

**Town of Washington Park
Municipal Building
July 13, 2015
7:00 p.m.**

First South Bank	General Fund	\$ 101,855.33
First South Bank	Capital Reserve Fund	45,000.00
First South Bank	Powell Bill/Checking	13,361.95
First South Bank	Powell Bill/Saving CD	80,536.15
First South Bank	Capital Reserve Fund/CD	<u>71,613.52</u>
Total		\$ 312,366.95

Present

Jeff Peacock, Mayor pro tem
Wade Dale, Commissioner
Patrick Nash, Commissioner
Brian Wood, Commissioner

Absent

Thomas Richter, Mayor
Lee Bowen, Commissioner

Mayor pro tem Peacock called the meeting to order. The agenda was approved. Mayor pro tem Peacock called on Keith Hardt of the City of Washington Electric Utilities to talk about tree trimming in Washington Park around utility lines. Mr. Hardt explained that the Washington City Council had asked the WEU to reduce their trimming budget. He explained that Washington Electric Utilities is willing to work with the Town of Washington Park in the trimming of Park trees in the WEU 15' easement. He will be meeting with Mayor pro tem Peacock, Mr. Wood, and the clerk on Wednesday, July 29 at 1:00 to walk the lines for a better understanding of the scope of any tree trimming. Commissioner Dale asked about overhead vs. underground electric lines. Mr. Hardt explained that it costs about \$150,000 per mile to install overhead and about \$1,000,000 for underground lines. He listed some negatives for underground lines: only a 20-year life, more difficult and time-consuming to troubleshoot and repair, expensive for homeowners to hook up to existing meters, as well as problems getting easements for transformer locations. He said that he was willing to look closely at Washington Park to see if there is a valid reason to consider underground installation, and if so, to include it in a future budget. Mr. Hardt reiterated the City's willingness to work with the Town of Washington Park to keep the aesthetic look of the Park. Mayor pro tem Peacock thanked Mr. Hardt for coming to the meeting.

The minutes and financial statements were read and approved after a correction to the text.

Old Business

Isabella Avenue east end drainage: the clerk reported for Commissioner Bowen that the residents at 420 Riverside Drive were moving ahead with their plans to remove and replace their house. He will be meeting with them to discuss whether their plans will help or adversely affect the drainage plans for Isabella Avenue.

No wake zone: no report.

Three Acre Wood cleanup: Commissioner Nash said that Allen Hall had looked at the area today, and that he thought it would take four hours at \$200/hour for the big machine to dig and mulch the undergrowth and get rid of the big downed limbs. Mr. Wood will coordinate the work for the Town.

Fire contract: no report.

Boats on the waterfront: Mayor pro tem Peacock said that the clerk had spoken with Jason Biggs of FinishStrong about the Triathlon on July 24 and 25. Mr. Biggs said that they would be taking care of all activities on the waterfront and that the Town would not be responsible for moving any watercraft.

Geothermal: Mayor pro tem Peacock said that he had spoken with Dan McNeill about geothermal discharging and the fact that the calculations do not include the pump electricity. Mr. McNeill feels that the payback is just not there for extensive geothermal use. The question on geothermal discharge for Dr. Taylor was tabled until the August board meeting.

Fence ordinance violation: discussion tabled until August board meeting.

Reports

Commissioner Dale – reported that Mary Carolyn Walker’s event on the waterfront had taken place without incident, and that the Triathlon on July 24-25 was on the calendar. He reported that some broken and damaged wooden border fence had been replaced by Mr. Wood at the Tot Lot, and that he and Commissioner Bowen had repaired the elbow of the slide again. He recommended the replacement of a rubber swing seat that was cracked, and asked that the men “fluffed” the mulch weekly.

Commissioner Nash – reported that the Sheriff’s Office had listed a vandalism at 601 Shorewood Drive on June 26, 2015. Commissioner Nash said that a representative from the Beaufort County Sheriff’s Office would be at the August meeting to discuss how they patrol Washington Park.

Mayor pro tem Peacock – reported that he had received a call from a resident regarding a dog attacking her dog in her golf cart in front of 200 Riverside Drive. He advised the resident to contact Animal Control.

Commissioner Wood – reported that the transplanted live oak trees were doing fair. He said that the trees were being watered three times a week, but some appeared dead. Discussion followed. It was decided to wait at least another month before removing any of the new live oak trees. He also mentioned that the tractor was burning a lot of oil and that there may be a major problem in the near future.

Commissioner Bowen -- the clerk reported in Commissioner Bowen’s absence that Commissioner Bowen said that he will be meeting with Mr. Delmonte regarding a speed hump on College Avenue; and, that Commissioner Bowen will be ordering some of the GeoCell plastic mesh to address the cave-in problem in front of 602 Hickory Street.

Clerk’s Report

The clerk reported that she had been contacted by the resident at 605 Small Street requesting the board look into a speed hump and street light on Small Street. The clerk reminded the Board that the closing date for filing for the November election is July 17 at noon. The clerk reported issuing two fence permits: one at 118 Isabella Avenue and one at 100 Hickory Street. She reported one yard sale permit for 616 Bank Street. She reported that she had included the budgeted 1% pay increase for all employees beginning July 1. She said that the employees had expressed their gratitude. The Town picnic was discussed. It was decided that the Town picnic date will be Sunday, October 4 at 1:00 pm, with a rain date of October 11, 2015.

The clerk gave the supervisor's report saying that all the ditches had been sprayed with herbicide, as well as Three Acre Wood. The recycling bins behind the Municipal Building have been re-labeled. Garbage this month was 31,200# and yard debris was 40,660#.

The next meeting will be August 3, 2015.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Denise D. Dale
Clerk, Town of Washington Park