

TOWN OF PRINCEVILLE

Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting

November 18, 2019 7:00PM

3003 North Main Street, Tarboro, NC 27886

Minutes

Board Members Present: Mayor Bobbie Jones, Commissioner Linda Joyner, Commissioner JoeRoam Myrick, Mayor ProTem Kenneth Sanders, Commissioner Milton Bullock

Board Members Absent: 0

Staff Present: Attorneys Dana Jones & Hugh Hudson, Town Manager Glenda Knight, and Town Clerk Natasha Barrett

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call Mayor Bobbie Jones**
- II. Invocation rendered by Commissioner Linda Joyner**
- III. Pledge of Allegiance Recited by all**
- IV. Public Comments: (Limited to 2 minutes. Please state name and address)**
 - a) Reverend Roosevelt Higgs- P.O. Box 264 Speed N.C.- Reverend Higgs is a representative of Edgecombe Democratic party came before the board and spoke directly to the Mayor, urging him to get a copy of the Emancipation Proclamation and a copy of the Constitution to display. He provided a copy for the Mayor. Reverend Higgs stated that he believed that the citizens should not be moved to other land. He compared it to going from one plantation to another in 2016.
 - b) Mr. Ed Bridgers- 402 Otis Avenue- Wanted an explanation of the use of the 6 million dollars. Mr. Bridgers feels that the funds are needed and suggested that the board meet with the Governor on the disbursement of the funds. Mr. Bridgers suggested giving the people that want to rebuild \$20,000 each, which will be less than a half million dollars.
- V. Announcement**
 1. Reminder of Christmas Parade & lighting ceremony on December 1st at 5pm at Freedom Hill;

2. New Restaurant: Greedy Gutz 306 S Main Street;
3. Swearing in of new Elected Officials & Trainings at the next board meeting on December 16th at 6pm;
4. Connecting in North Carolina- Mayor Jones read cards from NC State and expressed that the Town of Princeville is receiving positive publicity.
5. Commissioner Joyner made an announcement to add a friendly competition of yard decoration for the holidays to boost morale and bring unity in the town. She stated that there would be a winner from each ward, and they would receive \$100 gift card. She said that any citizen would need to register at the Town Hall;
6. Mayor Bobbie Jones made an announcement that feedback is still being received at the State level until December with the Disaster Mitigation. Citizens that wish to send comments can do so at publiccomments@rebuild.NC.gov or they can mail it at PO Box 1165 Durham, NC 27709.

VI. Adjustment to Agenda

- a) Commissioner Linda Joyner motioned to add additional Off Duty Deputy coverage. Seconded by Commissioner Milton Bullock. Approved to be added under old business. (4-0)

VII. Presentations (Limited 5-10 minutes)

- 1) Dr. Kroll Smith: UNC-G – Shared information on the Gibbs Lecture and conference. UNC-G and A&T are coordinating with the Town of Princeville. Dr. Kroll Smith shared they would like a commitment with the museum to display material relating to Princeville. The Magnolia House located near the campus of UNC-G gave The Town of Princeville a space to tell the story of the Town. The exhibit can stay up for 2 weeks. The date for the Gibbs Lecture is possible April 16th.
- 2) Alysia Jones- Introduced herself as part of the rebuilding movement of Princeville in community art form. The partnership with UNC-G allowed the

connection with HAL (Humanity Action League) out of Newark, New Jersey where her and Commissioner Linda Joyner attended. Ms. Jones said that the group focuses on the areas that have been affect by environmental injustices and act as the voice for these areas. She stated that it was a great event. Commissioner Linda Joyner added that it was an opportunity to share with a larger audience about the Town of Princeville.

VIII. Approval of the Agenda

A. Consent Agenda

- 1) Minutes – October 21 Regular Meeting and October 29 Special Call Meeting minutes. Approved (4-0)**

B. Department Reports (No questions by the Board. Approved 4-0).

- 2) Senior Center – Ms. Linda Worsley, the Senior Center is doing well. She expressed that a van is needed and that they are looking for new people to join. They have a Thanksgiving Brunch on Wednesday. They are going to have a lunch on December 24th. Ms. Worsley said there are 5 bands that are going to participate in the Christmas parade.**
- 3) Edgecombe County Sheriff Office**
- 4) Princeville Volunteer Fire Department**
- 5) Public Works**
- 6) Edgecombe County Disaster Recovery- Mayor Bobbie Jones expressed that he was disappointed in the change. He said initially the citizens had all 3 options available but now they are saying that if your house can not be elevated, you have to buyout and that's unacceptable. Town Manager Glenda Knight explained that the program NCORR is focused on buy-out on community areas that are flooded repetitively through a DRRA (Disaster Risk Reduction Area) mapping. She explained that the citizens will still have the HMGP if they desire to stay with the program and that case manager's from NCORR were onsite across the hall at the Disaster Recovery Center if anyone had questions. Ms. Alysia Jones commented that she thought it would be good if NCORR would have a community outreach so citizens can have a clear understanding of the program. The Town Manager responded**

that NCORR is scheduled to have a community outreach as well as Individual in service explaining the program and providing a illustration of how elevation would look for each specific home, so that citizens are able to make a sound decision.

7) Finance Reports (Expenditure & Profit vs Actual)

IX. Town Managers Report:

- 1) The contract for Oakley and Collier (Museum, Senior Center & Construction Adm) was presented. The Mayor asked a few clarifying questions about who would be responsible for oversight. The Town Manager and Attorney Dana Jones satisfied his questions. Commissioner Linda Joyner motioned for approval and seconded by Pro Tem Kenneth Sanders. **Approved (4-0)**
- 2) \$6 million appropriation: Town Manager reminded the Board of the anticipated Scope of work and shared that it could be modified if necessary but needed to be generated in preparation for the 1st distribution. Also, before the Board was the Conflict of Interest for approval that is a requirement of the funds– **Approved (4-0);**
- 3) Heritage Park- Town Manager presented the quotes for the remaining of the work for Heritage Park that included two submissions. Mayor asked the Board for their desire. Motioned for approval of Chris Bottoms quote by Commissioner JoeRoam Myrick and seconded by Pro Tem Kenneth Sanders. **Approved (4- 0)**
- 4) Gala Event: Town Manager shared with the Board that the Gala is scheduled for February 1st In Greensboro (International Civil Rights Center and Museum) and she urged the Board to confirm who would be attending the event. Commissioner Milton Bullock ask to include his name.

X. Old Business

- a) Commissioner Linda Joyner motioned to increase the number of days and hours that the town is patrolled by Off Duty Deputy. Seconded by Commissioner Milton Bullock. Ms. Joyner said that there is an increase of criminal activities in the community and to have extra coverage may deter some of the activitiles. The citizens are victims as well as herself. Commissioner JoeRoam Myrick stated that the reports were not accurate and does not suggests an increase in criminal activity. Commissioner Myrick asked Commissioner Joyner where she is getting her information? She responded from her home being vandalized and recent criminal activities. **Motion carried 3-1.**

XI. New Business

XII: Executive Session: Motion to go into executive session by Commissioner

JoeRoam Myrick, seconded by Commissioner Linda Joyner. Carried (4-0)

- **N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1) To prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of this State or of United States, or not considered a public record within the meaning of the Chapter 132 of the General Statutes.**
- **N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(4) To discuss relating to the location or expansion of industries agreement on a tentative list of economic development incentives that may be offered by the public body in negotiations or to discuss matters relating to military installation closure or realignment.**

A. Board voted to approve the contract for the Town Manager led by Mayor Bobbie Jones asking the desire of the Board by raise of hand.

Commissioner Kenneth Sanders motioned, and Commissioner Linda Joyner seconded. Vote carried 4-0.

B. Commissioner JoeRoam motioned, Commissioner Linda Joyner seconded, Board approval 4-0 for the Town Manager to work with Broker to pursue parcels at Heritage Park, parcels adjacent on the 53 acres and the 88 acres. The Town Manager will bring information back before the Board.

XIII: Board Comments: Commissioner Kenneth Sanders told the Board that he is happy that he got a chance to serve and appreciate the opportunity to serve. He stated that he has learned a lot. He also stated that he believes in public trust and for that reason, he didn't take a salary. He concluded by saying, "its been a pleasure. Commissioners Linda Joyner and JoeRoam Myrick shared sentiments in a pleasure working with Commissioner Kenneth Sanders as well. Commissioner Milton Bullock stated that this was his jump off. He also

stated that he enjoyed working with the Board. He stated that it has been a life changing experience, up/down with his health. That he never has seen the Town so close to progression so much so, he thought is was cultural. He hopes that he has made a difference. He urged everyone to go see Harriet and reminded the Board that she had visited Freedom Hill. He went on to say, "We are a great people. I will always speak to the defense as the Oldest Town. I hope people will have good things to say when Milton Bullock's name is mentioned."

XIV: Adjournment at 10:15PM by Commissioner Linda Joyner and Seconded by Commissioner Kenneth Sanders carried 4-0.

X 

Bobbie Jones
Mayor

X 

Natasha Barrett
Town Clerk