

**Town of Washington Park  
Municipal Building  
December 2, 2013  
7:00 p.m.**

First South Bank	General Fund	\$ 51,255.08
First South Bank	Capital Reserve Fund	19,030.78
First South Bank	Powell Bill/Checking	13,857.96
First South Bank	Powell Bill/Saving CD	90,129.29
First South Bank	Capital Reserve Fund/CD	70,878.24

**Total** **\$245,151.35**

**Present**

Thomas Richter, Mayor  
Lee Bowen, Commissioner  
Wade Dale, Commissioner  
Patrick Nash, Commissioner  
Jeff Peacock, Mayor pro tem  
Brian Wood, Commissioner

**Absent**

Mayor Richter called the meeting to order. The recently elected Town Board received the Oath of Office administered by the clerk. The agenda was approved.

Commissioner Wood made a motion to go into a Public Hearing for the Draft Proposal for the Beaufort County Transportation Plan. Seconded by Commissioner Bowen. Passed by all. Ben Rogers from the Mid-East Commission gave a presentation regarding the Plan's history and asked for questions. After discussion by the Board regarding Washington Park's part in the Plan, Commissioner Bowen made a motion to adopt a resolution adopting maps for the Comprehensive Transportation Plan for Beaufort County, NC dated October 17, 2013. Commissioner Peacock seconded the motion. Passed by all. Commissioner Peacock made a motion to close the public hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Bowen. Passed by all.

Mayor Richter called on John Crew, Chairman of the Planning Board, to give a report regarding chickens. Mr. Crew began by stating that technically chickens are not livestock but fowl, and said that the Planning Board recommended segregating fowl from other livestock in the ordinance. He went on to say that the Planning Board did not think that chickens were appropriate to the character of the community of Washington Park, but the Planning Board did feel that the public should be heard from on this issue, perhaps in a public hearing where residents could voice their concerns. Mayor Richter thanked Mr. Crew for his research on this matter.

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

**Old Business**

Speed hump at Pine Street and College Avenue: The clerk and Commissioner Bowen will be meeting with a paving contractor this week for another estimate to repair the speed hump.

Railroad crossing at Hudnell and Park: Mayor Richter will contact Mayor Mac Hodges of the City of Washington regarding this issue.

Speeding on Bank Street and College Avenue: The Sheriff's office has removed the malfunctioning speed wagon. The clerk will contact the Sheriff's office to ask about its replacement.

Planning Board membership: Mayor Richter will ask for volunteers in the next Town Crier.

Spruce Street ditch: Mayor Richter will ask Sid Hassell, Town attorney, to attend either the January or February meeting regarding quit claim or quiet claim. The clerk will send a copy of correspondence from the Town attorney to the Board regarding this issue.

Chickens: Mayor Richter asked the Board for their impressions from the Planning Board's report. Discussion followed regarding a postcard survey and subsequent public meeting about chickens. Commissioner Dale suggesting using the Town seal on the postcard for verification purposes. Mayor Richter will draft a postcard and cover letter and email it to the Board prior to any mailing to residents.

Waterfront depression fill-in: The clerk has contacted Mitch St. Clair for this work.

Mid-East Commission representation: Commissioner Peacock made a motion to appoint Mayor Richter as the Town's representative to the Mid-East Commission. Seconded by Commissioner Dale. Passed by all.

Tilter for garbage truck: Commissioner Bowen said that he had ordered more cylinders for this project and accepted Commissioner Wood's offer of help with the creation of this device.

Commissioner Nash made a motion to go into closed session for a personnel issue. Seconded by Commissioner Peacock. Passed by all.

Commissioner Nash made a motion to go out of closed session and return to the regular meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Bowen. Passed by all.

### **New Business**

Mayor Richter asked the new Town Board to accept areas of responsibility with seniority being a primary consideration and interest a secondary consideration. The following areas of responsibility are assumed by the new Board: Finance, Commissioner Peacock; Crime and Safety, Commissioner Nash; Streets and Drainage, Commissioner Bowen; Beautification, Commissioner Wood; Recreation, Commissioner Dale.

By acclamation, Jeff Peacock was appointed Mayor pro tem.

### **Reports**

Commissioner Nash – presented a proposed boat storage policy and registration form. He asked the Board to look over these documents and make changes. There will be more discussion at the next meeting. He reported that there was nothing from the Sheriff's Office or Animal Control.

Commissioner Bowen – reported that he and the clerk had met with Danny Meadows from Clayton Engineering, a civil engineering firm with municipal experience, regarding the drainage on the east end of Isabella Avenue. Clayton Engineering will get back to the clerk regarding an engineering study and cost estimate. Commissioner Bowen also reported on the paving estimates for repair work and said that there would be specific language in the contract and the Request For Quote. Commissioner Nash made a motion authorizing Commissioner Bowen to negotiate the re-paving work up to \$7000. Seconded by Mayor pro tem Peacock. Passed by all.

Mayor pro tem Peacock – no report.

### **Clerk's Report**

The clerk asked the Board to approve the 5K run sponsored by Northside High School's Future Farmers of America to be held on 2/22/14. Commissioner Nash made a motion to allow the Northside FFA run on 2/22/14 as long as the group left no trace. Seconded by Commissioner Dale. Passed by all. The clerk also asked the Board whether they wanted to allow the FinishStrong organization to hold a triathlon in Washington Park on 6/28/14, saying that the Chamber of Commerce was no longer sponsoring this event. Discussion followed. Commissioner Nash made a motion to allow FinishStrong to hold the event as a "turnkey operation" (i.e. FinishStrong would provide all volunteers, equipment, setup and cleanup) for a \$1000 deposit for the use of the waterfront. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Passed by all. The clerk reported that Warren Smith had attended the Washington Electric Advisory Board and said that the discussion at the meeting was about load management. The clerk said that she had spoken with Travis Hudson, a registered beaver trapper about the beaver dams on Maple Creek and that she has called Allen Lewis with the City of Washington regarding beaver dams on the east side of Brick Kiln Road. The clerk asked about Christmas gifts for employees and the Board agreed to give each employee, including the clerk, a \$50 Christmas gift. The clerk added that she had researched certificates of deposit interest rates and recommended keeping the Powell Bill CD for \$90,129.29 which comes due on 12/6/13 with First South Bank at a 12-month rate of .20%. The Board agreed to keeping the Powell Bill CD with First South Bank.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Denise D. Dale  
Clerk, Town of Washington Park