

Town of Grantsboro
Regular Meeting of Town Council
May 3, 2016

Minutes

The Grantsboro Town Council met on Tuesday, May 3, 2016 at 7:00pm in the town hall. Attending were: Mayor Alfred Cahoon, Mayor Pro-tem Julia Lee, Tom Newman, Ray Poole, Kristie Mitchell, and Ray Lewis, Clerk. Also present were County Commissioner Ed Riggs, Animal Control Officer Berkley Hill, and five town residents.

Cahoon opened the meeting, and Lewis offered the invocation. A quorum was established for the meeting, and the agenda was approved with one change (moving new business ahead of old business) upon a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Newman and carried. The minutes from the April meeting were approved as written upon a motion by Poole, seconded by Mitchell and carried.

Lewis presented the finance report for the month of April, which reflected \$2516.78 in revenues, and expenses of \$1800.76. Total funds were reported at \$255,068.75. A motion to approve the finance report as presented was made by Lee, seconded by Newman and carried.

New Business

Mayor Cahoon shared that he had witnessed some pets within the town that he felt were not being properly cared for, and wanted to explore the possibility of adopting a Pet/Animal ordinance, particularly to address the practice of tethering dogs outside. Animal Control Officer Berkley Hill shared some thoughts and comments, notably concerning enforcement. Hill said that he would not be able to directly enforce a town ordinance, and that a town official would have to file a complaint with the magistrate concerning any violations. Commissioner Riggs shared that other towns in the County had discussed this issue as well, and felt that without a way of direct enforcement, that an ordinance really wouldn't do any good. After hearing some comments from some of the residents present, the Council did not decide to pursue the matter at this time. Hill did say that he would investigate and respond to any calls concerning possible neglect that was observed.

Old Business

Lewis reported that no new information was available on the progress of the street lights, other than that it was still moving along. A date for installation is still unavailable.

There has been much discussion about extending the sidewalks along Hwy 55 east to the Dollar General and Pamlico Square shopping center. Lewis reported that any state funding grants would have to go through the Down East RPO Committee, and the next round of funding would not be available for submissions until November 2017. The approximate cost to extend the sidewalks with curbing would be about \$65,000 (for one side). There was discussion about the town paying for this project itself, as this has been a vision of the town for some time. There was no action taken at this time, but discussion will continue at the next Council meeting.

During the comment period, Mayor Pro-tem Julia Lee expressed an urgency in filling the vacant seat on the Town Council. The other Council members agreed that it should be resolved as soon as possible. The meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Newman, seconded by Poole and carried.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 31, 2016 at 7:00pm. This date is a week earlier than usual due to the Primary Elections that will be taking place on June 7.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alfred E. Cahoon, Mayor

Ray Lewis, Clerk