

MINUTES  
TOWN OF PITTSBORO  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, MAY 11, 2009  
7:00 PM

Mayor Randy Voller called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. and called for a brief moment of silence.

**ATTENDANCE**

Members present: Mayor Randy Voller, Commissioners Pamela Baldwin, Gene T. Brooks, Clinton E. Bryan, III, Hugh Harrington, and Chris Walker.

Staff present: Town Manager Bill Terry, Town Clerk Alice F. Lloyd, Attorney Paul S. Messick, Jr., Chief of Police David D. Collins, Planner David Monroe, Assistant Planner Paul Horne, John Poteat, Utilities Director and Finance Director Scott Borrer.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion made by Commissioner Walker seconded by Commissioner Baldwin to approve the Agenda as submitted by the Manager.

Vote   Aye-5   Nay-0

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The Consent Agenda contains the following items:

1. Approve minutes of the April 27, 2009 regular meeting.
2. An amendment to Section 4.2 STEPs 2 and 3 of the Subdivision Regulations to clarify proposed park dedication and to codify the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board participation in plan review.

Commissioner Harrington said in the first paragraph on page 14 of the April 27 minutes under Commissioner Concerns, he was speaking about powdered activated carbon. He said the sentence read “He said that Mr. Terry’s figures on the economic evaluation of the granulated activated carbon seemed to be high, but believed there was no excuse for them to ever have high THMs again after they went to that system.” He said what they were talking about was if they went to powdered activated carbon, so that sentence needed to be clarified to say “...no excuse for them to ever high THMs again if they could use powdered activated carbon.”

Mayor Voller said on page 15, the first paragraph, second sentence, it said "...Pittsboro would be a good mainstream candidate." He said it should read "...Pittsboro would be a good Main Street candidate."

Motion made by Commissioner Walker seconded by Commissioner Baldwin to approve the Consent Agenda with corrections to the April 27 minutes as noted by Commissioner Harrington and Mayor Voller.

Vote Aye-5 Nay-0

## **REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

### **Citizens Matters**

Max G. Cotten, 133 Pittsboro School Road, stated that the Board had received a copy of his letter regarding the 3M reuse project and would like it entered into the minutes, as follows:

Dear Mr. Terry:

Since the April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting I have spent considerable time reviewing documents in my files (2002-2008) pertaining to this project. These documents included: contracts/agreements; budgets prepared by Hobbs/Upchurch; correspondence (letters and email); and, grant documents. This review has resulted in formulation of the following questions which I feel you and the Pittsboro Town Council should answer during a regular meeting prior to awarding the construction contracts now being written.

Question 1: What is sources and amount of funds to be used?

Question 2: How much of the \$970,000 grant has been spent to date?

Question 3: Is Town of Pittsboro incurring debt to pay for this project?

Question 4: Will fees to be paid by 3M for the water sufficient to pay operating pump station, transmission line, and storage tank?

Question 5: Will Town of Pittsboro be responsible for disposing of water sent to 3M which is not of quality acceptable to 3M?

This letter represents my final effort to persuade Town of Pittsboro to abandon this project. I have never felt the project was in the best interest of Pittsboro.

The review of the documents has served to re-enforce this feeling.

Respectfully,

Max G. Cotten

Motion made by Commissioner Brooks seconded by Commissioner Baldwin to enter Max G. Cotten's letter into the minutes of tonight's meeting.

Vote Aye-5 Nay-0

Charles R. Devinney, former Mayor, stated his wife was curious about the letter they had received regarding the changeover to chloramines that would begin in May. Mr. Terry said he had planned to cover that during his Capital Projects update but could do so now. He said that the public notices had been mailed and they were ready to make that change at any time. Mr. Terry stated his initial recommendation was to do the transition on Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, but the activation date could be delayed until June 8<sup>th</sup> and provide that specific date on the next water billing cycle to allow for more notice.

Mr. Devinney asked why they had not provided advance notification, especially for those who had older homes with copper pipes. He said a few weeks were not enough time to prepare for the change, and the Town had known about the changeover for some time. Mr. Devinney stated the remainder of his comments was specifically for Commissioner Brooks, and thanked him for making the public aware of such issues.

Jeffrey York, 90 Coble Ridge Drive in Powell Place, stated that before the recent recession Pittsboro was growing with new subdivisions being built and others in the planning stages. He said those subdivisions were attracting buyers from around the country and helping to grow the tax base. Mr. York said the recession would not last and people would find Pittsboro a desirable place to live, noting that one of the things that made Pittsboro attractive to those new homebuyers were the cultural activities and the large arts community in the area. He stated that many of those activities were organized and sponsored by the Chatham County Arts Council, noting that Briar Chapel had sought partnership with the Arts Council for educational programs and to place public art in various locations to make subdivisions more attractive. Mr. York provided other examples of those types of partnerships to emphasize how important the arts were to Pittsboro to create a desirable quality of life.

Mr. York stated that the Chatham County Arts Council needed the Town's monetary support and hoped that the Board would consider that as they worked on the upcoming budget, so that cultural activities could stay alive and the Chatham County Arts Council could continue its excellent service to the community.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

Motion made by Commissioner Brooks seconded by Commissioner Walker to go into public hearing.

Vote Aye-5 Nay-0

### **1. Manager's Recommended Budget for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.**

Manager Terry indicated the locations where the budget had been available for public viewing, including posting on the Town's Web site and in the lobby of the Town Hall. He stated he would open the discussion up to comments and questions by citizens and from the Board.

Max G. Cotten, 133 Pittsboro School Road, said that he had concerns about the budget with the major one being the water and sewer rate increases. He said that the Board needed to rethink the rate schedule, noting that residents were paying too high a rate and the new schedule was

“ridiculous.” Mr. Cotten asked the Board to consider a base charge for 1,000 gallons for the base price.

Mr. Cotten stated he agreed that the Town needed to add the lab technician position to the Water/Sewer Department since they were converting to the new system. He also endorsed the addition of the Water Systems mechanic being proposed, but reiterated the need to increase the number of gallons included in the base charge. Mr. Cotten said regarding Solid Waste, he understood the charge would be \$180 for next year, and asked that the Board consider an agreement with the County to allow residents of the Town to use the County’s recycling center instead of depending on Waste Management to pick up their recyclables. He said if that was not possible, then having Waste Management provide roll out carts for recyclables would be preferable to reduce costs. Mr. Cotten added that even though the \$180 appeared on residents’ tax bills, that charge was not tax deductible. He said because of that fact, the tax rate should be adjusted accordingly and the \$180 fee done away with.

Mr. Cotten said that he was also deeply concerned that the Town was not maintaining the streets properly, specifically mentioning Thompson Street as a safety hazard. He said regarding the Manager’s Add List, he was opposed to transit service between Pittsboro and Chapel Hill and did not believe that the taxpayers should be helping Chapel Hill out with its parking problems. Mr. Cotten said regarding the additional Police Officer position, he believed the Board did need to add that, noting that he did not want to ever hear that only one officer was on duty at any time.

Mr. Cotten said regarding the recent passage of the liquor by the drink referendum, the Police Department would be assuming enforcement of the State ABC laws. He said he also endorsed the addition of the Engineer position, noting the advantages of having such a Town representative inspecting the infrastructure of developers’ engineers and reviewing plans submitted to the Town.

Phil Bors, 174 Woodbury Forest Road, said that he was a member of the Parks and Recreation Board and appreciated the Board’s support and the State grants received to build the Powell Place Park and future park across from 3M. He stated that continuing support was very important to the Town, and urged the Board to continue its support now and through future budget years. Mr. Bors stated that parks, trails, recreation, and walkable communities were crucial for quality of life and would help to attract businesses, regional tourists and new residents, and promote the health of existing residents. He urged the Board to prioritize those issues as investments in the Town.

Mayor Voller stated he would be bringing to the Board at the next meeting the Safe Routes to School Program, and asked if grant funds might be available this year for that program. Mr. Bors stated it was worth putting in an application, noting they supported that program as did Town staff, and believed they could put together a quality application.

Molly Matlock, Executive Director of the Chatham County Arts Council and a resident of Bynum, provided comments regarding how arts strengthened the Pittsboro economy, summarized below:

- She had been influenced to purchase a home in the area because of the area's reputation as an affordable yet creative community.
- The Arts Council was one of the local organizations responsible for the quality of life she enjoyed, and they found that many new residents initially developed an interest in Pittsboro after encountering positive experiences at cultural events. For that reason, the Arts Council was crucial for economic revitalization.
- Because of the many cultural arts events, Pittsboro had become a desirable day trip that sometimes translated into a desirable relocation.
- The Arts Council increased tourism and in turn the tax base, strengthened the educational systems, and supported a wealth of career artists and arts retailers.
- Based on a multiplier effect formula developed by the State Arts Council, they estimated that Chatham Arts events and services contributed \$1.5 million to the local economy through ticket sales and related spending at area retailers, dining establishments, gas stations, beds and breakfast, grocery stores, and others. The Assistant Director of the State Arts Council named Pittsboro and the Chatham Arts Council "an absolute gold mine."
- By 2005, census studies show that more people were moving into Pittsboro than moving out, coming primarily from Wake, Orange and Durham counties, but now coming from all over the country.
- Developers of such developments as Briar Chapel and Chapel Ridge had sought the Arts Council out as partners because they knew what their potential homebuyers wanted.
- It was not only the community theatre productions, the Artist Guild's studio tour, the annual Bluegrass Experience concert, Farm and Arts afternoons, art gallery exhibits, and arts and dance classes that made Pittsboro and Chatham County so appealing to families and newcomers, it was also the fact that their programs in the schools and after school art classes improved the reputation of their educational system.
- Last year the Arts Council brought 12 Arts in Education residencies to 3,000 Chatham County students, which used art to teach standard core curricula such as literacy, science, and social studies. Statistics showed that students who participated in arts residences were 4 times more likely to score higher on standardized tests, 4 times more likely to stay in school and go on to college, 4 times more likely to win awards for writing or leadership, and 4 times more likely to volunteer in their own communities.
- Many of the people choosing to live in Pittsboro over other communities do so because they are artists. They are professionals who typically work from home, placing very little drain on infrastructure and resources. Instead they pour their resources back into the local businesses, public agencies, and charities. Furthermore, they broaden the tax base, allowing a further strengthening of infrastructure and supporting positive growth.
- The unique nature of that creative workforce provides the very backbone for the Town's growth, and they anticipated that the population of artists would continue to grow. The Chatham County Arts Council was pivotal to providing a secure basis for that growth, noting that their gallery supported the professional development of more than 90 local artists through various means.
- This year, they were providing after school and summer art classes for local families who did not want to drive out of County to find constructive activities for their children.

Ms. Matlock stated that an investment in their creative resources was an investment in providing more revenue for all services throughout the County, such as healthcare, housing, social services,

and schools. She said that each year, the Town of Goldston with a population of nearly 400 donated about \$.70 per resident to the Chatham Arts Council, but the Arts Council was tasked with being the arts council for the entire County.

Ms. Matlock said as the County seat, Pittsboro received the most benefit from their services. She said as their home base, the Chatham County Arts Council was asking Pittsboro to spend \$1 per Pittsboro resident, or \$2,543, to bring each citizen the professional and educational services, the family fun, and the cultural activities that made Pittsboro an attractive place to visit, to relocate, to love, and to stay.

Charles Devinney asked what the current population was. Mayor Voller stated the official number was likely at variance with the actual population, noting the population was probably over 3,000. Mr. Devinney stated that a lot of the tax dollars being collected in the Town were going to the County once it was divided up using the pro rata formula. He stated that organizations such as the Arts Council needed to be reminded that Pittsboro residents also paid the County taxes, and he did not want to pay for a program but once. Mr. Devinney said regarding the budget, he did not believe that raises should be provided for employees this year, noting now was not the time due to the economy. He also said he agreed with Mr. Cotten regarding the \$180 fee for Solid Waste, and believed the Board should look into that. Mr. Devinney said that Old Graham Road was dangerous and was in dire need of a sidewalk for the safety of pedestrians. He said regarding parks and recreation areas, grants should be used for such amenities. Mr. Devinney asked that the Board look very carefully at the budget, noting that he did not believe there was any such thing as “revenue neutral” and hoped the Board did not really believe there was.

Lot Voller, 157 Chatham Mill Road, said that he was a veteran of the Vietnam War and had served the country for 20 years in the US Air Force, the Air National Guard and the Reserves. He said he had recently learned about the VFW in Pittsboro, and believed the Town in its wisdom should find a way to set aside funds annually for community-based organizations such as the VFW, the Chatham County Arts Council, the Pittsboro Merchant’s Association, and others to receive Town support and recurring funding. Mr. Voller stated he understood the need to be wise stewards of their tax dollars, but also saw how effectively the Town could leverage the community at large to achieve consensus on many important issues and stimulate and create long-term partnerships with the community for a limited recurring annual investment. Mr. Voller stated he was fiscally conservative, but could see the advantages of investments in their community. He stated his hope that through the budgetary process the Board would see the wisdom in small important investments, such as in the transit service, the VFW, the Arts Council, and others.

Faythe Canson Clark, 50 Chatham Forest Drive, echoed her support for the transit service. She made the following requests:

- that the Board place in the budget sufficient funding to implement the pilot transportation service project for a period of six months;
- that the Board allow her the same six months to research and apply for grant funding under a Memorandum of Understanding with the Town, to offset and/or cover the cost for the final 12 months of the study; and

- that the Town Manager share with her the contents of the proposal so that she could begin her research.

Kailing Fu, spoke in favor of the transit service between Pittsboro and Chapel Hill, noting when she had heard about the possibility she had been very excited by the prospect. She said when she had understood that the Board had chosen not to begin the service she had been very disappointed as had many others. She said that the service would be very important to many residents and urged the Board to include the service in the upcoming budget.

Motion made by Commissioner Walker seconded by Commissioner Brooks to close the public hearing.

Vote Aye-5 Nay-0

Mayor Voller noted that the budget work session was scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on May 18.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Manager's Update on Capital Projects.**

Mr. Terry provided the following update on Capital Projects:

- ◆ Disinfection Byproducts Reduction Project – Mr. Terry stated they had talked about this project earlier in the meeting, but reiterated that the public notices had been mailed and they were ready to make that change at any time. Mr. Terry stated that the activation date could be delayed until June 8<sup>th</sup> so that the specific date could be included on the next billing cycle to allow for more notice.

Commissioner Harrington asked when they would be operating 24/7. Mr. Terry responded that one employee was expected to receive his license in May but was not sure of the date, but once that happened then would be ready to go to 24/7 operation very soon thereafter.

Mayor Voller asked if they had gotten any additional feedback regarding the public notice that had been mailed. Mr. Terry responded surprising little, noting they had mailed out over 1,700 letters and he had received only two phone calls from residents.

Commissioner Harrington asked what the concerns were of those two callers. Mr. Terry said one was concerned about how it would affect her aquarium, and the other had asked for some clarification of the information.

Mayor Voller asked if they had received any feedback from the school board or other institutions about their buildings. Mr. Terry replied he had not personally, but Mr. Poteat may have received some contact.

John Poteat stated that he had visited each school and spoken with the principals, and he had received no questions and very little comment.

Mayor Voller said that this was an interim step and they were looking for long-term solutions, and the letter may not have made that clear. He said where they would be in 5 to 10 years was still unknown and they continued to work on that.

Commissioner Harrington stated that he did share some of Commissioner Brooks' concerns regarding the schools, and wondered just as a safeguard if they should test some of the water for lead to see if there was a problem. Mr. Poteat said there was no discussion about lead, although there were a few questions about how the change would affect people who were ill or had immune deficiency issues. He said he had provided his contact information and urged the principals to contact him should they have questions or concerns, but no one had done so.

Commissioner Brooks said that many months ago he had taken information to the school administration office and left it for them, so they had received some prior notification. He said he had never heard anything from them as a result of that information.

Mayor Voller said he would be writing a letter to go to the County and the Schools about the Safe Routes to School program, and he would add that to that letter. He said they ought to respond since the Town had communicated information many times, but they had never communicated back.

Commissioner Brooks said previously they had heard from a woman with the Duke Department of Environmental Sciences who had related information about problems they had had with the Durham school system and some of the actions they had taken. He stated that two years ago they had had to close down the YMCA program at UNC because of problems with lead in the water. Commissioner Brooks said it was sad that so many of the schools had pipes that had cement on top of them, and they had some potential problems that they needed to be aware of and should have a plan in place to deal with those problems should they come to pass. He said he believed the Board and Town staff had done everything humanly possible to inform the public.

Mayor Voller agreed, noting they wanted to supply the best quality water product and were moving in that direction. Mr. Terry said if the Board would like he would call the Superintendent of Schools directly. Mayor Voller stated he believed that was an excellent idea.

Commissioner Baldwin agreed.

Commissioner Brooks said they could get some input from Dr. Edwards who was working with Hobbs and Upchurch, who had reports that might prove helpful.

Commissioner Harrington suggested it might be reasonable to take some baseline samples for lead at the schools prior to the change to chloramination to have them on file for the record. Mr. Poteat asked did he want to check just for lead. Commissioner Harrington said lead would be the main concern.

Mr. Terry said he believed there was a requirement for periodic spot testing for lead. Mr. Poteat said they were required to do periodic random testing across Town, but did not believe they had done so at the schools.

Commissioner Harrington said it would make sense to do a “before and after” sampling at the schools, at least.

Commissioner Baldwin said the woman from Duke had said they had found some lead contamination in a Durham school coming from a water fountain, so that might be one area that should be tested.

Mayor Voller agreed that they should do that sampling before and after the changeover was accomplished.

Commissioner Brooks said that this County required all rural churches to have their water checked once a month at their expense. He said it appeared to him that if the County required such a check that they should be requiring checks at the County schools as well.

Mayor Voller said it seemed logical if you required it of churches that you would require it of schools as well.

Mr. Terry continued with his update:

- ◆ 3.22 MGD Wastewater Treatment Plant Construction – Mr. Terry stated there was nothing new to report other than they were still expecting to receive the EIS completed review very soon.
- ◆ Short-term Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Project – They had met with John Brinkley of Stearns and Wheler to discuss various grant funding options. They were planning to submit the project for consideration under the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of ARRA funding in June or early July. If unsuccessful, then they would pursue the USDA grant.
- ◆ Credle Street Basin Rehabilitation Project (Phase III and IV) – The State had released the list of projects to be funded under the ARRA and this project was not on the list. There would be a round two of funding, and they would be pursuing that. If no funding was forthcoming, then the project may need to be addressed in the CIP.
- ◆ 3M Reclaimed Water System Project – Contract #2 had been executed and they were waiting for contracts #1 and #3 to come back from the contractors. A preconstruction meeting was scheduled for May 14<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. at 3M, but if the contracts had not been received by that time then that preconstruction meeting would be rescheduled.
- ◆ Powell Place Park (Pittsboro Town Park) – Construction plans and specifications were at about 90% complete. They were on schedule to advertise for bids in late May or early June.

Mr. Terry asked if the Board had any interest in seeing the final plans for the park before they went to bid.

Mayor Voller said there had been two items he had hoped would be considered. He said one was the potential roughing in of a sewer tap for the future, and asked was that a potential add on or was it under discussion. Assistant Planner Paul Horne said the grant money they had received would not cover that type of infrastructure. He said if they decided to do it later it would not damage anything to run that line.

Mr. Terry said he agreed with the Mayor that it would be better to rough it in now if the budget would bear it. But, he said, it appeared the budget would not support it. He said there were several other items such as lighting the trails and providing an extra couple of feet of width to accommodate pedestrians and cyclists. Mr. Horne said from the outset they had believed they could accommodate that given the estimates they had received, and the architect was confident they would be able to do so. Mr. Terry asked was that in the base bid. Mr. Horne replied yes, noting he had pulled in at least \$17,000 in additional funds for various aspects of the project, such as for pavers for the parking lot, lane markings, and greenway enhancement.

Mayor Voller said he believed it would be cheaper to rough in the sewer tap now because construction costs were down, and would like to see that done. He said they needed to make that decision before too much longer, because if they waited until later the cost may be extraordinary due to inflation and other aspects of adding it to an already partially completed project.

Commissioner Harrington said that would be a good topic for the work session next week. Mr. Terry agreed, and said they could include the sewer tap in the bid document with the option of funding it from Fund Balance if the Board chose to do that. He said it could save the Town as much as \$30,000 in the future.

Mr. Horne said the \$30,000 estimate was correct including the engineering work.

Mayor Voller stated he would like to discuss it at the May 18<sup>th</sup> work session, noting the cost may be double that years from now.

Mr. Terry continued his update:

- ◆ Improvements on 15-501 at Springdale Drive – Mr. Messick had proposed a reviewed contract that was to be presented tonight, but the developer had requested some additional changes to incorporate the design documents approved by NCDOT as an exhibit to the contract. They hoped to bring the signed contract to the May 26<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.
- ◆ Downtown Area Water System Improvement Project – That project was a candidate for stimulus funding, but grant awards had not yet been announced.

Mayor Voller said interestingly enough it did not appear that small municipalities were getting any funding, and it appeared that larger municipalities were having similar problems. He stated he believed they needed to continue to press water issues since he believed they were the most important for any municipality.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Report on Proposed “Silent Forest” Halloween Amusement Event. (Mark Tangherlini, Applicant)**

Mr. Terry noted that Mr. Tangherlini was not present so the report would not be presented.

**2. Chatham/Orange Joint Planning Task Force. Action recommended: Appoint two Town Board Members to represent the Town of Pittsboro on the Chatham/Orange Joint Planning Task Force.**

Mr. Terry stated the Board had received a letter from the Orange County Board of Commissioners requesting that the Board participate in the formation of the Chatham/Orange Joint Planning Task Force by appointing two Board members to represent the Town. He said the Task Force would talk about issues of common interest such as planning issues and regional transportation issues. He said he had tried to reach the contact person for clarification if both positions were to be Board members who were expected to attend every meeting or if the second was to be a primary alternate. Mr. Terry said he had been forced to leave a voicemail message and had not yet had a response to his question. He said if taken at face value, it appeared that two Board members would be expected at every meeting.

Mayor Voller said he also believed that the Town of Cary wanted to be included on the Task Force, but did not know what the outcome of that would be. He said they were technically a municipality in Chatham County due to the development in northeast Chatham. Mayor Voller stated a similar ad hoc committee had been formed in the past, and believed this Task Force had grown out of that. Mr. Terry said then this was a continuation of that former committee. Mayor Voller said that was his belief. Mr. Terry stated he remembered attending a previous meeting of that ad hoc committee, and this Task Force was somewhat different in that it was being limited to elected officials.

Motion made by Commissioner Harrington seconded by Commissioner Walker to table the request until more information was obtained.

Vote Aye-5 Nay-0

### **Mayor Updates**

Mayor Voller commented that the Board meeting that would normally take place on Monday, May 25, would take place on Tuesday, May 26 because of the Memorial Day holiday. He stated that the EDC was holding a meeting tomorrow in Siler City at 7:30 at Joanne Fabrics, and invited the Commissioners to attend. Mayor Voller stated he would be bringing information regarding the Safe Routes to Schools program to the Board very soon.

Regarding the sidewalk that former Mayor Devinney had brought up, he said they had been able to get funding for a sidewalk from Al's Diner up to CCCC on NC 87. He agreed with Mr. Devinney that Old Graham Road was in great need of a sidewalk and it was dangerous to walk on that road.

Mayor Voller asked if the Commissioners had put in any thought to the suggestion of having fireworks on July 4<sup>th</sup>, or should they take it up at the budget work session next week. Mr. Terry stated he had included that on the Add List in the Recommended Budget.

Commissioner Brooks said that former Mayor Charles Devinney could speak on the subject of fireworks from past experience as Mayor and as a member of the Fire Department. Mr. Devinney said the first step would be to get permission from the County Commissioners to hold the event, and secondly you would need to hire a pyrotechnic specialist to set them off. He stated he had never known anyone to be hurt during a fireworks display but a couple of fireworks had gone astray in the past. Mr. Devinney said the Fire Department used to shoot them off, but it became too dangerous and the liability was too high.

Mr. Terry said he had experience with fireworks while in the military and it was not a good experience.

Commissioner Baldwin stated that the estimated cost for fireworks was between \$12,000 and \$14,000, and whatever company the fireworks were purchased from would supply pyrotechnical employees to set off the fireworks and would also provide the liability insurance.

Mayor Voller said he had had several questions about the sidewalk by Wade Barbour's office, and asked had anyone looked at that. Mr. Poteat said they would be repairing that sidewalk the last week of June.

### **Commissioner Concerns**

Commissioner Brooks thanked Mr. Terry and staff for expediting the change agreed to in front of the hardware store and the businesses along 15-501 South. He said there had been a glitch with DOT but it had been addressed, and the work would be proceeding.

Commissioner Brooks said he did not understand why he was still being called to sign Town checks, noting that was one of the reasons he had resigned as Mayor pro tem. He requested that Mayor Voller notify the Town well in advance when he was going to be out of Town. Mayor Voller responded he would be happy to do so.

Commissioner Walker asked Commissioner Baldwin had she signed a signature card for the Town's bank. Commissioner Baldwin responded she had not. Commissioner Walker said that was why Commissioner Brooks was still being asked to sign checks.

Mr. Terry stated if the Board would provide some guidance, then they could arrange to have others authorized to sign on behalf of the Town so that it would not be burdensome to just one or two.

Commissioner Walker said they could talk with Finance Director Scott Borrer and decide who they wanted to sign checks, and then go from there. Mr. Terry stated that Mr. Borrer was authorized to sign checks, but an elected official had to co-sign as required by the auditors. He stated he would do some research and report back to the Board.

Mayor Voller stated that now that the mixed beverage issue had been answered he hoped that the questions that had been raised would now be resolved. He said he knew that there were businesses in the process of applying for permits at the present time. Mr. Terry said they had

been doing some homework to see what the Town might need to do; noting he believed their role would be minimal. He said the Town would get a courtesy review of the application for licenses; the Planner would have to sign off that the applicant's establishment was in the proper zoning area, and the Police Chief would have to sign off after having conducted a background check.

Commissioner Harrington said that one of the questions might be if they allowed sidewalk café's where people could technically be drinking mixed beverages on public property. He said those types of ordinances may need to be considered although there may be no urgency in doing that. Mr. Terry said if issues came up then the Board could deal with them at that time. He said it was his sense that there was nothing the Town needed to do unless a problem emerged that required an ordinance change.

Mr. Monroe stated that currently ABC regulations prohibited the consumption of alcoholic beverages on any public property, so that did not need to be addressed by the Town. He said the permits being applied for and issued now were provisional permits for 90 days during which time the ABC Commission would be reviewing the applications to determine if there was anything objectionable in allowing the business to obtain a permit.

Mayor Voller said he would hope that the Planning Board would be able to look at the various issues that might arise and perhaps provide recommendations to the Board.

Mr. Terry reminded the Commissioners that the budget work session was scheduled for Monday, May 18, at 6:30 p.m. He encouraged the Commissioners to alert him or Mr. Borrer if there were any outstanding issues they wanted more information on prior to the work session.

## **ADJOURN**

Motion made by Commissioner Walker seconded by Commissioner Baldwin to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Vote   Aye-5   Nay-0

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Randolph Voller, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Alice F. Lloyd, CMC, Town Clerk