

Council:
Mayor – Toby P. Bradberry
Post 1 – Eric Carlson
Post 2 – Jason Presley
Post 3 – Ann Evans
Post 4 – Paul Dotterweich
Post 5 – Violet Dawe

Town of North High Shoals

Small Town, Big Heart

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OFFICIAL MINUTES
TOWN OF NORTH HIGH SHOALS, GEORGIA
COUNCIL MEETING
March 19, 2018

Council Present: Toby P. Bradberry Eric Carlson Ann Evans
Violet Dawe Paul Dotterweich Jason Presley

Visitors: David Riddle Steven Strickland Stephen Phillips
Robert Phillips Mr. & Mrs. Jim Porter Katie Tiller

Mayor Bradberry called the meeting to order and welcomed all.

He declared a quorum and then directed council to the agenda. Council Member Dawe made the motion to accept the adjusted agenda. Council Member Evans made the second, and the vote was unanimous.

Council Member Carlson made the motion to accept the draft minutes of the called March 5 meeting. Council Member Presley made the second, and the vote was 4/1, with Council Member Dawe abstaining due to absence at the meeting. Council Member Evans made the motion to accept the draft minutes of the February 19 regular council meeting, and Council Member Dotterweich made the second. The vote to accept these minutes was unanimous.

Council Member Dawe made the motion to accept the financial statement and Council Member Carlson made the second, and the vote was unanimous.

Painting Unveiling: Council had commissioned local artist James Porter to paint the current Town Hall, and the painting was unveiled. Council and guests are appreciative of this great work of art. Mr. Porter also presented a picture of the old mill to the town.

Comments on Non-Agenda Items: Mr. Steven Strickland, Republican candidate for Georgia representative, spoke to council about his goals, education and experience, and accountability and policies in government, etc. and asked for a positive vote.

Item 1. Boy Scout Project at the Park

Mr. Stephen Phillips is seeking a park project to do for the town. He has met at the park with Council Member Dawe, and he has worked up a plan for the park nature trails. The map will include trails and the length of the trails. After discussion, Council Member Dawe made the motion to accept the project. Council Member Carlson made the second, and the vote was unanimous.

Item 2. Street Update

--Council discussed the turn onto Ray's Church Road from Hillsboro Road and the possibility of making this more defined and a three-way stop. Mayor Bradberry has been in contact with Emil Beshara (Oconee County Public Works Department) about the possibility of needed construction to better define the turn. Mr. Beshara stated that they can do the work, pending approval from the

Oconee County Board of Commissioners. Council Member Dotterweich made the motion that the town proceed with this plan, but to postpone any action regarding additional stop signs. Council Member Carlson made the second, and the vote was unanimous. Council Member Evans suggested asking the county to address any drainage problems at this intersection at the same time and council agreed to request this.

--Mayor Bradberry has received correspondence about speeding vehicles on Frazier Hill Road, and council discussed the possibility of installing speed calming humps. Council discussed using the speed humps they currently own that can be attached to the pavement or installing an asphalt one during upcoming resurfacing work. Council Member Dawe made the motion to use the pre-made speed hump on Frazier Hill Road. Council Member Evans made the second, but the vote failed 2/3 (Council Members Dawe and Evans casting the affirming votes).

--Council Member Dotterweich reported that Garrett Paving will start work on resurfacing Frazier Hill Road soon, depending upon the weather and their schedule.

Item 3. Town Hall Update

Mayor Bradberry stated that the construction bids for the new Town Hall have been received and reviewed at the March 5 called meeting and that council can now make a contractor selection. Council Member Dawe asked about specifications. After discussion, Council Member Carlson made the motion to accept the bid from Peachtree Construction. Council Member Dotterweich made the second, and the vote passed 4/0/1, with Council Member Dawe abstaining due to her absence at the called meeting. Mayor Bradberry will relay the choice to the engineer.

Mayor Bradberry told council that he has talked to Georgia Municipal Association officials and others about financing the new building, but he feels that the town has enough resources, with the SPLOST account, etc.

Item 4. Park Update

Council discussed the need for extra park visitor parking during the construction of the new Town Hall. A contact has been made with the High Shoals Elementary School. The principal is agreeable to the town's use of the school parking area during construction, pending the approval of the School Superintendent's Office. Council discussed other options, and Council Member Evans made the motion that council take steps to address the situation – to follow-up with the possible school parking availability, to temporarily cover the “no parking” signs along Hillsboro Road for park visitors, and to use Speedway Lane for visitor parking as needed (possibly making it a one-way street), once construction begins. Council Member Presley made the second, and the vote was unanimous.

Council was updated about reservations for the park, including the April 1 Community Easter Egg Hunt, hosted by the Christian Church.

Item 5. Current Town Hall

Council Member Dotterweich will contact the company, Campbell Gutter Co, and manage the project of gutter installation on the current building.

Council discussed ordering a sign for the front of Town Hall. No action was taken.

Item 6. Hard Labor Creek Reservoir

Council Members Dawe and Dotterweich attended a meeting concerning the water withdrawals from the Apalachee River for the Hard Labor Creek Reservoir. It was reported that about 75 people attended the meeting that was hosted by the Apalachee Point neighborhood. Concerns were expressed for the river, the intake facility, the lack of information/correspondence, the likely withdrawals during drought, the effect on neighborhoods, fish and animals, the letter received by them from the Army Corps of Engineers, and the possible rezone/purchase/use of 206 acres by the Walton County Water and Sewer Commission. Council Member Dawe spoke of the insecurities of the homeowners and others, as well as the expense of the project, mentioning the granite in the area, and Council Member Dotterweich suggested inviting Mr. Jimmy Parker (from Precision Planning) to a public meeting to address the concerns.

Council Member Dawe mentioned a meeting at the Oconee County Library regarding growth in Oconee County, and Mayor Bradberry will check with the Comprehensive Plan for more information about development.

Item 7. Bridge Update

Because the bridge over the Apalachee River at High Shoals is the gateway into the town (and actually Oconee County, Walton County and Barrow County), it is hoped that the design can be more attractive than a regular concrete bridge. Mayor Bradberry stated that he had completed a survey about the bridge and gathered some information about possible detours, etc.

Item 8. Budget Reallocation

Council discussed the fy2018 budget and the need to reallocate from one line item to another due to the expense of the holiday lights. It was agreed to wait until closer to the end of the fiscal year.

Mayor's Update

- Council was reminded about the personal financial disclosure statements.
- Council was reminded that the public discussion for the fy 2019 budget will be at the April meeting.

There was no other business, and Council Member Dotterweich made the motion to adjourn, and Council Member Evans made the second. The vote was unanimous.

Carolyn Pritchett, Clerk