



# TOWN OF PRINCEVILLE

## Minutes

### Board of Commissioners

### July 25, 2016

**Commissioners Present:** Mayor Bobbie Jones, Mayor Pro Tem Linda Joyner, Commissioners Milton Bullock, JoeRoam Myrick, Pamela Ransome

**Staff Present:** Town Clerk Lakisha Archer, Recreation and Parks Director Calvin Adkins, Town Manager Daniel Gerald, Attorney William Solomon, Jr.

**Board of Commissioners Call to Order: Mayor Jones 7 p.m.**

**Invocation:** Mayor Pro Tem Linda Joyner

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Recited by all

**Public Comments:**

**Calvin Sherrod, 909 King Ave:** A few questions was asked about why the Town was paying Edgecombe County Sheriff \$125,000 and why we don't have a specific sheriff deputy on duty 24/7. He also wanted to know why other small towns such as Pinetops, Speed and Macclesfield are not paying Edgecombe County Sheriff as the Town is paying them. He had a few concerns about Public Works such as their time clock should be back in the town hall and they are operating big equipment without a CDL license. He also wanted to know why Public Works were doing most of their work near the Town Hall and not everywhere else in Princeville such as Southern Terrace. some limbs over there

**James "Ed" Bridgers, 402 Otis Avenue:** Read an article in the paper about the twin county domestic violence task force quorum to bring awareness in education about crime. He asked the board if they were doing anything about the 200-name petition that he had brought forth to them a couple months ago about getting the Police Department back and that he does not agree with the Town spending \$125,000 toward Public Safety with Edgecombe County Sheriff Department

**Commissioner Myrick:** We will get the Town Manager to elaborate on your comments

**Additions and Deletions to the Agenda:** Commissioner Myrick to discuss getting a Blue Ribbon Committee.

**Commissioner Myrick** made a motion to add a discussion of the Blue Ribbon Committee to the agenda, New Business Item D; **Commissioner Ransome** seconded; motion passed **(4-0)**

**Mayor Pro Tem Joyner** made a motion to approve the consent agenda; **Commissioner Myrick** seconded; motion passed **(4-0)**

**Commissioner Myrick** made a motion approve moving forward with the USDA application process to purchase a van for our senior citizens; **Commissioner Bullock** seconded; motion passed **No vote (Error was caught after closed session, below, the board revisited the motion and voted)**

**Commissioner Myrick:** Mr. Town Manager, have we looked for additional resources funding wise to add with that. There is a place in the application where it asked for additional funds

**Town Manager Daniel Gerald:** We have not started the process yet, but we will try to look for additional grants with it. We are going to try to use more than one funding source if possible. The grant is 75% but we will look for additional monies.

**Mayor Bobby Jones:** Our county commissioner said that she would try to add to that as well.

**Town Manager Daniel Gerald:** Resolution for the sale of the Town's Surplus Items was read.

**Mayor Pro Tem Joyner** made a motion to pass the resolution for the sale of certain property as presented, **Commissioner Ransome** seconded; motion passed **(4-0)**

**Town Manager:** Proposed Amendment for the Nuisance Code, it doesn't have to be voted on, but we have to advertise it. Parts of the Amended code was read starting with Be It Ordained.

Also, we want to add it without having another meeting, we still want to add the Blight definition. Now I was shown in the ordinance where we have the ability to demolish, but it's not as clear as the Blight. Blight you will have a clear definition of what you are demolishing. He also wants to add the nuisance renter to deal with vagrant renters and things of that nature so we can get the Sheriff Department. However, this is just an outline of it here. The attorney and I are going to work on it, to add those pieces and advertise it on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Attorney Solomon:** You should have an e-mail from last week with additional standards for the amendment that deal with blight and run down properties.

**Town Manager:** So, those are the things we want to add to help the Sheriff in patrolling, so we are just presenting this in this meeting so that we won't have two meetings in a month. So when we come back it would have been advertised and in August, it will be a public hearing.

**Commissioner Myrick:** Would we need to have a workshop.

**Town Manager:** I was trying to keep from having a workshop. If the board thinks we should have a workshop, then we will have a workshop. I just trying to bring this out so you can talk about it amongst yourselves and the next meeting a public hearing to discuss it again.

**Commissioner Myrick:** Based on what you and the attorney put together, it will probably carry enough weight for us to go ahead and approve it.

**Town Manager:** That's what I thinking, because it will help all the property owners.

**Commissioner Bullock:** Other than Blight, will it be for vagrant automobiles?

**Attorney Solomon:** We already have that as part of the code, that's already included and that's something the Town would have to be able to enforce.

**Town Manager:** Gave the definition of Blight

**Attorney Solomon:** I will forward to everyone, but there is additional language that really goes along with what the Town already has in place to demolish property. That's if the code enforcement officer sees that the property value is less than it is to equity. That's a completely different story than what can be done to make people fix something that is boarded up. The visual aide that is not here, really deal with boarded properties. It essentially gives the Town the ability to fine property owners through the registration process. It deals with the registration process for boarded up properties, and essentially its got to be repaired within six months for the Town to start to take action. It fine those with the properties or they incur criminal penalties.

**Commissioner Myrick:** Who absorbs the cost when demolishing a property?

**Town Manager:** Explained that he talked to the Mayor about absorbing a lien, but its something the Town wants to stay away from. (Gave an example of a lien the town has already absorbed)

**Attorney Solomon:** If that's already a part of the code, then that's almost the same language in every city. If you got a piece of property and the Town votes to have it demolished, you can demolish it and the only way you can try to get paid for it is to put lien on the property. You can't make the property owner pay, you can attach a lien meaning he can't sell the land or anything else with it until it's paid for. You can fine, but those fines will still be attached to it.

**Commissioner Myrick:** Blue ribbon committee discussion to establish a support team to help the Town in finding funds to be able to move forward on getting a police department. He wants the committee to be seven or nine people. He wants to Ask Mr. Bridgers if he would like to be the chairperson, and help find resources in getting the police department back.

**Commissioner Bullock:** On that note, the purpose of the committee regardless of its name is to seek funds. He thinks a further discussion needs to be by the board on who needs to be on the committee and get it organized.

Discussion between the Town Manager and Board about setting a date to discuss further about Blue Ribbon Committee.

**Mayor Pro Tem Joyner:** Agreed with Commissioner Bullock

**Budget Workshop Date was set for the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, August 2, 2016 @ 5:30pm.**

**Commissioner Myrick** made a motion to allow Mr. Bridgers to speak about being a chairperson on the Blue Ribbon Committee, **Commissioner Ransome** seconded; motion passed **(4-0)**

**Ed Bridgers:** Spoke about the Blue Ribbon Committee and that he didn't care what the name was and that he would do all he could to make sure he get funds and he wanted to the board to know that money would not go to the committee, but it would go to the board in getting the Police Department back.

**Town Manager:** Gave his report, answered some of the concerns from the commissioners, and answered a few questions that Calvin Sherrod had during his public comments. Commissioner Ransome gave three streets in Southern Terrace that have potholes, they were, Strickland, Meeks and King, and Commissioner Bullock said add lights on Snowden and cut shrubbery so the lights could hit the streets. Asked Calvin Adkins to give a presentation about the Founders Day Brick Memorial, which would be unveiled on the weekend of April 21-22, 2017.

**Mayor Pro Tem Joyner** made a motion for the Town to purchase the first brick in honor of Turner Price; **Commissioner Bullock** seconded; motion passed **(4-0)**

**Attorney Solomon's Report:** gave a brief summary of how difficult it is to find similar ordinances from Towns in NC on a nuisance renter. He is trying to make sure the Town does not end up with an unconstitutional ordinance and it does not raise any due process issues.

**Commissioner Ransome** made a motion to open closed session on attorney client privilege;  
**Mayor Pro Tem Joyner** seconded; Motion passed **(4-0)**

**Commissioner Myrick** made a motion to end closed session on attorney client privilege;  
**Commissioner Ransome** seconded; motion passed **(4-0)**

**Mayor Pro Tem Joyner** made a motion to end closed session and continue with board meeting; **Commissioner Ransome** seconded; motion passed **(4-0)**

Revisited motion to move forward on the Van application process, a motion was made but no vote. Motion passed and all voted **(4-0)**

**Commissioners Ransome, Joyner, Myrick and Bullock thanked the citizens for attending the meeting.**

**Mayor Pro Tem Joyner** made a motion to adjourn; **Commissioner Myrick** seconded;  
Motion passed **(4-0) Meeting adjourned 8:25 pm**

X

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Bobbie D. Jones  
Mayor

X

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Lakisha Archer  
Town Clerk