

Town of Grantsboro
Regular Meeting of Town Council
April 2, 2019
Minutes

The Grantsboro Town Council met on Tuesday, April 2, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall. Attending were: Mayor Pro-tem Julia Lee, Ray Poole, Tom Newman, TW Harris, and Ray Lewis, Clerk. Mayor Alfred Cahoon was absent. There were several visitors present; Philip Martin with Cypress Creek Renewables, Pamlico Co. Economic Developer Beth Bucksot, County Commissioner Ed Riggs, and several citizens.

Mayor Pro-tem Lee called the meeting to order, and Lewis offered the invocation. A quorum was established for the meeting. The agenda was approved upon a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Harris and carried. The minutes from the March meeting were approved as written upon a motion by Harris, seconded by Newman and carried.

Lewis presented the finance report for the month of January, which reflected \$6745.04 in revenues, and expenses of \$2040.73. Total funds were reported at \$191,721.02. A motion to approve the finance report as presented was made by Poole, seconded by Newman and carried.

Old Business

Poole asked about the status of getting the repair to the sidewalk done across the street from Town Hall. Lewis shared that he had talked to the contractor, and he hoped to get it worked into his schedule within the next two or three weeks.

New Business

Lewis presented a copy of an Interlocal Agreement between the Town and the Bay River Sewerage District to the Council that is required for the current CDBG project on Hwy 306 N. The agreement was prepared by project manager David Harris. After reviewing the document, a motion was made by Poole, and seconded by Mitchell to approve the agreement. Motion carried.

Lewis shared that he had been asked by a Pamlico County resident if it would be ok to place a flag collection box on the sidewalk in front of the Town Hall. Poole suggested that the Museum next door may be a better location due to more traffic. Lewis agreed to check with them about the possibility of placing it over there instead.

Philip Martin with Cypress Creek Renewables was present to share information concerning a proposed solar farm project within the Grantsboro zoning jurisdiction. Mr. Martin acknowledged that he knew the Town had amended the zoning ordinance to prohibit solar farms within the town limits, but hoped that maybe there would be some way to resolve the

situation. Mr. Martin shared information about his company, and the possible benefits of such a project to the town, particularly in tax revenue. Beth Bucksot, director of Economic Development in Pamlico County, shared her concerns about the solar farm hindering further business and /or residential growth within the Town. There were several town residents that also shared in the discussion and offered questions. After hearing and considering the input at tonight's meeting, there was no action taken, allowing the zoning ordinance to continue to stand as it now does to prohibit solar farms within the town limits. The Council believes this would be in the best interest of the Town over the long term. Mr. Martin thanked the Council for listening, and shared that there are other possible locations for the project nearby.

After a brief comment period, the meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Poole, seconded by Newman and carried.

The next regular meeting of the Town Council is scheduled for May 7, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Lee, Mayor Pro-tem

Ray Lewis, Clerk