

Mayor –Robert M. Beall
Post 1 –Jason Wisniewski
Post 2 – Steve Holzman
Post 3 – Ann Evans
Post 4 – Paul Dotterweich
Post 5 – Violet Dawe

Town of North High Shoals

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OFFICIAL MINUTES
TOWN OF NORTH HIGH SHOALS, GEORGIA
COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 21, 2015

<u>Council Present:</u>	Paul Dotterweich Ann Evans	Steve Holzman Violet Dawe	Jason Wisniewski Mike Beall
<u>Visitors:</u>	David Riddle Earl Lively	Eddy Tiller Jason Presley	Chris Richardson Blake Giles

Mayor Beall called the meeting to order, declared a quorum, and presented the agenda. Council Member Holzman made the motion to move the Town Hall discussion to the top of Old Business and then to accept the agenda. Council Member Wisniewski made the second. The vote was unanimous. Council Member Wisniewski made the motion to accept the August council meeting minutes, and Council Member Dotterweich made the second. The vote was unanimous. Council Member Wisniewski made the motion to accept the minutes of the August 31 called council meeting, and Council Member Evans made the second. The vote was unanimous. Council Member Holzman made the motion to accept the financial statement, and Council Member Wisniewski made the second. The vote was unanimous.

Mayor Beall stated that the scheduled public discussion regarding the Apalachee River and the Hard Labor Creek Reservoir would be postponed due to illness of the speaker.

Citizen Comments on Non Agenda Items

Mr. Chris Richardson (2320 Elder Road) addressed council about concerns regarding a land parcel that borders his residential property. Since real estate agents have shown interest, the neighboring property owners are concerned about the possibility of subdividing, disturbance of the creek/watershed and other issues. Mayor Beall stated that he had been contacted and had answered questions, but that no official request had been submitted. Discussion followed regarding regulations, permits, the platted easement, rezone procedures, etc. Mayor Beall discussed current zoning, and stated that three lots (minimum of five acres each) would be possible using a private road. He also stated that the town's building inspector, as well as EPD, would probably be involved in any kind of discussion regarding water issues.

Item 1. Town Hall Discussion

The council discussed the latest idea for the new Town Hall. Discussion followed. Topics discussed included square footage (2320 sq. feet heated; 3681' total), hvac systems, future needs, plan layout, prices, porches, doors/windows, roof design, cost and inflation, etc. Council members, except for Council Member Dawe, expressed general approval. Council Member Dotterweich suggested that council discuss cost estimates with a qualified contractor before proceeding with a vote on the layout.

Council agreed that Mr. Riddle will present a more detailed plan next month (with elevations, roof plan, etc.) and that Council Member Dotterweich will discuss the possibilities and cost estimates with contractors.

Item 2. Election Update

Mayor Beall updated council about the recent qualifying period for posts 1 and 2, and he stated that no one had qualified for Mayor. He stated that qualifying will be held in January for the March 1 special election. He read the Cancellation of Election notice that was sent to the newspaper and posted on the bulletin board. He stated that Eric Carlson had qualified for Post 1 and Jason Presley had qualified to fill Post 2. The swearing in ceremony will be conducted either in December or January. He stated that, according to the charter, the mayor will remain in office until resignation or until a successor has been sworn in. He also stated that council will elect from among themselves a Mayor Pro Tem in January, who will also be ready to serve as Mayor when needed.

Item 3. Street Update

Council Member Jason Wisniewski stated that he knows of another small town that might be interested in purchasing the used rubberized speed humps from North High Shoals. These devices were once on Hillsboro Road but were removed and asphalt speed humps were installed. Discussion followed. Council agreed that continued negotiations would be in order.

Council discussed hiring a paving contractor to 'crack seal' the roads for longevity. The small town roads will be evaluated, as well as the subdivision streets.

Item 4. Park Update

Council Member Dotterweich and Council-Elect Jason Presley repaired the basketball backboard.

Council Member Evans stated that she had received estimates from the Georgia Bark Company in Nicholson for the amount of bark mulch needed for the park's play area, as well as cost estimates for it. Council discussed using mulch around the fit trail, as well. Council Member Evans stated that a raised barrier around the playground might be good to retain the mulch, and discussion followed. Council Member Evans will check on a barrier for the play area, as well as a price for installation before the mulch is ordered.

Council discussed the outdoor classroom that will be installed by the Boy Scouts, as well as a community work day at the park, scheduled for October 10.

Item 5. Non-Domestic Animals in Residential Districts

Mayor Beall stated that Code Enforcement Officer Robert Hegge is willing to help the town address the situation of non-domestic animals in residential districts. The town's current code is vague and might need restructuring into an Urban Ag. Code. Mr. Hegge told council that this is handled in Watkinsville thru a Nuisance Ordinance that can address animal noise, odor, population, etc. Discussion followed regarding zoning, non-domestic animals, nuisance issues, etc. Mayor Beall stated that, thanks to Mr. Hegge and Mrs. Dotterweich, the zoning ordinance and subdivision ordinance are in document format, and required corrections have been found. A Nuisance Ordinance can be incorporated, if council desires. Council agreed to direct Mr. Hegge to continue his work in this area for the town.

Mayor's Update

Mayor Beall stated that the Watkinsville Christmas Parade is being planned.

Mayor Beall stated that council should study worthy LMIG projects. Council Member Evans asked if these funds could be used for the crack-sealing, and Mayor Beall expressed concern about the time line, since crack-sealing might need to be accomplished prior to Imig funding approval.

Mayor Beall stated that the town's representative to the NE Georgia Regional Commission is Amrey Harden.

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 was unanimous.



Carolyn Pritchett, Clerk