

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
January 21, 2019

<u>Council Present:</u>	Toby P. Bradberry	Ann Evans	Violet Dawe
	Jason Presley	Paul Dotterweich	Eric Carlson
Visitor:	Lee Moody	Jack Rice	Erin Duke
	Tommy Duke	Amy Lanclos	Terry Reagin
	Hillary Thompson	Amy Barber	

Mayor Bradberry declared a quorum and began the regular meeting. Council Member Dawe made the motion to adjust the agenda, allowing visitors to be heard first. Council Member Evans made the second. The motion passed unanimously. Council Member Dotterweich made the motion to accept the adjusted agenda and Council Member Carlson made the second. The vote was unanimous. Council Member Dotterweich made the motion to accept the December meeting minutes, and Council Member Evans made the second. The motion passed 4/1, with Council Member Dawe abstaining due to absence. Council Member Evans made the motion to accept the financial statement, and Council Member Dawe made the second. The motion passed unanimously.

Non-Agenda Citizen Remarks

- Ms. Hillary Thompson spoke to council and offered to install landscaping materials at the new Town Hall. Discussion followed regarding budget, plant theme, etc.
- Mr. Tommy Duke requested council approval for a variance on lot size for 285 Hillsboro Road. He distributed a plat of his property, including part of the adjoining property, and told council that he wished to purchase a strip of adjoining property to make his property line straighter. The purchase would mean that the neighbor's lot would be reduced to .7 acres and Mr. Duke's property would increase to 1.3 acres. Since this acreage does not meet the zoning ordinance, Council Member Dawe stated that the attorney should be contacted, so as not to set a precedent. The variance would require a sign to be posted in advance of the public hearings. She stated that the request is reasonable, but proper channels should be followed. Discussion followed.
- Mr. Terry Reagin (Reagin's Pest Control) talked to council about termite control for the new Town Hall building and explained the different methods of treatment. He stated that this should be done soon after landscaping work is complete. He has a retreatment policy but not a building repair policy. Discussion followed.

Item 1. Town Hall Update

- Project Manager Lee Moody told council that the builder misunderstood the plan about tree removal, but also stated that the plan was vague. The cost for tree removal is \$700.
- Council discussed the staking, grading, and possible expansion of the parking area.

- Council discussed bathroom fixture installation, the quartz countertop installation, etc.
- Council discussed the technical plans for the new building. Council Member Presley described what is planned for the new town hall insofar as computer needs, cameras, door locks, etc., and he shared several comments regarding the short-term and long-term pros and cons of contracting with a local company. He suggested that council move slowly, see what is needed, and then determine then if any kind of contract is needed.
- Council also discussed a digital sign for town hall, estimated at \$20,000.
- A proposed open house event for the new Town Hall was also mentioned.

Item 2. Street Update

Mayor Bradberry has been in touch with Oconee County regarding changing the intersection of Ray's Church Road. It appears that the town's desire to make this intersection more sharp in order to slow traffic will be possible.

He also said that the town had hired Curbside for leave removal in the ditches to help with drainage issues, but the company has not done this yet because of the rain.

Council discussed the erosion of the ditch across the street from the old town hall. A county engineer will be contacted for suggestions.

Council also discussed adding trash pickup for city residents.

Item 3. Park Update

-Mayor Bradberry stated that resident David Lawrence and some students from High Shoals Elementary School might be working on the existing benches at the park.

-Mayor Bradberry stated that the city might need to find someone to do regular maintenance on the ball field. Council Member Evans volunteered to research this proposal.

-Council Member Evans volunteered to add preservative to the outdoor classroom benches.

Item 4. LMIG Fund

Mayor Bradberry stated that the LMIG check had been deposited. This check from the Ga. DOT was intended to install an "island" on Hillsboro Road, but it seems that the project may be more complicated than originally thought. Discussion followed.

Item 5. Bridge & River Update

Mayor Bradberry stated that the Georgia DOT meeting about the bridge provided a lot of information about the two options. One option will be to remove the bridge in sections and to build a new bridge in its current location, which would result in road closure for approximately 15 months. The other option is to build a new bridge adjacent to the current one. Council discussed the possibility of leaving the current bridge for citizen use and enjoyment, river pollution from dismantling the bridge, etc.

Mr. Jack Rice and Amy Lanclos joined in the discussion and updated council on what their Greater Apalachee River Community (GARC) has been doing for the town regarding the bridge.

Council expressed appreciation for their efforts. Mayor Bradberry informed council about the DOT public information meeting on March 7.

Mr. Rice and Ms. Lanclos also updated council about the Hard Labor Creek Reservoir and the agencies, data, regulations, permits and plans involved, and the planned intake facility. They also talked about the amount of water that might be taken, the studies that have been done, and the current flow. They discussed important information and the ambiguity of the permit, and stated that they intended to work toward making the permit terms more specific and easier to regulate. They updated council on the contacts and the efforts of GARC toward the protection and preservation of this natural resource, water conservation and future water needs.

Item 6. Appointments for 2019

*Council Member Dotterweich made the motion to appoint Carolyn Pritchett as City Clerk/Treasurer and Qualifying Clerk. Council Member Presley made the second, and the vote was unanimous.

*Council Member Evans made the motion to appoint Joe Reitman as the town's attorney. Council Member Carlson made the second, and the vote was unanimous.

*Council Member Evans made the motion to appoint Morgan Wheeler as the town's Building Inspector. Council Member Dotterweich made the second, and the vote was unanimous.

*Mayor Pro Tem and Presiding Officer. Council Member Dotterweich made the motion to appoint Council Member Evans to the post of Mayor Pro Tem. Council Member Presley made the second and the vote was unanimous. Council Member Presely made the motion to appoint Council Member Dotterweich to the position of Presiding Officer, and Council Member Evans made the second. The vote was unanimous.

*Council Member Evans made the motion to accept the Code of Conduct and the Meeting Schedule. Council Member Carlson made the second, and the vote passed unanimously.

*Council Member Evans made the motion to appoint Steve Strickland to the Planning Commission. Council Member Carlson made the second, and the motion passed 4/1, with Council Member Dawe abstaining.

Item 7. Election for 2019

Council discussed the election in 2019 for Mayor and for Posts 1 and 2. Council member Dawe made the motion to set the qualifying fee for \$25, and Council Member Evans made the second. The vote was unanimous.

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

Carolyn Pritchett, Clerk

