

**Town of Washington Park
Municipal Building
June 2, 2014
7:00 p.m.**

First South Bank	General Fund	\$ 112,468.63
First South Bank	Capital Reserve Fund	19,030.78
First South Bank	Powell Bill/Checking	8,631.61
First South Bank	Powell Bill/Saving CD	90,221.56
First South Bank	Capital Reserve Fund/CD	71,126.43
Total		\$301,479.01

Present

Thomas Richter, Mayor
Lee Bowen, Commissioner
Wade Dale, Commissioner
Patrick Nash, Commissioner
Jeff Peacock, Mayor pro tem
Brian Wood, Commissioner

Absent

Mayor Richter called the meeting to order and the amended agenda was approved. Mayor Richter initiated a discussion about potential conflicts of interest with respect to the proposed budget and an employee as a commissioner. Mayor Richter noted that the current situation is working, but for future elected officials/employees it might merit a personnel policy change. Discussion followed. No action taken.

The minutes and financial statements were read and approved.

Old Business

Railroad crossing at Hudnell and Park: Mayor Richter reported that he had been at a meeting where representatives from NCDOT said that this repair was in the budget for next year.

Tilter for the garbage truck: Commissioner Bowen is working on replacing the hydraulic cylinder with an air cylinder. Commissioner Wood offered his help.

Isabella Avenue east end drainage: Commissioner Bowen has spoken with Mitch St. Clair who will provide an estimate. The homeowners will be contacted after a plan is presented by St. Clair.

No wake zone: Mayor Richter has discussed this with the County and City Managers, but will follow up. The intent is to try a joint letter to the NC Wildlife Commission requesting a no-wake zone.

Maple Branch debris: Commissioner Bowen said that Ross Boyer has agreed to take a canoe down the creek and estimate the debris removal.

Fire contract: The clerk reported that Mayor pro tem Peacock had signed the two-year fire contract with the City of Washington for \$37,232 for FY 2014-15, with a 2% increase in FY 2015-16. This contract is based on the Bunyan District rate plus 10%.

Repaving: Commissioner Bowen reported that Ammex Paving had provided a detailed quote (per Selden Taylor's specifications) with amounts of asphalt and saw cutting of areas to be repaved. Commissioner Nash made a motion to accept Ammex Paving's bid of \$13,375.00 to address the re-paving issues as bid. Commissioner Dale seconded the motion. Passed by all.

New Business

Mayor Richter said that four appointments by the Town Board were necessary at this time: Warren Smith as representative to the Washington Electric Advisory Board, Sid Hassell as Town Attorney, Tom Richter as the Mid-East Commission representative, and William Oden as the auditor for FY 2013-2014. Mr. Oden's contracted amount remains at \$4100.00 for this year's audit. Commissioner Nash made a motion to approve the four appointments. Commissioner Wood seconded the motion. Passed by all.

Reports

Commissioner Dale – reported that the Northside FFA 5K run had been cancelled due to lack of participants. He also reported that a baptism on the waterfront is scheduled for June 22, 2014. The Parkinson's 5K run had 85 participants and raised over \$3,000 in donations for Parkinson's research.

Commissioner Nash – reported that there was nothing from the Sheriff's office. He said that he had been informed that residents were pulling up the posts where the chains on the waterfront are, and suggested either putting in rebar/cement or revisiting the issue of keys to the waterfront. Discussion followed. Commissioner Wood said that he was available to open the chain if residents would contact him or Mrs. Dale directly. Commissioner Nash also reported that a resident had seen children pulling up the fence to access the tennis court. Mr. Wood will put a cable and turnbuckle to prevent further access. Commissioner Nash also reported that he had looked into video security and that at this time it is not feasible monetarily. He estimates that it would be \$30,000-\$40,000 for a substantial video system and \$100,000 to monitor the entire Park. Commissioner Nash reported that the boat with the damaged hull at the western waterfront had been removed. He thanked Commissioner Dale for his help in identifying the owner. Commissioner Nash asked about the brick fence at 324 Isabella Avenue and the clerk said that the resident had a fence permit to rebuild the fence.

Mayor pro tem Peacock – reported that there had been complaints about overgrown vegetation at 320 Isabella Avenue. The clerk said that she will continue to observe the condition. Mayor pro tem Peacock asked about the storm debris in 3-Acre Wood. Mayor Richter said that he would contact the Mid-East Commission for estimates for assistance to clear the storm debris.

Commissioner Bowen – reported that the pipe under the driveway on Bank Street for the residence at 407 River Road had been crushed. The pipe was replaced and the ground was shored up by St. Clair Trucking for \$970.00 and the ditch on Bank Street from that point to River Road was cleaned for \$750.00. Commissioner Bowen also reported that the alley had been graded and UCL had been placed for \$3200.00. The ditch in front of

415 Bank Street will be a good use of the geo-grid material used by DOT. The sinkhole at 116 Isabella was a “junction box” that was cleaned and two metal plates put on top and covered with topsoil. This project is now finished.

Commissioner Wood – reported that he had planted some dogwood and crepe myrtle trees and was continuing to water as needed. He reported that he had Dudley Landscaping trim some “widowmakers” on the waterfront for \$250.00, as well as \$625.00 for removing dead trees and limbs from the tornado.

Clerk’s Report

The clerk reported that the Capital Reserve CD had been reinvested at First South Bank with an annual percentage yield of 0.50% for 11 months. She reported that tornado cleanup cost \$6633.92, spent in tree trimming and debris removal and landfill charges from the Powell Bill as these were in the rights-of-way and from natural causes. She reported that the on-demand ethics webinar would be available for the Board beginning in June, and completion was necessary before October 31, 2014. She also reported that the resident at 210 Riverside Drive was doing some geo-thermal work and had presented their plan which had been approved.

The clerk said that the Town’s health insurance carrier had informed her that the Healthcare Reform Act had changed the health care enrollment waiting period for employees to a maximum of 90 days. Commissioner Wood made a motion to change the enrollment waiting period for health insurance for employees to 90 days. Seconded by Mayor pro tem Peacock. Passed by all.

The clerk then gave the supervisor’s report. She reported that the grounds were in good shape and everything was cleaned up from the tornado. Mr. Wood has replaced the rear left brake assembly on the dump truck, saving money by doing the work inhouse.

Mayor pro tem Peacock introduced the subject of yard sales. He said that there were three yard sales over the weekend. The clerk noted that only one of the yard sales had a permit. Discussion followed. It was decided that a letter from the clerk should accompany a copy of the yard sale ordinance to people who have yard sales without permits.

Mayor Richter opened the discussion on the draft of the FY 2014-2015 budget. Commissioner Wood recused himself from all discussion and voting. A motion was made by Mayor pro tem Peacock to change the employee health insurance plan from Medcost’s Healthplus Plan to the Careplus Plan. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. Commissioner Dale recused himself from voting. Passed by Nash, Peacock, and Bowen. Commissioner Bowen made a motion for a 1% cost-of-living adjustment for the employees. Seconded by Commissioner Nash. Commissioner Dale recused himself from voting. Passed by Bowen, Peacock, and Nash.

Commissioner Nash made a motion to approve the proposed draft budget for FY 2014-15, keeping the tax rate at .29 per \$100 valuation. Seconded by Mayor pro tem Peacock.

Passed by all. The public hearing for the budget will be Monday, June 16, 2014 at 7:00 pm followed by the regular July meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Denise D. Dale
Clerk, Town of Washington Park