

MINUTES
TOWN OF PITTSBORO
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MAY 23, 2005
7:00 P.M.

Mayor Nancy R. May called the meeting to order and gave invocation.

ATTENDANCE

Members present: Mayor Nancy R. May, Commissioners Max G. Cotten, Burnice Griffin, Jr., Clinton E. Bryan, Jr., Gene T. Brooks and Chris Walker.

Other staff present: Manager David Hughes, Clerk Alice F. Lloyd and Attorney Paul S. Messick, Jr.

CITIZENS MATTERS

None

AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion made by Commissioner Cotten seconded by Commissioner Walker to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of placing an item at the beginning under old business in order to take some action. Vote Aye-5 Nay-0

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion made by Commissioner Cotten seconded by Commissioner to Walker to approve the consent agenda.

- Minutes of May 9, 2005 Board of Commissioners regular meeting.
- Approve revised Sewer Use Ordinance. Revision required by the Division of Water Quality due to changes in required maximum penalties and inconsistencies in previous SUO model ordinances.
- Set a public hearing for the 2005-2006 Budget Ordinance for June 13, 2005.
Vote Aye-5 Nay-0

**TOWN OF PITTSBORO REVISED SEWER USE ORDINANCE IS RECORDED
IN THE BOOK OF ORDINANCES NUMBER ONE, PAGES 19-49**

OLD BUSINESS

PARKING ALONG RESIDENTIAL STREETS

Discuss possible ordinance restricting large trucks parking along residential streets. City of Shelby parking of trucks ordinance enclosed for information.

Manager Hughes stated that Attorney Messick has prepared an ordinance regulating traffic in the Town of Pittsboro for the board’s consideration as follows:

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Pittsboro:

I. It shall be unlawful for any person to park any motor vehicle of a width exceeding six and one-half (6 ½) **OR** (a length exceeding 19) feet on any of the public streets in the Town between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. following, except when necessary to stop for the purpose of loading or unloading, and then only during the period in which such loading or unloading operation is being carried out.

OR

II. All trucks, truck-trailers, trailers, semi-trailers, house trailers or buses at any time are operated into, out of, through, or within the corporate limits of the Town and the drivers and operators of any such vehicles shall use private property for parking and storing those vehicles within the corporate limits, and they are hereby prohibited from using the public streets of the Town except for the purposes of travel and transporting, loading and unloading and except for temporary parking in cases of emergency involving a mechanical breakdown necessitating repairs to any such vehicle. Provided that the provisions of this section shall not apply to trucks of three-fourths-ton capacity or less, nor shall it apply to school buses parked in conformity with permits issued by the Police Department.

III. This Ordinance shall be effective upon the adoption hereof and the posting of signs giving notice hereof.

Motion made by Commissioner Cotten seconded by Commissioner Walker to approve item number II & III as an ordinance regulating traffic in the Town of Pittsboro.

Vote Aye-5 Nay-0

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING TRAFFIC IN THE TOWN OF PITTSBORO IS RECORDED IN THE BOOK OF ORDINANCES NUMBER ONE, PAGE 50

MEDICAL BENEFITS PLAN

Discuss medical benefits plan. Mr. John Gasiorowski will present plan for comparison.

Mr. Gasiorowski went over the rate comparison for medical and dental insurance.

COPY OF MEDICAL & DENTAL BENEFIT COMPARISON IS RECORDED IN THE BOOK OF RESOLUTIONS NUMBER ONE, PAGES 59-61

DISCUSSION – VANCE BROOKS – THE WOOTEN COMPANY

Discuss addition of ammonia at water plant as it relates to possible metal leaching and THM formation. Mr. Vance Brooks from the Wooten Company will make presentation.

Mr. Vance Brooks made a presentation and answered questions.

Commissioner Cotten stated he is opposed to adding ammonia to the water. Why was it recommended to add ammonia?

Mr. Brooks stated that there are other ways that it can be treated but ammonia is the cheapest way.

The Board had concerns about adding ammonia since articles have been in the paper about chemicals mixing with plumbing that could put lead in tap water.

Vance Brooks stated the only national publicity is the occurrence in Washington.

Commissioner Cotten stated there was an article in the Sanford Herald about poly-phosphates.

Vance Brooks stated Pittsboro used ortho-phosphates.

Vance Brooks stated the Town has been in violation of THM's level for a period of time.

Commissioner Walker stated it appears we will be damned if they do or don't – adding ammonia could cause lead poisoning. How new is this practice?

Vance Brooks stated he believes it was used before WWII.

DISCUSSION FY 2005-2006 BUDGET

Conduct discussion of 2005-2006 Budget.

Motion made by Commissioner Cotten seconded by Commissioner Griffin to accept the general fund budget as proposed with the additional funds needed to come from fund balance and the tax rate be set at .44 cents.

Vote Aye-1 Cotten
 Nay-4 Bryan/Brooks/Walker/Griffin

Commissioner Brooks stated the solid waste fee should be a separate item, Commissioner Walker agreed.

There was a discussion about how the tax neutral rate is derived.

Commissioner Bryan stated the easy way is just to divide the new evaluation by the old dollars, which would give you your rate for neutral.

Manager Hughes stated then you multiply by growth factor – which is what the rules say.

Commissioner Bryan stated he was not taking in a growth factor.

Commissioner Walker asked if he understood correctly that a tax neutral rate is 37.3 cents, adding in 6.7 cents equal .44 cents. The revenues will be short a little over \$238,000 and to make that up the rate would have to be increased to 54.4 cents.

Manager Hughes stated the shortage can be taken from fund balance.

Commissioner Bryan stated or you can cut expenditures.

Commissioner Walker stated there are a couple of things he's looking at reducing/cutting. He would like for the board to consider Alternate 1 with the health insurance (Alternate 1 is more in line with most businesses today). That would be approximately a \$19,000 savings. He is putting this out as food for thought, not saying to do it. He would like to keep the general fund as revenue neutral as possible.

Commissioner Bryan stated he feels we should hold out on hiring a finance officer.

Commissioner Brooks stated as an example, Chief Clapp came before the board sometime ago saying he needed another sergeant. One of his reasons was because he had so much paperwork to do. It was his understanding that's why they hired a clerk. He also understood that she was to assist in other things. Don't know if she is trained to help

with finance or not. He thinks Mr. Cotten has a valid point we do need a finance officer, but does not believe this is the year.

Mayor May stated she feels we need one too. But not until things explode around here. Maybe we can hold off another year. She did try to get in touch with Mr. Bobby Wood but he's out of the office.

Commissioner Bryan stated Mr. Woods thinks it is an excellent idea, but he thinks it's a little early for it.

Commissioner Walker stated he had the same conversation with him.

Commissioner Cotten stated the position is greatly needed. Duties of finance officer are outlined in the law. The audit report last time said the board needed to do something about this issue and that was one of his big findings. When he called the auditor about this he was very supportive of the need and felt it would be a great benefit. He wanted to know if I wanted to see him dance if it passed. I know it is a big salary but it is not any bigger than some of the others that we are paying. Overall it would be a great benefit to the Town.

Vote on omitting a finance officer position from the budget.

Aye 4 – Brooks/Bryan/Griffin/Walker
Nay 1 – Cotten

Vote on deleting board room expansion. Aye-4 Brooks/Bryan/Griffin/Walker
Nay-1 Cotten (it's needed)

Commissioner Walker asked if the land use plan update could be included in fees.

Commissioner Brooks stated since he has been on the board he knows of two land use plan studies. He knows it's needed. Drop it for the time being this is about 2 ½ cents.

Manager Hughes said the current land use plan does not include the ETJ area.

Commissioner Brooks stated the only reason the Town asked the County and Legislature for a 3 mile ETJ was to get out to the bypass and to hopefully develop a industrial park where Powell Place is going. We ended up with three miles all the way around the Town. He feels we are doing a pretty good job with planning out there where these things are being proposed.

Commissioner Walker asked if we could get by on a lower amount?

Manager Hughes stated you get what you pay for.

Attorney Messick stated this also includes the zoning and subdivision ordinances which the board has been complaining about.

Commissioner Brooks asked if we can do some of the rewriting in house since we have a full time planner.

Vote on keeping it in the budget, but not to spend it now.

Aye-3 Cotten/Walker/Griffin

Nay-2 Bryan/Brooks

Commissioner Bryan stated he would caution not to spend the money too freely and too fast.

Commissioner Walker would like to see us hold off for one year for vehicles.

Manager Hughes stated one of the patrol vehicles has high mileage and needs to be replaced.

Vote on replacing 1 patrol car and not the Chiefs vehicle.

Aye-4 Brooks/Bryan/Griffin/Cotten

Nay-1 Walker

Commissioner Bryan stated we should get a copy of the audit from the Fire Department. He feels the board is entitled to it.

Commissioner Brooks had concerns about the run-off water being diverted into the Community Building back yard.

Commissioner Walker was excused.

Discussion on salaries.

Commissioner Walker came back.

Vote on 3% across the board cost of living increases.

Aye-5

Commissioner Brooks stated maybe the board can look at some type of bonus in the spring if funds come in.

Manager Hughes stated in the Water and Sewer Fund:

- 10% increase in water and sewer use above the minimum.
- Leave in the sewer rehab.
- Not to include the ammonia process.
- Continue our flushing program.

Commissioner Brooks stated maybe we should look at charging more (20%) with no increase in the minimum.

There was discussion on canceling the debt retirement resolution.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Commissioner Brooks seconded by Commissioner Bryan to adjourn.

Vote Aye-5 Nay-0

Nancy R. May, Mayor

ATTEST:

Alice F. Lloyd, CMC, Town Clerk