

**Town of Washington Park  
Municipal Building  
April 4, 2016  
7:00 p.m.**

First South Bank	General Fund	\$ 114,518.08
First South Bank	Capital Reserve Fund	60,000.00
First South Bank	Powell Bill/Checking	27,005.73
First South Bank	Powell Bill/Saving CD	80,790.73
First South Bank	Capital Reserve Fund/CD	<u>71,908.92</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 354,223.46</b>

**Present**

**Absent**

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

Mayor Richter called the meeting to order. Commissioner Dale made a motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Bowen. Passed by all.

The clerk gave the financial report. Commissioner Bowen made a motion to approve the March 7, 2016 minutes and financial report. Seconded by Commissioner Nash. Passed by all.

Mayor Richter called upon Pamela Klinger, resident. She stated that she had no knowledge of the fence ordinance. She referenced an email that she had sent outlining her concerns about safety and privacy at her home (home invasions, stalker, car accidents, and police stops) and her need for a 6 foot fence in front of her home. She stated that when she came before the Board in June, she left thinking that a variance would be considered. Commissioner Bowen added that the Board had spent many hours reviewing the Planning Board's suggestions regarding fences and hedges and had considered a number of options, but ultimately decided against changing the fence ordinance.

Jerry Vick, resident, presented a proposed amendment to Section 6.2 (3) of the Zoning Ordinance regarding fences. He stated that River Road, NC Highway 32, is not a typical street in Washington Park, and therefore would like the issue reopened. The proposed ordinance amendment would create a "special district" for lots on River Road where the building line is fifty feet (50') or less from NC Highway 32 to have a fence forward of the building line not to exceed six feet (6'). (See attached) Several residents voiced their support for changing the language of the ordinance.

**Old Business**

Isabella Avenue drainage: Commissioner Bowen said that there was no new information.

Fire contract: Mayor Richter has spoken with the Washington City Manager and the Beaufort County Manager regarding the County taking over EMS from the City. There is

no certain date for this at this time. Mayor Richter said that there is an automatic renewal of the City fire contract if 90 day notice period passes.

DOT intersection at Edgewater and River Road: Commissioner Bowen did not have any update. The clerk will call Jeff Cabaniss for an update.

Washington Electric Utilities Advisory Board vacancy: Mayor Richter said that he would continue to ask residents to serve, but that he still had no volunteers at this time.

Tractor repairs: Clerk Dale reported that the repairs had not been completed yet.

### **New Business**

Commissioner Bowen led a discussion regarding the swale and drainage concerns of the resident at 520 Isabella Avenue. Commissioner Dale made a motion for the Town to pay 10% of the cost up to \$1000 to help resolve the responsibility of Town water from the road flowing into the swale at 520 Isabella Avenue, with the residents responsible for the engineering, maintenance, and liability. Seconded by Mayor pro tem Peacock. Passed by all.

### **Reports**

Commissioner Dale – reported that the Beaufort County Special Olympics had a successful event in March. The Young Life Glow Run is scheduled for April 9 in the evening. The playground mulch was “fluffed” with rented equipment and looks great.

Commissioner Nash – no report.

Commissioner Cowell – reported that Mr. Wood moved three trees and that they were doing well. Mayor pro tem Peacock said that Kathleen Taylor on Riverside Drive wanted to replace the large maple tree that was removed on the corner of Pine and Riverside. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Bowen – reported that Mr. Wood had cleaned out the Bank Street ditch from Hickory to Spruce. Also, the ditch in front of 525 Isabella Avenue had been cleaned by Mr. Wood. Drainage issues at 404 College Avenue were discussed. Commissioner Bowen is looking into putting a ditch at the back of the property and tying it into the Tot Lot ditch. He also reported that Sorrell Land Surveying had sent an invoice for \$500 for designing and surveying Isabella Avenue’s east end drainage.

Mayor pro tem Peacock – asked the Board to consider having a reduction in full-time personnel for the budget in FY 2016-17. Discussion followed regarding Park maintenance and garbage pickup.

Mayor Richter said the resident at 104 Isabella Avenue had called him to say that there appeared to be a dying tree in the Town’s right-of-way at his driveway. Commissioner Cowell will check it out.

### **Clerk’s Report**

The clerk reported that temporary help was working half-day for garbage pickup days. She reported that the Town received \$2098.00 in ad valorem in March. She said that

she was getting health insurance quotes and commercial insurance quotes for the budget. The clerk said that she would present the budget to the Board at the May 2, 2016 meeting and would like to have a public hearing on the Budget at the June 6, 2016 meeting. She said that she had received a call from a resident regarding a fire in Three-Acre Wood that had been set by a child. She and James took water into Three-Acre Wood to put out the fire with the help of neighborhood children. She also reported that the Washington Park Garden and Community Club had voted to be very informal in the future. The Club will just be meeting on the third Tuesday to eat lunch, without program speakers.

Mayor Richter stated that the proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance needed to go before the Washington Park Planning Board. Commissioner Nash made a motion to send the proposed amendment to the Planning Board. Seconded by Commissioner Dale. Passed by all.

The next meeting will be May 2, 2016.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Denise D. Dale  
Clerk, Town of Washington Park