

**Town of Washington Park
Municipal Building
March 4, 2013
7:00 p.m.**

First South Bank	General Fund	\$ 100,627.08
First South Bank	Capital Reserve Fund	19,030.78
First South Bank	Powell Bill/Checking	13,621.79
First South Bank	Powell Bill/Saving CD	89,836.02
First South Bank	Capital Reserve Fund/CD	70,317.37

Total **\$293,433.04**

Present

Thomas Richter, Mayor
Jeff Peacock, Mayor pro tem
Lee Bowen, Commissioner
Don Wilkinson, Commissioner

Absent

Patrick Nash, Commissioner
Jim Pagnani, Commissioner

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

Mayor Richter called on Mr. Wood for his report. He reported that the trucks were running fine. Mr. Wood said that he and Mayor pro tem Peacock had contacted Dudley Landscaping regarding cutting visible tree roots that were damaging the lawnmower. These roots are mostly in the medians and on the waterfront and had grown above ground in the last ten years. Stewart Dudley said that he would cut roots for \$50/hour. It was agreed that this was a good idea. Mr. Wood said that CJ Brooks' last day was Friday, March 1, 2013 and that he was going to miss working with him. He said that William Ore would be working for four and one-half hours on Tuesdays and Fridays to help with garbage pickup until a replacement is found. Mr. Wood reported that garbage hauled last month was 27,400# and yard debris hauled was 19,520#.

Mayor Richter called on the guests. Mr. Tim Melton said that he was present to complain about vehicles speeding on Bank Street and to seek possible solutions. He asked for the Board's assistance in contacting speeders directly and asking them drive more slowly. Mayor Richter said that Commissioner Nash would be asked to contact the speeders directly. Mr. Melton thanked the Board for their attention.

Mayor Richter called on Patrick Curran of Easter Seals/UCP who presented a proposal for Ride Without Limits, including a children's "safe route" bicycle ride, to be held in Washington Park on October 5, 2013 from 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm. This would necessitate the closing of a one-mile bicycle course in the Park for about one and one-half hours. Mr. Curran said that there would be between 50 and 100 children participating. The route was discussed. Mayor Richter said that the homeowners would be notified of the event so that they could make plans accordingly. Commissioner Bowen asked where people would park. Mayor Richter said that in the past, parking was available on River Road and Havens Gardens. Mr. Curran said that he would look into having a shuttle run from the downtown area to the course in Washington Park. He added that the event had liability insurance, that there would be two to six tables in the Park for water, that they would make sure the area was totally cleaned after the event, and that they would look into having a portable toilet available for participants. Commissioner Bowen made a

motion to allow Easter Seals/UCP to hold their event on October 5, 2013, in Washington Park. Seconded by Commissioner Wilkinson. Passed by all.

Mayor Richter called on Elizabeth Wilder and Heather Perry who asked permission for a Young Life 5K run on March 23, 2013, from 8:15 am to 12:15 pm. This run will have a water station set up at Havens Gardens as well as "color stations" for decorating participants as they run. Ms. Wilder and Ms. Perry said that they would make sure that everything was cleaned up after the event. Commissioner Bowen made a motion to allow Young Life to have a 5K run in Washington Park on Saturday, March 23, 2013. Seconded by Mayor pro tem Peacock. Passed by all.

Trey Smith spoke about fences, fence permits, and fee schedules. He handed out copies of the latest proposed Fence Ordinance, Fence Permit Application, "Frequently Asked Questions," and a sample plot plan. He pointed out the changes that the Board had requested in Part 3 regarding fence height and opacity and Part 2(a) regarding the prohibition of certain types of fences. He also brought samples of fee schedules that the clerk will scan and send to the Board members. Mayor Richter commented that he would like to change the wording of the proposed Fence Ordinance from "the front street right-of-way setback area" to read "forward of the building line on a lot" in Section 6.2 Part 2(b) and Part 3. Commissioner Wilkinson requested the numerical dimensions of the sample plot plan be removed, just showing the drawing. Mayor pro tem Peacock asked about line of sight on corner lots. Mr. Smith recommended coming up with a number of feet for the sight line in either direction. He will bring these changes to the next meeting.

Mr. Butch Ferguson of 401 River Road was called on by Mayor Richter. Mr. Ferguson said that he wanted to have natural gas at his house, but was having trouble getting through to Piedmont Natural Gas about availability of natural gas lines and potential hook-ups. Mayor Richter said that Washington Park does not have a policy regarding this, but that he would contact PNG and get a representative to attend the next Board meeting to discuss this issue. Mr. Ferguson thanked the Board and added that he wanted to let the Board know what a wonderful job Mr. Wood and his crew do here in the Park.

The minutes and financial statements were read and approved as amended for text.

Old Business

Mac Jones' ditch: The clerk has received the final bill for \$750 from Ross Boyer which included the removal of the tree at Ms. Edwards' house and debris removal the length of the ditch. Mayor pro tem Peacock made a motion to pay Ross Boyer \$750.00 for this completed work. Seconded by Commissioner Wilkinson. Passed by all.

Vehicles/Parking in the median: Mayor Richter said that he would create a sticker/flyer regarding parking in the medians.

Municipal Building use policy: The clerk was asked to send samples of use policies for the Municipal Building to the Board.

Windley-Bell house: The house is currently in compliance with the Town's ordinances.

Railroad crossing at Hudnell and Park: Commissioner Wilkinson made a motion to write another letter with the City of Washington to NCDOT requesting a more permanent

repair to the railroad tracks. Seconded by Commissioner Bowen. Discussion followed. Passed by all. Mayor Richter will contact Mr. Kay, the Washington City Manager.

Mayor Richter began discussion of the replacement for CJ Brooks, public works employee, whose last day was March 1, 2013. Job responsibilities, qualifications, and experience were discussed with input from the Board and Mr. Wood. Mayor Richter offered to revise the current job description and send it to the Board before posting the position with the Employment Security Commission or advertising in the newspaper.

Reports

Commissioner Wilkinson – Commissioner Wilkinson said that all issues have been addressed for the Spruce to Hickory ditch and this project should be marked finished at this time. He presented an estimate from Ross Boyer for cleaning silt build-up in the ditch from Hickory to River Road, removing debris, building a bulkhead to stabilize the bank around the tree, and removing riprap on the Sawyer/Boyd property for a total cost of \$1920.00. He said that this is a Powell Bill expense. Commissioner Wilkinson made a motion to accept Ross Boyer's proposal to clean out and stabilize the Hickory to River Road ditch for \$1920.00. Seconded by Mayor pro tem Peacock. Passed by all.

Mayor Richter reported that he had had a conversation with Selden Taylor asking him to think about how the Park could maintain the ditch behind and next to his property on College Avenue. The Park maintains the ditch from the east side of Bill Paige's property, from the south side from Walt Gerard's property going west, and the east side of Selden's lot.

Mayor pro tem Peacock – said that he will continue to look for trees to plant in the Park. There was nothing to buy at Plant and See and Lowe's trees were too expensive.

Commissioner Bowen – said that he is purchasing materials for the tilting mechanism.

Clerk's Report

The clerk reported that she had received a check and Waterfront Usage form from Jan Rowe on behalf of First Presbyterian Church to hold an Easter Egg Hunt on the waterfront on Sunday, March 24, 2013, from 4-6 pm. This event has been posted on the website calendar. The clerk stated that she would add the two events voted upon earlier this evening to the website calendar also.

The clerk spoke about a preliminary budget meeting schedule. She will send out an email to the Board with the proposed dates.

Mayor Richter said that he had heard from Linda Roberts at the Mid-East Commission regarding upcoming meetings and asked if Commissioner Wilkinson was still willing to be the representative for Washington Park. Commissioner Wilkinson said that he was willing to attend the meetings.

Mayor Richter read a letter that he had received from Jim Nance on behalf of Paradigm Developers. Mayor Richter said that he had been looking at old maps and would be contacting Sid Hassell regarding this property. The clerk found an old transcript regarding this property that she will forward to the Board.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 8, 2013, having been rescheduled from April 1, 2013.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Denise D. Dale
Clerk, Town of Washington Park

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