

Mayor –Robert M. Beall
Post 1 –Jason Wisniewski
Post 2 – Steve Holzman
Post 3 – David Lawrence
Post 4 – Stephen Arnold
Post 5 – Violet Dawe

Town of North High Shoals

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

OFFICIAL MINUTES
TOWN OF NORTH HIGH SHOALS, GEORGIA
JANUARY 16, 2012

Council Present:

Kim Kraeling Mike Beall Violet Dawe Stephen Arnold Jason Wisniewski
David Lawrence Steve Holzman

Visitors:

John MacKay Trey Downs Karl Berg

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Kraeling called the regular monthly council meeting to order and declared a quorum.

Mayor Kraeling welcomed the succeeding Mayor for 2012-2015, Mike Beall, and Mayor Beall presided over the meeting.

He presented a Proclamation of Appreciation to past Mayor Kim Kraeling.

Resolutions for next year were approved:

- 1) Code of conduct - Council Member Holzman made the motion to accept the code of conduct, provided that it matches the charter's code. Council Member Dawe made the second – unanimous vote.
- 2) Meeting schedule (third Monday of each month) - Council Member Holzman made the motion to accept and Council Member Wisniewski made the second – unanimous vote.
- 3) Reappointing Karl Berg to represent the town on the Oconee County Planning Commission - Council Member Holzman made the motion to accept, and Council Member Dawe made the second – unanimous vote.
- 4) Reappointing Joe Reitman as town attorney – Council Member Lawrence made the motion to accept and Council Member Arnold made the second – Motion passed, with Council Member Dawe casting a negative vote.
- 5) Reappointing Violet Dawe as Mayor Pro Tempore and Council Member Holzman as Presiding Officer – Council Member Arnold made the motion to accept, and Council Member Lawrence made the second – unanimous vote.
- 6) Reappointing Carolyn Pritchett as clerk and election superintendent – Council Member Dawe made the motion to accept, and Council Member Arnold made the second – unanimous vote.

Mayor Beall asked if there were any changes to the agenda or to the December, 2011 minutes. Council Member Holzman made the motion to accept the agenda. Council Member Dawe made the second and the vote was unanimous. Council Member Wisniewski made the motion to accept the minutes with minor corrections, and Council Member Lawrence made the second. The vote was unanimous.

Mayor Beall presented the financial statement and account balances. Council Member Holzman made the motion to accept the Financial Statement. Council Member Dawe made the second, and the vote was unanimous.

Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items:

Candidate for Sheriff, Trey Downs, spoke to council about his interest in serving as Oconee County Sheriff and invited everyone to a campaign kick-off.

Item 1. Georgia DOT Update

Mayor Beall shared information from the Georgia Department of Transportation regarding the resurfacing of Jefferson Road. The town previously voted to cooperate with the Georgia DOT on this project, with the DOT offering \$31,000, and the town's SPLOST fund paying the remainder. Discussion followed about the estimate from All About Asphalt, the condition of the road, stabilization of the run-off problem, ditches, repairs, etc.

Item 2. Street Update

Council Member Lawrence stated that he had attended the agenda-setting meeting of the Oconee County Board of Commissioner because the request to lower the speed limit of Hillsboro Road to 25 mph was to be listed. Council Member Lawrence stated that the subject was to be discussed at the January 3 meeting of the Oconee County Board of Commissioners. He was unable to attend that meeting, but will follow up with county officials. It appears that the Board of Commissioners will support lowering the speed limit to 25 mph (from near the Hillsboro Baptist Church to Highway 186), but that the state will also conduct a traffic study. This study will be used to determine the proper speed limit, whether or not a radar permit could be issued, etc. Discussion followed on speed calming methods for Hillsboro Road, Ray's Church Road, and New High Shoals Road, the possibility and liability of installing speed bumps, etc.

Item 3. City Park Update

Council Member Lawrence reported that there are still bulbs left to be planted at the park. Council agreed to meet on January 21 (10:00-12:00) to plant the bulbs, which will be used to raise awareness of breast cancer.

Item 4. Solar-Powered Speed Monitor

Council Member Lawrence updated Mayor and Council on his discussions with Charlie Roberson (Radar Sign Co.) about the solar-powered speed monitor. Discussion followed regarding the different designs, relocation, batteries, prices, weight, posts, installation, warranty, trailer and trailer costs, etc. After discussion, Council Member Lawrence made the motion to purchase the solar-powered speed monitor from Radar Sign. Council Member Holzman made the second. Discussion followed. The vote was unanimous.

Item 5. Code Change

Mayor Beall stated that there is an error in the code for fines for heavy commercial trucks on “no-thru truck” streets (page 141). Council Member Holzman made the motion to revise this section (Section 8-4) to reflect the same fine structure as used by Oconee County (\$500-\$1,000). Council Member Dawe made the second, and the vote was unanimous. This is the second reading, and this section of the code will be amended to reflect this change.

In this same code section, council agreed to make another correction, changing “Frazer Hill Road from Georgia Highway 186 to Georgia Highway 186” to read “Frazier Hill Road from Georgia Highway 186 to Gober Road.” Council Member Holzman made the motion to accept this change. Council Member Lawrence made the second, and the vote was unanimous to make this code correction.

Item 6. Occupation Licenses

Mayor Beall stated that a renewal application had been received from Deaton Electric. After discussion, Council Member Holzman made the motion to accept the application and issue the occupation tax certificate. Council Member Lawrence made the second, and the vote was unanimous.

Mayor Beall stated that a renewal application had been received from Tops Tree Service. This business currently has a provisional permit, as it is located in the historic residential district. Questions were asked regarding the number of large vehicles and noise, and Council Member Holzman made the motion to table this item until the next council meeting. Council Member Lawrence made the second, and the vote was unanimous.

Item 7. Historic Signs

Council Member Dawe requested that council consider installing small signs for the central part of town showing that the town is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Discussion followed. She stated that four signs would be needed to distinguish the historic district. Council Member Dawe stated that some funds for this might be available through the NHS Historic Society. Council agreed to discuss this further.

Item 8. Insurance Update

Council Member Arnold shared information about the town’s workman’s compensation and insurance through GMA (Georgia Municipal Association). He stated that the policy would need to be adjusted, adding the BBQ grill and the speed monitor, and he would take care of that.

Mayor’s Update

- 1) Mayor Beall stated that he had reviewed the Service Delivery Strategy agreement between the town and Oconee County. It is time to renew this agreement (which would set the guidelines for the next ten years), and he would like two members of council to review this 1998 agreement also. Council Members Dawe and Wisniewski volunteered to review the document.
- 2) Council discussed the situation of the house address numbers on Ray’s Church Road. Letters have been sent to those residents with the three-digit address numbers about the upcoming change to four-digit

house numbers, and Oconee County officials have been given the authority to correct these numbers, making them more uniform and sequential.

3) Mayor Beall shared a response from the Georgia Secretary of State's office to a letter sent by Mayor Kraeling regarding the hardship placed on small towns by the lengthy early voting requirement. The response basically encourages small towns to contract with the county to handle elections. Mayor Beall stated that this could be addressed in the Service Delivery Strategy discussions and agreement.

4) Mayor Beall informed council of a January 26 meeting at NE Ga. RDC.

5) Mayor Beall asked Council Member Lawrence to deliver information to the High Shoals Elementary School about a 6th grade essay contest sponsored by the Georgia Municipal Association.

There was no other business or comments for the regular council meeting, and Council Member Holzman made the motion to adjourn. Council Member Arnold made the second, and the vote to adjourn was unanimous.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carolyn Pritchett". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Carolyn Pritchett, Clerk