

**Town of Washington Park
Municipal Building
May 2, 2016
7:00 p.m.**

First South Bank	General Fund	\$ 111,116.21
First South Bank	Capital Reserve Fund	60,000.00
First South Bank	Powell Bill/Checking	26,507.92
First South Bank	Powell Bill/Saving CD	80,790.73
First South Bank	Capital Reserve Fund/CD	<u>71,908.92</u>
Total		\$ 350,323.78

Present

Jeff Peacock, Mayor pro tem
Lee Bowen, Commissioner
Belinda Cowell, Commissioner
Wade Dale, Commissioner
Patrick Nash, Commissioner

Absent

Thomas B. Richter, Mayor

Mayor pro tem Peacock called the meeting to order. Commissioner Nash made a motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Dale. Passed by all.

Mayor pro tem Peacock called on the public for input. Steven Fuchs presented a letter to the Town Board outlining his desire to purchase the former hardware store property in the commercial district in Washington Park. He presented a proposed amendment to Section 5.2 (b) of the Zoning Ordinance to expand the permitted uses in the commercial district (see attached). Mayor pro tem Peacock thanked Mr. Fuchs and said that the proposal would be sent to the Planning Board for review and recommendation. Mayor pro tem Peacock indicated that it would be at least two months before the Planning Board would have a recommendation.

There was no further public input.

The minutes and financial report were approved.

Old Business

Isabella Avenue drainage: Commissioner Bowen said that there was no update at this time.

DOT intersection at Edgewater and River Road: The clerk said that she had emailed Mr. Cabaniss at NCDOT and followed up with a phone call asking for a written denial for changing the intersection design by the NCDOT. The clerk will email NCDOT again.

Zoning Ordinance corrections: this subject is still on hold pending further recommendations from the Planning Board.

Washington Electric Utilities Advisory Board vacancy: Commissioner Bowen said that his son, Dylan Bowen, was interested in applying for the vacancy on the WEU Advisory Board. He is currently in the Master of Public Administration program at East Carolina University. The clerk has forwarded the appropriate paperwork to Dylan Bowen.

New Business

There was no new business introduced.

Reports

Commissioner Dale – said that the clerk had received a request from the Diabetes Awareness 5K/Walk for November 19 beginning 4:00 pm with approximately one hundred participants scheduled. The event will originate in Festival Park, come through Washington Park, and end at Festival Park. The event was approved by acclamation. Commissioner Dale also reported that a private wedding sponsored by Sammy Corey would be held on Saturday, May 14, 2016.

Commissioner Nash – nothing to report from the Sheriff's office. He said that he had noticed people parking in the median on Isabella Avenue. He will communicate with the owners of the vehicles.

Commissioner Bowen – no report.

Commissioner Cowell –reported that she had looked at the tree at 104 Isabella Avenue. It was not dead, but rather was late in blooming. She said that she had not spoken with Mrs. Taylor regarding the replacement of the tree at the corner of Pine and Riverside, but that she would get in touch with her.

Mayor pro tem Peacock – no report.

Clerk's Report

The clerk gave the supervisor's report. Mr. Wood has filled in and seeded the places where the Washington Electric Utilities ground the stumps. The tractor repairs are complete. The final bill was \$3889.19. Mr. Wood said that two men with a helper for garbage is working fine. Mr. Wood said that there may be a problem with the starter on the garbage truck and that the front tires need to be replaced on the garbage truck. Mr. Wood will be on vacation from May 9 through May 13. Clerk Dale will drive the garbage truck that week.

The clerk said that the Town had received \$6190.94 in ad valorem taxes in April. She said that she would be on vacation from May 17 through May 28. The clerk asked if the Board would be willing to have the July meeting on July 11, 2016, as the first Monday is a holiday. The Board agreed to the change. She reported that she had contacted Temp Agencies regarding CDL drivers available to drive the garbage truck if she or Mr. Wood is unable to drive. Professional Staffing Solutions can provide a driver with a CDL for \$11.70/hr and would need at least one day notice.

Mayor pro tem Peacock led a discussion on the proposed FY 2016-17 budget to the Board. Discussion followed regarding the proposed change in full time Environmental Protection workers from three employees to two employees, with seasonal part-time help as needed. The clerk reviewed the increases in health insurance for employees, the increases in the Town's contribution to employees' retirement, the increase in the fire/EMS contract with the City of Washington, and an increase in seasonal part-time employees.

Mayor pro tem Peacock led a discussion regarding proposed cost-of-living increases for all employees. After review, it was decided to put a 3% COLA and 5% merit award for each employee in the budget. Commissioner Dale made a motion to have a Public Hearing for the proposed budget as presented with the 3% COLA and 5% merit award for all employees on Monday, June 6, 2016 at 7:00 pm. Seconded by Mayor pro tem Peacock. Passed by all.

The clerk will place a legal ad for public notice of the Budget Hearing on June 6, 2016 in the Washington Daily News on May 16 and May 23. The budget will be available in the clerk's office for viewing on May 31, June 1, and June 2 from 10:00 until 4:00.

Mayor pro tem Peacock led a discussion on Three-Acre Wood. Even though Mr. Wood has sprayed the area, it is very overgrown, especially with poison ivy. No decisions were made on this issue.

The next meeting will be June 6, 2016.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Denise D. Dale
Clerk, Town of Washington Park