

**Town of Robbinsville  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
December 4, 2019  
Town Hall  
4 Court Street, Robbinsville, NC 28771**

A regular Town of Robbinsville meeting was called to order by Mayor Steve Hooper at 1:00 pm at the Town Hall on December 4, 2019.

Council present: Brian Johnson, Debbie Beasley, Shaun Adams

Others present: Anne Hager, Prosperity Committee; Carrie Stewart, Water Plant ORC; Kevin Hensley, Graham Star; Jim Hager, Prosperity Committee; Roger Carlton, Prosperity Committee; John Colwell, REVVED UP; Chadd Carpenter, Maintenance Supervisor; Karen Taylor, RTA Tourism Director; Michele Shiplet, GREAT

**Approval of meeting minutes:**

November 6, 2019 meeting minutes: Brian Johnson motioned to approve the November 6, 2019 meeting minutes. Debbie Beasley seconded. Shaun Adams voted against due to wanting it noted in the discussion of repairing the Town's Ford Explorer, that he was opposed to Mayor Steve Hooper driving the Ford Explorer. Brian Johnson motioned to approve the November 6, 2019 meeting minutes pending the change. Debbie Beasley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of agenda:**

Debbie Beasley motioned to approve the agenda. Brian Johnson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Old Business:**

**Ford Street drainage repair – Roma Gail Collins:**

Roma Gail Collins had requested to be on the agenda to discuss the drainage repair at her property on Ford Street but did not attend the meeting. The Board discussed the project with Maintenance Supervisor Chadd Carpenter. Chadd informed the Board that two lines of pipe are still needed, have hauled four loads of dirt but will have to haul more and the pipe already installed is flowing good. Debbie Beasley asked Chadd Carpenter if this will correct all the problems the Collin's had addressed to us and if we would be done with it. Chadd stated once the other two lines of pipe are installed, dirt hauled in and dressing up the area, it would be done. Chadd stated that there will be some groundwater but nothing like it was and we are working on it as we can.

**Schedule work session:**

Consolidated Pipe & Supply had requested at the November 6<sup>th</sup> meeting to return for a meter demonstration. Brian Johnson motioned to schedule a work session December 19, 2019 at 1:00 pm. Debbie Beasley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Zenner Pilot System agreement:**

Brian Johnson motioned to keep on the table till next month. Debbie Beasley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Update: Headworks building removal**

The Board discussed the old Headworks building removal was completed.

**Update: Automated alert system**

The Board discussed options available for an automated alert system. Shaun Adams motioned to table until Brian Johnson had received the other information he had requested. Brian Johnson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Appreciation pay:**

Shaun Adams asked Town Attorney Ellen Davis if she had researched this due to his concerns with the NC Constitution, State Auditors and the legality. Ellen Davis stated that bonuses are fine as long as taxes are paid. Finance Director Sonya Webster was asked to enter the meeting to discuss the monetary amount. Brian Johnson made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #5, Option 2 for a \$550 appreciation pay for all employees, which will be paid on December 11, 2019. Debbie Beasley seconded the motion. Shaun Adams voted against. Motion passed 2-1.

**New Business:**

**Public comment:**

Brian Johnson motioned to open public comment at 1:22 pm. Debbie Beasley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

With no public comment, Brian Johnson motioned to close public comment at 1:23 pm. Debbie Beasley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**VFW building mural:**

Debbie Beasley motioned for the beautification of the Town and not to lose grant proceeds on the mural, the mural at the VFW building must stay intact regardless of the lessee. Brian Johnson seconded. Shaun Adams opposed. Motion passed 2-1.

**VFW building lease agreement:**

The Church Mouse had requested to be released from the long term lease agreement of the VFW building and Michele Shiplet of GREAT, had informed the Board of GREAT's interest in leasing it, at the November 6, 2019 meeting. Brian Johnson motioned to lease the VFW building to GREAT. Debbie Beasley seconded. Shaun Adams opposed. Motion passed 2-1. Town Attorney Ellen Davis will start the leasing procedures.

**Update: VFW happenings:**

Michele Shiplet with GREAT, discussed if the lease goes thru for GREAT on the old VFW building that Angie Knight with Graham County Schools is interested in implementing with GREAT, an authentic work environment for children with or without disabilities.

**Potential lease of old Town Hall building:**

After discussion, Town attorney Ellen Davis suggested for the Board to speak with potential lessee, Amber Benton, directly and then proceed with the lease at the February meeting. The Board decided to ask Amber Benton to attend the work session on December 19, 2019.

**Sewer manhole/Collins Trailer Park:**

After discussion with Maintenance Supervisor Chadd Carpenter, the Board decided it would not be feasible to raise the sewer manhole located in Collins Trailer Park.

**Christmas Eve work schedule:**

Brian Johnson motioned to approve all day off with pay on December 24, 2019 for Town employees. Debbie Beasley seconded. Shaun Adams opposed. Motion passed 2-1.

**January meeting date:**

Due to the January 1<sup>st</sup> regular meeting being on a holiday, Shaun Adams motioned to change the meeting date to the following Wednesday, January 8, 2019. Debbie Beasley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Prosperity Resolution:**

Brian Johnson stated that due to the agenda wording for this resolution not being specific, we will act on this at the January 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Finance update – Finance Director Sonya Webster**

The Finance Director presented the October 31st, 2019 Budget vs Actual report to the Board.

Brian Johnson made a motion to pay the McGill invoices (\$10,064) regarding Tallulah Creek Water Plant issue initial legal negotiations from the Water & Sewer Fund Balance. Debbie Beasley seconded the motion. Shaun Adams voted against. Motion passed 2-1. The Finance Director will bring the required Budget Amendment to the January 8, 2019 Board meeting.

The Finance Director presented the Request for Proposal (RFP) for Audit Services and a list of seven possible Auditors. The Board agreed that the Finance Director should mail an RFP to all seven Auditors.

The Finance Director suggested that the Town start using an online payment service for the Utility Billing customers. She explained that many customers have asked if they can pay their bill online. The Board asked the Finance Director to start the process for an online payment system since there will be no cost for the Town.

**Closed session:**

Debbie Beasley motioned to go into closed session at 2:10 pm in reference to statute GS143-318.11(c),(a)3,6 Brian Johnson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Brian Johnson motioned to come out of closed session at 3:00 pm. Debbie Beasley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

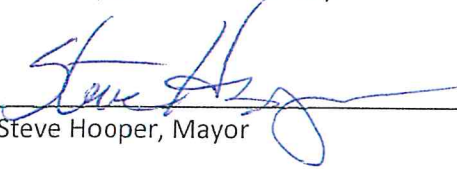
**After coming out of closed session:**

Shaun Adams motioned to hire Brandon Beavers as part-time employee for the water plant. Debbie Beasley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Brian Johnson motioned to hire John Bailey for the Maintenance Worker 1 position. Debbie Beasley seconded. Shaun Adams opposed. Motion passed 2-1.



With no further business, Shaun Adams motioned to adjourn at 3:05 pm. Debbie Beasley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

  
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Steve Hooper, Mayor

  
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Brian Johnson, Council

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Shaun Adams, Council

  
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Debbie Beasley, Council

ATTEST:

  
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Shari Birchfield, Deputy Clerk to the Board