Town of Robbinsville Regular Meeting Minutes October 3, 2018

A regular Town of Robbinsville Meeting was called to order by Mayor Steve Hooper at 1:05 PM at the Town Hall on October 3, 2018.

Council present: Brian Johnson, Debbie Beasley, and Shaun Adams

Others present: Ellen Davis, Town Attorney; Sonya Webster, Shari Birchfield, Carrie Stewart

Brian Johnson made a motion to approve the agenda for this meeting. Debbie Beasley seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.

Shaun Adams asked that the wording of the minutes from the Board meeting on September 5th be changed prior to approval. The correction will state: "Carrie Stewart stated that Mason Adams has been working at the Sewer Plant to get his forty hours. Shaun Adams asked if Mason Adams could work with the maintenance department, instead of the Sewer Plant." The Town Clerk will make the correction and bring the minutes to the next Board Meeting for approval.

Old Business:

Darrell & Kyle Colvin did not attend the meeting. Mayor Steve Hooper stated that Terry James Surveying had not called back. He contacted Moore Surveying from Andrews. They will do the surveying needed to resolve the Colvin water issue.

Mayor Steve Hooper discussed the single meter letters that need to be sent to property owners. He stated that the property owner's paid for meters when the water was originally turned on, and that it would be unfair to require them to pay for a second meter fee. The Town was aware that the meters were shared at the time of installation. The Board decided that the property owner will only be responsible for the plumbing cost up to the new meter. The Town will pay for the meter fee. The water service will be disconnected if the property owner does not comply by this new single meter requirement by September 5th, 2019.

Brian Johnson made a motion to give Chadd Carpenter a \$2.00 raise effective 10/10/18 paycheck, for past certificates received; which have been given to other employees. The Board wanted to treat all the employees equally. The Board stated that there will be no more raises from this point on that were promised by the previous Board. All raises will be approved by the current Board. Debbie Beasley seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.

Mayor Steve Hooper told the Board that the Water Plant has been thoroughly cleaned, including pressure washing. He explained that they have a snake issue and a sink needs to be replaced. The Finance Director explained that the funds are available for these issues. Debbie Beasley said that since the amount is in the budget they need to take care of these issues.

New Business:

Brian Johnson made a motion to open public comment. Debbie Beasley seconded the motion. Vote unanimous. No public comment. Shaun Adams made a motion to close public comment. Brian Johnson seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.

Becky Garland was not able to make it to the meeting to discuss the county septic receiving station, and asked to be put on the agenda for the next meeting. Mayor Steve Hooper stated that it would not be in the best interest of the Town to take on the county's septic receiving station. Instead, he recommends that the Town connect another sewer connection from the receiving station to the Town's man hole.

Moonshiner's Steakhouse manager, Blake Orr was not able to attend the meeting. Brian Johnson explained that Moonshiner's Steakhouse would like to be included in the bidding process if we plan any holiday employee dinners.

Debbie Beasley made a motion to purchase new Christmas lights from Christmas Done Bright for \$8,925. The Finance Director explained that this would require a Budget Amendment, but there are funds available in the line item for Council health insurance since the Town will not be purchasing Council health insurance this year. Brian Johnson seconded the motion. Vote unanimous. The Finance Director will bring a budget amendment to the next meeting.

Brian Johnson made a motion to spend up to \$300 on candy for the Fall Festival held at the High School October 27, 2018. Debbie Beasley seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.

Brian Johnson made a motion to spend the amount budgeted for the Hometown Holiday and Christmas Parade. Shaun Adams wanted to change the title to Hometown Christmas and Christmas Parade. Brian Johnson explained that we would need to order new banners stating the new name. Shaun Adams did not want to spend the money on the new banners. Debbie Beasley seconded the motion to spend the budgeted amount for the Hometown Holiday and Christmas Parade. Motion carried 2-1.

Debbie Beasley made a motion to rent a ditch witch for 2 days for the maintenance department for necessary projects. Shaun Adams said that we should just use the Town's backhoe even though it would cost more in man hours than the \$120 daily rental fee. Brian Johnson seconded the motion to rent a ditch witch. Motion passed 2-1.

The Finance Director presented the current Budget vs Actual Finance report to the Board. The Finance Director updated the Board on the County collections. Since the County has taken over the Town's tax collections in April, 2018 they have collected \$122,551, which includes \$36,634 for 2015-2017 tax years.

The Finance Director requested that we no longer do in-house drug testing for new hire and worker's comp injuries. It cost the Town the same price (\$38.50) to send the drug testing out or to have the testing done at the Tallulah Clinic. Brian Johnson made a motion to send any drug testing to the Tallulah Clinic. Debbie Beasley seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.

Brian Johnson made a motion to send the Finance Director to the Notary Public school. Debbie Beasley seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.

The Finance Director presented to the Board the Resolution to participate in the NC Local Government Debt Setoff Program. This is a free collections program offered by the State for past due collections of tax and utilities revenue. Brian Johnson made a motion to adopt the resolution. Shaun Adams said that he is against the Town participating with this free service to collect past due revenue for the Town. Debbie Beasley seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-1.

Brian Johnson made a motion to take the 20 year loan of \$162,500 at 0% interest from the LGC for the Tallulah Creek Water Plant Grant match. The Finance Director explained that if we invest the money in the Capital Management Government Fund, the investment will generate an estimated \$39,500 income during the 20 year span after paying the annual payment back to the LCG. Shaun Adams said that he is against any Capital Management Funds. Debbie Beasley seconded the motion to adopt the resolution. The motion passed 2-1. The loan amount will be put in a separate Capital Management account in order to track the investment.

The Finance Director updated the Board on the Sales Tax Refunds that she filed the previous month. The \$28,716 Sales Tax Refund checks have been received.

Mayor Steve Hooper told the Board that the Town received \$8,276.46 in Powell Bill Fund revenue. The North Carolina Department of Transportation notified the Town that our municipality is one of 508 in North Carolina that qualifies for a portion of the 2018 State Aid to Municipalities Highway Fund (Powell Bill Fund).

Brian Johnson stated that the Town has received a \$5,119.62 refund from the North Carolina Department of Transportation Atoha Street resurfacing project.

Brian Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:40 PM. Debbie Beasley seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.

Steve Hooper, Mayor

Debbie Beasley, Council Member

Brian Johnson, Council Member

Shaun Adams, Council Member

AŢTEST:

Sonya Webster, Clerk to the Board