

Town of North High Shoals

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

Mayor – Kim Kraeling
Post 1 – Jason Wisniewski
Post 2 – Steve Holzman
Post 3 – David Lawrence
Post 4 – Stephen Arnold
Post 5 – Violet Dawe

OFFICIAL MINUTES TOWN OF NORTH HIGH SHOALS, GEORGIA AUGUST 15, 2011

Council Present:

Kim Kraeling	Violet Dawe	Steve Holzman
Jason Wisniewski	David Lawrence	

Visitors:

Suzanne Beall	John Mackay	Fred Johnson
---------------	-------------	--------------

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

Mayor Kraeling asked if there were any changes to the agenda or to the July, 2011 minutes. Council Member Holzman made the motion to accept the minutes, and Council Member Lawrence made the second. The vote was unanimous.

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

Old Business:

Item 1 – Street Update.

Council agreed to hold a public meeting on October 24 at 7:00 p.m. at the High Shoals Elementary School to discuss needed street improvements using SPLOST funds, as well as gather ideas about a new Town Hall and other needed projects.

Council Member Lawrence updated council on the speed monitor placed on Hillsboro Road by the Sheriff's Office and about the speeding traffic.

He stated that he and Mike Beall had installed three "no thru trucks" signs and that another might be needed on Snows Mill Road. Mrs. Suzanne Beall told council about problems of large trucks trying to go down the narrow city streets. She has contacted the Department of Transportation about the 18 wheel trucks. During this discussion, Council Member Holzman read the ordinance prohibiting this type of traffic on the city streets. Council Members Holzman and Lawrence will ask county employees about noting this restriction on their maps, and see how the county has these roads listed (city or county). Mrs. Beall will check with the Sheriff's Office for advice.

Council Member Holzman mentioned the early morning routes of garbage trucks, and he will check on the noise ordinance to see if it applies and contact the garbage company about a possible later neighborhood pick-up time.

Item 2. City Park Update.

Council Member Lawrence stated that more rope was needed for the flag pole and asked for help installing it. He purchased sand for the park's play area, and asked council's permission to purchase a grill and charcoal waste barrel (not to exceed \$400). Council Member Lawrence made a motion to approve this purchase, and Council Member Dawe made the second. The vote was unanimous.

Council discussed ordering flower bulbs for the park with the \$100 from the Watkinsville Garden Club, and council agreed. Council Member Dawe will place the order.

Council Member Holzman suggested placing a barn owl box at the end of the park, and council agreed. Council Member Dawe asked if the town would want to partner with the Garden Club on a bluebird trail project. Council Member Holzman mentioned that some towns are installing structures for chimney sweeps in parks.

Council Member Holzman stated that a donation of trees for the park has been offered, but that a master plan should be drawn up of the park before planting trees.

Council discussed naming the town a Bird Sanctuary as well as a Tree City. Council Member Holzman will write a short paragraph about these ideas for the website.

Council Member Dawe told council that the park's walkway will need to be repaired, and that perhaps SPLOST funds can be used for this work.

Item 3. DOT Update

Mayor Kraeling told council that she had talked with Mr. Robby Oliver of the Georgia Department of Transportation regarding road improvement funds. The project has been changed from Gober Road to Jefferson Road. The town was awarded \$10,000 in road improvement funds. These funds can be rolled over for two years. Council agreed to do this, as it is possible to receive other grant monies over the next two years. At the end of the three-year period, council hopes to have enough in LMIG funds and other revenue to resurface a city street.

Item 4. Annexation Request

Citizens John Mackay and Lorena de Santa have submitted a letter of interest and an official petition to council regarding their property located at 1130 Lexington Court. A portion of the property is in the city limits, and they would like the council to annex in the remainder of the property. Council agreed, and Mayor Kraeling thanked Mr. Mackay for his interest in the town. The Mayor will call the town's attorney to determine the next step.

Item 5. Abandoned Structures

Mayor Kraeling stated that council is working on bringing two abandoned structures into compliance. She stated that the property on Hillsboro Road may soon be sold, and that the potential buyer is aware of the need to demolish the structure quickly. She has also sent a letter to another property owner, and will involve Mr. Hegge (the town's code enforcement officer) in this situation.

Mayor Kraeling asked Council Member Holzman to work with Building Code Official Morgan Wheeler and Code Enforcement Official Robert Hegge in determining the city's responsibility regarding the old barn at the city park.

Item 6. Post Office Concerns

Mr. John Mackay expressed his concern about the post office. To help bring revenue to the post office, he and others had rented extra mail receptacles. Discussion about the possible future of the post office and suggestions for increasing revenue followed.

Item 7. New Signs

Council discussed any needed signs, and will do an inventory. Two that will be ordered soon are reflective road signs (Jefferson Road and Shadyfield Lane). Council also discussed "road narrows" and "residential zone" sign ideas.

Item 8. Election.

Qualifying dates for the November, 2011 general election were discussed (for Mayor, Post 1 and Post 2). The dates are August 29, 30, and 31.

Item 9. Millage Rate

After discussion, Council Member Holzman made the motion to set the millage rate at 1.365. Council Member Dawe made the second, and the vote was unanimous.

Item 10. E911 Ordinance

Mayor Kraelling stated that public hearings on the E911 ordinance will be held in conjunction with the September 19 and October 27 council meetings.

There was no other business or comments, and Council Member Holzman made the motion to adjourn. Council Member Wisniewski made the second, and the vote as unanimous.



Carolyn Pritchett, Clerk