



ELM CITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2014
ELM CITY TOWN HALL
CONFERENCE ROOM

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order**

Mayor Grady Smith (hereinafter "Mayor Smith") called to order the regular meeting of the Elm City Board of Commissioners (hereinafter "Board") at 7:30 pm, on September 9, 2014.

2. **Roll Call**

Mayor Smith conducted a roll call. The following were present:

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

3. **Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting**

Mayor Smith gave the Board opportunity to review the proposed minutes from the August 12, 2014, meeting.

MOTION: Comm. Cooke made motion to approve the August 12, 2014, meeting minutes; seconded by Comm. Wheeler. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. **Public Hearing – 6212 East Langley Road, Voluntary Annexation**

MOTION: Comm. Childress made motion to open the public hearing; seconded by Comm. Crockett. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Admin. Russell presented the petition for the voluntary annexation of parcel 3744.08.9121.000. The owner is interested in voluntarily annexing the property into the Town, giving the Town jurisdiction. This annexation is for the purpose of the Eco Plexus Solar Farm Project.

Questions from Public

Mayor Smith gave the public opportunity to ask questions.

There were no public comments.

MOTION: Comm. Cooke made motion to adjourn the public hearing; seconded by Comm. Childress. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

MOTION: Comm. Childress made motion to approve the annexation of parcel number 3744.08.9121.000 (Tommy Cobb Property) into the Town; seconded by Comm. Cooke. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

5. Shelley Knight, Property Located Behind Nexans

Shirley Robinson, mother of Shelley Knight, presented the Board with her concern over the cemetery located behind Nexans. She is interested in knowing who the property belongs to, and who is the responsible party.

Mayor Smith told Ms. Knight that although the Town mows the property, that it doesn't belong to the Town. Wilson County has the owners as the Elm City Colored Cemetery Commission; therefore ownership belongs to the heirs of the Commission. He suggested that letters be sent to the heirs of previous Commission owners, in an effort to reform the Commission. He offered help from Admin. Russell regarding genealogical research.

6. Admin. Russell's Report

- A. Wastewater Treatment Plant Grant Funding: McGill Engineering is preparing a 2.6 million dollar grant application for a wastewater treatment plant. Such is based on the results of the wastewater treatment study and preliminary engineering report that they performed. There is limited amount of grant funding that is available through Community Development Block Grants, which would fund the project. Motion is needed from the Board to submit the application.

MOTION: Comm. Childress made motion to allow McGill Engineering to submit the 2.6 million dollar grant application for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Grant Funding; seconded by Comm. Cooke. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

- B. Rural Center Reimbursement: Reimbursement six (6) has been submitted to the Rural Center in the amount of \$39,784.42. There is a balance of \$17,442.52 of grant funding remaining, which may be used for wastewater repair and improvement. Funding must be dispersed before December 31, 2014.
- C. Stormwater Drainage Quotes: Admin. Russell has requested quotes for the cleaning of the stormwater drainage throughout town. Quotes were to provide a comprehensive format and by the foot, if the need would be to clean sections at a time. The quote included open cut ditches and some drainage pipe replacement throughout Town.
- D. Daniel Drive Stormdrain Repair: The stormdrain passing under Daniel Drive, adjacent to 514 and 509 Daniel Drive is in much need of repair. Preliminary estimates on replacing the entire section of pipe have been received. Said estimates have been in the \$30,000 range for a complete repair. Powell Bill Funding may be used to supplement some of the expense for the project. There are several options for tiles, i.e. plastic, concrete, etc.

Comm. Wheeler suggested that the Town receive an analysis of whether the pipe is crushed or has just washed away, giving pictures of inside the pipe from one side to the next.

Comm. Cooke suggested the possibility of the Town having Hodge Construction drill inside of the pipe to correct the issue.

- E. Park Picnic Shelter Selection: Admin. Russell has contacted several local contractors for additional quotes on the picnic shelter for the new park. One quote has been received. The base price would be \$21,500 with three different roofing options.
- F. Quotes on Plumbing Installation at Spivey Park: Quotes have been submitted from several local plumbers regarding the installation of plumbing and fixtures at the Spivey Park. The lowest bid received to date was from Allen Roberson Plumbing for \$6,135. However, another bid was received today from Donnie Price in the amount of \$5,150, and plans for said work were passed to the Board. Mayor Smith made mention that the water fountain seemed to cost a fair amount, and suggested that we have the fountain removed from the plans.

MOTION: Comm. Cooke made motion that the Town hire Donnie Price to do the plumbing work for the Spivey Park; seconded by Comm. Crockett. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

G. Additions to Report

1. Admin. Russell reported that there were two grants for which the Town would resubmit, with a due date of October 1, 2014.
 - a. Water Meter Replacement – which would replace the water metering system throughout the entire Town, with an estimated project cost of \$460,000.
 - b. Water Line Replacement on several Town streets – which would replace approximately 6,400 LF of old 6" cast iron water lines with new 6" PVC water lines, new valves and new fire hydrants along Gray, Vine, Staton, Cobb, Lynnhaven, Pine, Lake Wilson Road, Wilson Street and Barnes, Anderson and Dixon. Estimated project cost is approximately \$775,000. Grant is a CDBG funded project.

7. Invoices

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

Addition to invoices: Davis Heating & Air (Library repair) \$463.00 and BB&T \$2,887 (Postage, School)

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

8. Comments from Public Floor

Mayor Smith gave Leslie Atkinson, the County Commissioner representative for the Town, an opportunity to speak. He mentioned the new EMS station being built on N. Parker Street and the possibility of a gas pipeline coming through our state. He mentioned that it may be an idea for the Board to consider seeking the pipeline for future growth for industry. He also mentioned helping in any manner he could, regarding the cemetery located behind Nexans. Mr. Atkinson mentioned that he was happy to see the Town building a new park, and as County Commissioner, would be happy to work with the Town on the project.

Thelma Young gave praise to Admin. Russell, and Town Clerk, Dena Cordell, for the tremendous job they do in the office. She mentioned that Pastor Hill does allow anyone at Spivey Park to get a drink of water, if a water fountain is not being

installed. She questioned whether the grass ordinance violations were being sent to offenders. Admin. Russell assured her that violation letters are mailed, and at times the grass is mowed by the Town and a lien is attached to the property.

Ronald Williams commended Admin. Russell and the Board on the job they are doing for the Town. He mentioned the additions of the new park and sidewalks. He mentioned water leaks that took place on Cobb Road and Daniel Drive, and the road repair following the repair. He mentioned the need for the Daniel Drive storm drain repair, and was concerned about his water meter not being read, as the mud in the meter box was not scooped out.

Officer Patrick Hufton mentioned that the crime rate in Town has slowed down, and said that there aren't many calls. Comm. Childress mentioned that there are unlicensed motorcycles, four-wheelers, go carts, and mini bikes riding through the Town streets. Officer Hufton said he would address the concern with Corporal Ruffin.

9. Commissioner Concerns

Admin. Russell mentioned that Greg Redman had been in the office to do the 2013-2014 Audit. The audit is well ahead of the October 1st deadline, and would be filed on time.

Comm. Cooke mentioned that citizens had requested once again that the Board pass an ordinance to allow golf carts. He brought the ordinance from Freemont for review, and questioned whether or not there would be any interest.

Comm. Wheeler mentioned the many grants that the Town was submitting and is ready to see action taken on them.

Comm. Crockett mentioned the speed at which trains run through the Town, and the danger it poses. Admin. Russell will send a letter to CSX regarding the concerns.

10. Adjournment

Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:03 pm, September 9, 2014, upon motion of Board.

MOTION: Motion was made to adjourn by Comm. Childress; seconded by Comm. Crockett. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Minutes submitted by Dena H. Cordell, Town Clerk