

MINUTES

LOUISBURG TOWN COUNCIL

March 19, 2018

The Town Council met on Monday, March 19, 2018, at 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall. Mayor Karl Pernell and Council Members Bill Williamson, Tom Clancy, Betty Wright, Boyd Sturges, Emma Stewart and Chris Neal were present.

Assistant Administrator Tony King gave the invocation.

Council Member Sturges moved that the minutes be approved. Council Member Neal seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Council Member Sturges moved to declare a 1983 Ford 8000 Fire Department Tanker, VIN #1FDYD80U8DVA5743 and a 2002 GMC Pickup, VIN # 1GET14W92Z320403 as surplus property. Council Member Stewart seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Council Member Stewart moved to approve Resolution 2018-2 supporting the application for a CMAQ Grant to construct sidewalks along West River Road from South Main Street to Joyner Park. Council Member Neal seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

During public comment, Will Hinton, 313 Sunset Avenue, Louisburg, N. C., provided packets of information to the Council regarding relocating the Louisburg Confederate Monument to Oakwood Cemetery should the North Carolina laws regarding monuments change. Maury York, 100 East Noble Street, Louisburg, N. C., spoke to the Council, supporting Will and explaining that the earliest confederate monuments were in cemeteries. Jeffrey Tucker, 201 Cedar Street, Louisburg, N. C. asked, "If we move this one, what monument is next?" He stated that you cannot erase history, and that the Civil War was not a war of white supremacy but a war of economics. Denise Tucker, 201 Cedar Street, Louisburg, N. C., explained that she was born in the North, that the monuments still stand and she has never heard a suggestion to remove them. She said it is a memorial to the confederate dead and about men and women who fought in that war. Mrs. Tucker said the monument needs to stay where it is because if you move it you're pushing history into a back corner. Joyce Neff, 203 John Street, Louisburg, N. C., stated that she thought the monument should be moved to a place where people can visit it and not have to look at it every day. Michelle Graham, 302 Sunset Avenue, Louisburg, N. C. stated that the monument should stand for the history of everyone, and public space needs to represent all of the people. Ann Brown, 301 Edgewood Drive, Louisburg, N. C., stated that the confederate monument issue was brought up because it was instigated by professors and students at Louisburg College. She explained that 18 year old students were told that this is a bad thing, and she feels that something needs to be done about this. Ms. Brown said that white and black people in this town have not had any issues. Dan Ellis, 301 Sunset Avenue, Louisburg, N. C., commented that, many years ago, when he was a student at Louisburg College there were water fountains at the courthouse labeled white and colored. Shirley Thomas, 601 Kenmore Avenue, Louisburg, N. C. said that the statue is not bothering her now and has never bothered her. She stated that everyone needs to come together and work together.

Council Member Sturges moved to go into closed session at 8:10 p.m. Council Member Clancy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Council Member Sturges moved to return to open session at 8:30 p.m. Council Member Clancy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mayor Pernell announced that no action was taken.

Council Member Sturges moved that the meeting be adjourned. Council Member Clancy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Carolyn D. Patterson

Adm. Assistant/Town Clerk CMC

