

MINUTES  
LOUISBURG TOWN COUNCIL  
MARCH 20, 2017

The Town Council met on Monday, March 20, 2017, at 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall. Mayor Karl Pernell and Council Members Chris Neal, Emma Stewart, Boyd Sturges, Joe Shearon, Tom Clancy and Bill Williamson were present.

Assistant Administrator Tony King gave the invocation.

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

Emily Miller of McAdams & Associates gave a presentation regarding the CDBG Building Re-Use Grant for the hospital. Mayor Pernell opened the public hearing. Elizabeth Haithcock, 209 North Main Street, Louisburg, N. C. asked if the hospital would have beds as well as an emergency room. Ms. Miller said there would be an emergency room and a geriatric unit. Mayor Pernell closed the public hearing. Council Member Sturges moved to approve the CDBG Building Re-Use Grant for the hospital. Council Member Clancy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Monica Thornton with USDA Rural Development gave a presentation on the USDA Grant/Loan for Police Vehicles, 3 Dodge Chargers and a Ford F 150. Ms. Thornton explained that it would be a state contract purchase totaling \$164,547, with a loan of \$124,000 and a grant of \$40,000, and the applicant contribution of \$547.00. Mayor Pernell opened the public hearing. No one was present to speak in favor of or against the Grant/Loan. Council Member Sturges moved to approve the USDA Grant/Loan for Police Vehicles. Council Member Stewart seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Assistant Administrator Tony King explained the Quasi Judicial Hearing Procedure and stated that Town Administrator Jonathan Franklin was the Hearing Officer. Mr. Franklin opened the public hearing at 7:45 p.m. for a Special Use Permit for a Verizon Wireless Cell Tower. Mr. King stated that he would like the following to be submitted for the record: Exhibit 1 – Application for zoning approval and related appurtenances; Exhibit 2 – Verizon Statement of Compliance with Louisburg Zoning Ordinance; Exhibit 3 – Authorization by Property Owner; Exhibit 4 – Verizon Network Objective Statement; Exhibit 5 – Site Location; Exhibit 6 – Site Lease Dimensions and Location; Exhibit 7 – Site Compound and Infrastructure Detail; Exhibit 8 – Monopole Tower Design; Exhibit 9 – Impact on Adjoining Property Values Statement; Exhibit 10 – Aerial Orthophotos of the Site. Mr. King reviewed the current Zoning Ordinance provisions and explained that the standards have been satisfied. He also stated that the Planning Board had unanimously approved the tower. Mr. King explained that, should a permit be granted, that it would be valid for 12 months. Laura Goods, Attorney with Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz P.C., representing Verizon, said she would be happy to answer questions. She was administered the oath by Town Clerk Carolyn Patterson. She thanked Mr. King for a thorough presentation and said that he has done a fantastic job. Brandon Wills, State Certified Real Estate Appraiser, was administered the oath by Town Clerk Carolyn Patterson. He explained that the tower will be consistent with the existing use of the land which is non-residential and industrial in nature. He said

the property is I-2 (Heavy Industrial) and the use is in harmony with the area. Mr. Wills stated that the proposed tower site is approximately 100' x 100' with an 80' x 80' fenced compound. He stated that it is the consultant's opinion "that the proposed tower to be located on N. C. 56 East near Louisburg would not be detrimental or injurious to the property values of the adjacent and adjoining properties, and that the location and character of the tower's use, if developed according the plans as submitted and recommended, will be in harmony with the area in which it is to be located." Council Member Sturges moved to approve the Special Use Permit for the Verizon Wireless Cell Tower and incorporate by reference the Findings of Fact and Staff Report. Council Member Stewart seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Ellen Queen of the Franklin County Arts Council gave a brief presentation to the Council. She thanked Mr. Franklin for his assistance with the building at 113 North Main Street for the Arts Council. She stated that they want to contribute and enhance the economic development of downtown Louisburg. Ms. Queen said that the Council hopes to have a soft opening to coordinate with the Friday Nights on the Tar Concert Series. She requested that the Town Council consider supporting the Arts Council with a \$2,500 contribution in the upcoming budget.

Council Member Williamson moved to approve Resolution 2017-1 for the Building Re-Use Application for State Farm Insurance. Council Member Sturges seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Council Member Sturges moved to approve Resolution 2017-2 for the Building Re-Use Application with JMD Housing, LLC for Farmer's Insurance. Council Member Shearon seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Council Member Sturges moved to approve the Special Events Permit for "Friday Nights on the Tar". Council Member Stewart seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Council Member Sturges moved to approve the amended audit contract. Council Member Williamson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Council Member Sturges moved to forego acceptance of the partial grant for the Bullock Drive Water Line Project. Council Member Clancy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Council Member Stewart moved that Ron Cox be appointed as the volunteer Downtown Community Ambassador contingent upon staff direction. Council Member Sturges seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

During public comment, Johnnie Clifton, 114 Fox Park Road, Louisburg, N. C. asked if the Town's concert area would be offered to others. Assistant Administrator Tony King explained that we have entertainment lined up for the first year but in the future we will probably be looking at local talent and groups.

Council Member Williamson moved to go into closed session at 8:55 p.m. for contracts and personnel. Council Member Sturges seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Council Member Williamson moved to return to open session at 9:20 p.m. Council Member Sturges seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Council Member Sturges moved to accept Police Chief Rick Lassiter's resignation with regret. Council Member Shearon seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Council Member Williamson moved that the meeting be adjourned. Council Member Shearon seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Carolyn D. Patterson

Administrative Asst./Town Clerk CMC



