

**ELM CITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2012
ELM CITY TOWN HALL
CONFERENCE ROOM**

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Commissioner Childress (hereinafter "Comm. Childress") called to order the regular meeting of the Elm City Board of Commissioners (hereinafter "Board") at 7:30 pm on May 15, 2012.

2. Roll Call

Comm. Childress conducted a roll call. The following were present:

Commissioner, Melvin Cooke (hereinafter "Comm. Cooke")
Commissioner, Lewis Crockett (hereinafter "Comm. Crockett")
Commissioner, Marsha Wells (hereinafter "Comm. Wells")
Commissioner, Gil Wheeler (hereinafter "Comm. Wheeler")
Town Administrator, Jonathan Russell (hereinafter "Admin. Russell")
Town Clerk, Dena Cordell

3. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

Comm. Childress gave the Board opportunity to review the proposed minutes from the April 10, 2012, meeting.

MOTION – Comm. Wheeler made motion to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2012, Elm City Board of Commissioners Meeting; seconded by Comm. Cooke. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. Wilson Economic Development

Jennifer Lantz, with the Wilson Economic Development Council, and Gerry Dudzik, with Carolina Solar Energy, were at the meeting to present the Board with information regarding purchase of the Moore Farm, located on Lake Wilson Road. Carolina Solar Energy plans to construct a 5.0 Mega Watt solar plant and sell the energy that the plant produces to Progress Energy Carolina for

distribution to its customers. Photos were given to the Board as examples of how the plant should look. The Moore property is an ideal property, because it is adjacent to a three phase line, and across the 301 Highway, there is a substation.

This property is located within the Town's ETJ. Allowing the plant to go in would potentially decrease the Town's growth.

5. Wilson County Sheriff's Department

Sheriff Calvin Woodard, of the Wilson County Sheriff's Department, was present at the meeting to address the Board regarding the contract between the Town and the Sheriff's Department, and to give an update regarding the policing of the Town. Along with the two deputies assigned to the Town, Sheriff Woodard has also assigned a sergeant, detective, and criminal investigator. He mentioned that he was aware of the drug houses in the Town and they were working to correct the issue.

Comm. Wheeler mentioned to the Sheriff that many times if a house is considered a "drug house" that a letter from the Sheriff expressing so, would help expedite the process of having the houses torn down.

Sheriff Woodard mentioned that in the new contract with the Town, that once the police car is taken out of service, it will be given back to the Town to sell for proceeds.

6. TekCollect

Joe Durrant, of TekCollect, was present at the meeting to address the Board and give information about his company. TekCollect is a debt-collection firm that would be able to help the Town collect bad debt from previous years. TekCollect would collect on 100 accounts at an upfront cost of \$40 each (\$4,000); however this cost would be reimbursed by adding the \$40 onto the balance that customer owes, making a wash of the cost.

7. Admin. Russell's Report

Admin. Russell reported to the Board from the written report he submitted within the May 15, 2012 Agenda Packet. The following actions were taken by the Board as related to Admin. Russell's report:

A. I & I Project Update:

The request for bids has been submitted with a pre-opening meeting for the project, scheduled for May 17, 2012 at 10 am. The bid opening day will be Thursday, May 31st.

B. Golf Cart Regulations for Elm City:

Enclosed in the Commissioner's Agenda Packet was a draft ordinance for golf cart regulations. Admin. Russell asked that the Board review the draft for discussion at next month's meeting. He will continue to gather additional information regarding the implementation and enforcement, if in the event the ordinance is adopted.

C. NC Division of Water Quality Meeting:

A meeting was held with NCDENR on Friday, April 27th to discuss the sewer moratorium that is currently in place. Admin. Russell felt the meeting opened new lines of communication with the division, and will lead to additional suggestions and alternatives for having the moratorium lifted.

D. RBEG Project:

The previous bids that were received for the sidewalk project were rejected due to the high bid estimates, which exceeded the grant funding. New bids were submitted and were opened today, May 15. The bids were within \$223.20 of each other. Anderson and Company, of Tarboro, was the lowest bidder at \$93,342.50.

MOTION: Comm. Cooke made motion to accept the bid for Anderson and Company of \$93,342.50, adding the block to the Friendly Mart if not in the main contract; seconded by Comm. Crockett. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

The work will begin once approval is given by USDA.

E. TAG Grant Update:

The TAG grant with McGill and Associates, for the purpose of reviewing potential solutions for wastewater management, should be completed by the end of June. This information will provide the Town with detailed information on selecting the best and most financially feasible option for getting the moratorium lifted.

F. Additions to Administrator's Report

1. Admin. Russell presented a resolution to the Board requesting authorization for the purchase of real property of house and lot from Wilson County located at 607 South Parker Street for the price of \$1,500. Purchasing the lot would allow the Town to demolish the house located on the property.

MOTION: Comm. Wheeler made motion to accept the resolution for purchasing the property located at 607 South Parker Street from the County of Wilson for the amount of \$1,500; seconded by Comm. Cooke. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

2. Admin. Russell received a bid from Petway Mills, CPA for the current fiscal year audit of \$12,260.00. We currently have a bid from Greg Redman, CPA for \$9,750.00.

MOTION: Comm. Wheeler made motion to accept the bid from Greg Redman of \$9,750.00 for the current fiscal year audit; seconded by Comm. Cooke. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

3. Admin. Russell presented the Board with a Budget Ordinance Amendment #1 to amend the General Fund.

MOTION: Comm. Cooke made motion to accept Budget Ordinance Amendment #1; seconded by Comm. Wheeler. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

8. **Invoices**

Admin. Russell presented Mayor Smith and the Board with the monthly Town invoices in the agenda packet.

MOTION – Comm. Cooke made motion to pay bills; seconded by Comm. Crockett. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

9. **Comments from Public Floor**

There were no public comments from the floor.

10. Commissioner Concerns

Comm. Crockett would like to see the cleaning of ditches of trash and debris throughout the Town. He also mentioned the spraying of the ditches by Pristine.

11. Adjournment

Comm. Childress adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:04 pm, May 15, 2012, upon motion of Board.

MOTION – Motion was made to adjourn by Comm. Cooke; seconded by Comm. Wheeler. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Minutes submitted by: Dena H. Cordell, Town Clerk