

**Town of Washington Park
Municipal Building
January 9, 2012
7:00 p.m.**

First South Bank	General Fund	\$ 58,724.22
First South Bank	Capital Reserve Fund	10,851.10
First South Bank	Powell Bill/Checking	12,399.17
First South Bank	Powell Bill/Saving CD	88,269.93
First South Bank	Capital Reserve Fund/CD	69,075.27
Total		\$239,319.69

Present

Mayor Thomas Richter
Jeff Peacock, Mayor pro tem
Lee Bowen, Commissioner
Patrick Nash, Commissioner
Jim Pagnani, Commissioner
Don Wilkinson, Commissioner

Absent

None

Mayor Richter called the meeting to order and the agenda was approved.

Jim Pagnani was sworn in by the clerk as a new commissioner.

The clerk gave an update on Mr. Wood's back surgery which was done today, noting that he would be out at least two weeks per his doctor. She reported that he had five days sick leave carried over from 2011 and would have six more days sick leave accrued by the end of this year. Commissioner Nash made a motion to advance the six days sick leave with an additional four days, if needed. The additional days would be deducted from next year (2013), if necessary. Commissioner Pagnani seconded. Discussion followed. Mayor Richter asked that it be noted that this was being done as a preemptive measure to avoid a special called meeting regarding Mr. Wood's sick leave. Passed by all.

Mayor Richter then called on Trey Smith of the NC Department of Commerce. He started by talking about manufactured homes, NC General Statutes, and various roof pitches for primary residences (see attached handouts). Discussion followed regarding requirements for roof pitches for new construction. Mayor pro tem Peacock said that he remembered something about an area for manufactured homes already existing in Washington Park. The clerk was asked to research this in past minutes of Board meetings before Trey Smith attempts to add or develop an ordinance with roof pitch requirements.

Mr. Smith then talked about the sample dog ordinances that had been provided to each Board member prior to the meeting (see attached). Commissioner Wilkinson reminded the Board that Washington Park adopted the Beaufort County Animal Control Ordinance so that the County would enforce the ordinance. Commissioner Bowen said that he felt that residents want an immediate response here in the Park. Discussion followed. Therefore it was suggested that the Clerk have a list of what Beaufort County Animal Control will do once a complaint is lodged, and that there be copies for citizens.

Mr. Smith then asked what the Board wanted to do about the fence recommendations from the Planning Board. Mr. Smith reminded the Board that nothing had been done with this information since the approval from the Planning Board. Discussion followed. Mayor Richter suggested a "permitted uses list" for fences. Mayor Richter asked the clerk to get the Planning Board recommendations to the Board for discussion at the next meeting.

Clerk Dale gave Mr. Wood's report in his absence. She reported that a test of reflective paint had been done on Spruce Street at the speed hump in front of Bo Lewis' house; the ditch under Beech Street has been cleaned out; William Ore will be filling in on garbage days during Mr. Wood's recovery. CJ will be driving the garbage truck as he has a Class "C" license, while James and William pick up the garbage. The clerk also asked that the Board consider the golf cart modifications that Mr. Wood spoke about at the last meeting. The clerk reported that the garbage truck had developed a short in the alternator wire harness which is being replaced at CTE today, but that the garbage truck would be ready for use tomorrow.

The minutes and financial statement were read and approved.

Old Business

Hurricane Irene cleanup and reimbursement: FEMA has sent a letter of approval for the debris removal of \$40,873.13. The federal share will be \$30,654.85, the state share will be \$10,218.28. The clerk is waiting for approval on the other FEMA projects.

320 Isabella Avenue: Commissioner Nash spoke with Mrs. Windley Bell who is adamant about no one going into her yard.

Boats on the waterfront: Commissioner Nash has not finalized the "proposal guidelines" for an ordinance yet. He has made no progress as to ownership of boats on the waterfront. He said that he would renew his efforts.

Maple Creek cleanout: Ross Boyer has completed his work. However, the big cypress tree has not been touched. Mayor Richter said that he had spoken with Mr. Wood about removing the tree. Commissioner Wilkinson said that it was not a Washington Park tree, but rather is a tree that has fallen from the McMullan Trust property on the north side of the creek. Commissioner Nash volunteered to speak with Ed Talley about removing the fallen tree from Maple Creek.

East end of Isabella Avenue washout: has been fixed by Kevin Furlough with crush and run from Mitchell Tractor.

Community Watch: Commissioner Nash reported that Sammy Corey, Tim Melton & Kevin Alligood met with Crime Stoppers representative from the Sheriff's office last Thursday. They are moving ahead with plans to put up signs and formalize Community Watch program with block captains, etc. Mayor Richter said that he would put something in a "Town Crier" if needed.

Budget scoping: Mayor Richter asked the Board to think about major initiatives for next year's budget. Commissioner Pagnani said that he and the clerk had been talking about getting to a point where we can begin to financially imbed decisions we make about major expenses in a monthly update, that is, to earmark funds on an annual basis for major expenses (i.e., truck, sewer, Municipal Building, etc.) instead of funding emergent

decisions. Mayor Richter suggested that a three- or four-cent increase might be necessary for Capital Reserve funds, especially given the age of Park trucks and tractor.

Development east of Washington Park: Mayor Richter said that he had not heard anything since his letter to the development group.

Reports

Commissioner Pagnani – reported that the end-year-to-date numbers were essentially on budget, except for the Hurricane Irene expenses.

Commissioner Nash – reported that the Sheriff's office had no crimes reported in December. There is nothing new on the break-ins; the suspect is still in custody.

Commissioner Wilkinson – reported that the culvert had been put in for David Weatherly's property. The ditch has been cleaned on Beech from College to Isabella and is flowing properly. Mitch St. Clair has finished cleaning out the ditch in front of 121 River Road to where it turns and crosses into the outfall.

Mayor pro tem Peacock – reported that he had received a call from Richard Pfeiffer regarding the pecan tree in his back yard which Mr. Pfeiffer says is in the Town's right-of-way. Mayor pro tem Peacock has looked at the tree but wants to wait until spring to see if the tree is actually dead. Commissioner Wilkinson said that it is Mr. Pfeiffer's tree, that he took the alley, and closed it. The clerk read from the minutes from 1995 and 1996. Mayor Richter said that Mr. Pfeiffer is paying property taxes on the land where the alley used to be according to the Beaufort County property maps. Mayor pro tem Peacock will speak to Mr. Pfeiffer about the tree.

Commissioner Bowen – reported that the plastic border timbers would be here tomorrow after a delay for a mold problem. Commissioner Bowen will keep the timbers at his warehouse until Mr. Wood and the men are ready to install them in the Tot Lot.

Clerk's Report

The clerk asked about the annual shoe allowance of \$100 for each worker. It was agreed that this will be given this month. Clerk Dale said that 209 Isabella Avenue is being raised and will sign off on the building permit for Ms. Jacklyn Smith and Mr. Buck. She will also look at the plans for Leighton Blount's new construction on Isabella Avenue. Clerk Dale will be attending an Urban Forestry Grant Writing Workshop on January 10th in Farmville. She asked about the Washington Park "cardinal" sign. Commissioner Wilkinson, Mr. Wood, and Mayor pro tem Peacock will look for a location on the west end of the Park. Cells phones and walkie-talkies for Park workers were discussed. The clerk will talk to Mr. Wood and ask for his recommendations.

The next meeting will be on Monday, February 6, 2012 at 7:00 pm.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Denise D. Dale
Clerk, Town of Washington Park