance. Mayor Thomas asked Council Member Dawe to respond.
2. Motion by Council Member Holzman to adjourn. Second by Council Member Johnson. Approved 4-0.