

Council:

Post 1 – vacant

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

February 1, 2010– 7:00 p.m.

**Special Called Meeting to discuss and vote on insurance coverage for the
Town of North High Shoals, Georgia**

Council Present: Interim Mayor Violet Dawe, Council Members Steve Holzman, David Lawrence, and Stephen Arnold, and Clerk Carolyn Pritchett

Others Present: Mike Beall, Horst Klein, John and Josephine Westman, and Sarah Donegan (arriving at end of meeting)

Special Called Meeting

Interim Mayor Dawe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on February 1, 2010 for the purpose of discussing, comparing and securing insurance coverage for the Town of North High Shoals, Georgia.

Interim Mayor Dawe brought the council up to date regarding the need to secure insurance coverage before the current insurance contract expires. She stated that Council Member Stephen Arnold had worked to compare the three insurance agencies introduced at the last council meeting.

Rick Waller, Sarah Donegan, and Pam Helton had presented the information to council on January 25, 2010 regarding their respective companies, and Council Member Arnold had worked with them to secure the pertinent information for council. He also contacted persons in Madison and Lavonia, Georgia about their experiences with GIRMA municipal insurance, through GMA.

Council and interested citizens received a copy of the matrix that had been prepared by Council Member Arnold which compared the benefits and premium prices of the three companies. Council Member Holzman made the motion to secure the necessary insurance coverage for the town through GIRMA. Council Member Arnold made the second. Discussion followed regarding rates, coverage, minimum premium amounts, coverage of the park structures, the old fire station, and other structures, etc.

Discussion also included the statement that GIRMA would eliminate deductibles and they included items that were excluded on the other policies, such as the flood insurance, automobile coverage, etc. The council studied the table and discussed aggregate amounts, equipment coverage, etc., as well as coverage for employee dishonesty and other comparable items.

It was also brought up that GIRMA offers dividends back to members. GIRMA also offers information and classes on safety to help towns to reduce claim possibilities. If a town citizen or council member completes the GIRMA safety training, the town is eligible for a grant that can be used to purchase safety equipment. GIRMA also offers limited free legal advice to municipal members.

After discussion, Interim Mayor Violet called for the vote, and the motion passed unanimously to accept the coverage from GIRMA.

Council Member Arnold also addressed council on the question of Workman's Compensation. He stated that this could also be purchased through GIRMA. Council Member Arnold distributed an email message from GIRMA regarding Workman's Compensation and stated that GMA has a Risk Management Service available to the town. Discussion followed regarding the coverage and the cost of Workman's Compensation (\$750) for the two part-time employees and elected officials. Council Member Arnold will call to see if volunteers are also covered.

After discussion and comparison, Council Member Arnold made the motion that the town accept the recommendation to carry Workman's Compensation Insurance for the two part-time employees and elected officials and possibly volunteers. Interim Mayor Violet Dawe stated that council would need to vote on this GIRMA resolution for this coverage. Council Member Lawrence then made the second, and the motion passed unanimously.

There was no other discussion on insurance and workman's compensation, and Council Member Holzman made the motion to adjourn. Council Member Lawrence made the second, and the vote was unanimous.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carolyn Pritchett".

Carolyn Pritchett, clerk