

*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

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FINAL MINUTES
TOWN OF NORTH HIGH SHOALS, GEORGIA
July 16, 2012

Council Present:

Mike Beall	Jason Wisniewski	
David Lawrence	Stephen Arnold	Violet Dawe

Visitors:

Jane Hutchins	Fred Johnson	Todd Parker
Heike Mueller	Horst Klein	Trey and Carla Adcock

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

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

Council Member Lawrence made the motion to accept the agenda with an order change, and Council Member Wisniewski made the second. The vote was unanimous. Council Member Wisniewski made the motion to accept the June, 2012 minutes and Council Member Lawrence made the second. The vote was approved, with Council Member Dawe abstaining.

Mayor Beall presented the financial statement and account balances. Council Member Wisniewski made the motion to accept the financial statement, and Council Member Lawrence made the second. The vote was unanimous.

Item 1. Building Permit, 274 Gober Road

Mayor Beall stated that a building permit for 274 Gober Road had been requested and that council had agreed to grant a permit to begin the foundation of the addition. The town's building inspector, Mr. Wheeler, has met with the contractor at the site. The contractor, Mr. Todd Parker, presented aerial photos of the property and explained the work that was planned. Discussion included the silt fence, the distance from the river, the 200' of drain field lines, septic system, etc. Council Member Lawrence made the motion to accept the building permit application, and Council Member Wisniewski made the second. The vote was unanimous.

Item 2. Street Update

Mayor Beall read a letter from the Georgia DOT, which stated that the Jefferson Road resurfacing work met the DOT standards. He stated that when an invoice is received, the town will pay Oconee County from the SPLOST account and the DOT grant.

Council also discussed other jobs done in the town by Oconee County, speed limits, speed tables, the town's speed monitor, future radar usage, etc.

Regarding Dickens Road, discussion included speed limit and signs for Dickens Lane, traffic volume/type, needed improvements and paving methods. The 'chip seal' type of surface would cost approximately \$30,000, but council questions its durability with traffic such as school busses and garbage vehicles. Council Member Lawrence suggested that council try to get traffic data (from Oconee County) during the second week of August after school has started, as well as data on the volume and type of traffic, the cost of maintaining the current road, and estimates for paving the road with other paving materials.

Council Member Dawe stated that Shadyfield Lane needs gravel and ditch work. It was agreed that Mayor Beall will talk with Emil Beshara, Oconee County Public Works Director, about the gravel and ditch work on Shadyfield Lane.

Mayor Beall stated that Mr. Beshara has offered to help the town with Hillsboro, if needed, with suggestions about a future possible traffic island, sidewalks on Hillsboro, etc.

Item 3. City Park Update

Council Member Lawrence stated that a baseball team would like to use the park on Sundays in August for practice and suggested a fee of \$30. Council Member Arnold made the motion to approve this, and Council Member Lawrence made the second. The vote was unanimous.

Council Member Lawrence mentioned that a work day would be needed in September and that resident John MacKay suggested a kick-ball game for residents.

Item 4. Speed Monitor

Council Member Lawrence stated that the speed monitor is working and that data had been gathered. The sign is on Hillsboro Road and will be rotated and later moved to other locations.

Item 5. Weather Warning System

Mayor Beall discussed information about a weather warning system, "Weather Call," and that a trial period has been offered. Discussion followed.

Item 6. Millage Rate

Mayor Beall shared the information that he had received from Oconee County Tax Commissioner. Council discussion included revenue, needs of the town, etc. Mayor Beall suggested retaining the current rate. After discussion on future projects and expenses, Council Member Dawe made the motion to set the milage rate at 1.491. Council Member Lawrence made the second. The motion passed, with Council Member Wisniewski casting an opposing vote.

Item 7. Audit

Mayor Beall stated that the material had been delivered to the C.P.A. firm, Hawkins and McNair of Winder. He stated that the work has been completed and that the material will be retrieved and available for council members.

Council agreed to move \$10,000 from the "Fund Balance" to the Money Market Account. Council also discussed a contribution to the Oconee County Fire Department.

Item 8. Subdivision and Zoning Regulations

Council Member Dawe stated that the subdivision and zoning regulations are outdated. She stated that council should work on bringing these up to date. She suggested that council begin with the definitions, the chart, and the sidewalk section as soon as possible.

Item 9. Work Sessions

Council agreed to set Tuesday, July 24, at 7:30 p.m. for a work session to discuss City Street Maintenance and Improvements.

Council also set Wednesday, August 1, at 7:30 p.m. for a work session to discuss zoning regulations.

Item 10. Mayor's Update

Mayor Beall stated that he had received a complaint from a citizen regarding gun shots. Mayor Beall alerted the Sheriff's Office and sent the sheriff a copy of the city's gun ordinance. He will be discussing the ordinance with Sheriff Berry.

He also stated that Post Mistress Bonnie Vaughn will be retiring soon. It was suggested that the town present a certificate naming her an 'Honorary Citizen of North High Shoals.' Council Member Wisniewski made the motion to present the certificate to Mrs. Vaughn, and Council Member Arnold made the second. The vote was unanimous.

Mayor Beall stated that there will be a dedication of a bench at the post office to life-long North High Shoals resident Mr. Herschel Lovern on July 28.

Council Member Dawe asked if there was a building permit application for a small storage building that is being built on Highway 186. Mayor Beall stated that an building permit application had been delivered to them and the building inspector has been notified.

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



Carolyn Pritchett, Clerk