

Minutes of
City of Creedmoor
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
July 23, 2013
7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Darryl D. Moss, Mayor Pro-Tem Otha Piper, Jr., Commissioner John Stallings, Commissioner Herman Wilkerson, and Commissioner Larry Robinson. Also present were Mr. Tom Mercer, City Manager; Robin Reif, City Clerk; and Tom Currin, City Attorney.

ABSENT

Commissioner Jimmy Minor

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Moss called the meeting to order and offered the invocation. Mayor Pro Tem Piper led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Commissioner Robinson to approve the agenda with the addition of the adoption of unsealed closed session minutes; seconded by Commissioner Stallings . Motion received a unanimous vote

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Commissioner Wilkerson to approve the May 28, 2013 Board of Commissioner's Regular Meeting Minutes, June 10, 2013 Board of Commissioner's Work Session Minutes, June 25, 2013 Board of Commissioner's Regular Meeting Cancellation Documentation, and July 8, 2013 Board of Commissioner's Work Session Minutes as well as unsealed closed session minutes summarized by City Attorney Tom Currin dated February 28, 2012, March 27, 2012, April 9, 2012, April 24, 2012, May 22, 2012, June 26, 2012, July 9, 2012, July 24, 2012, September 25, 2012, October 8, 2012, October 23, 2012, December 10, 2012, February 11, 2013, March 11, 2013, March 26, 2013, and May 6, 2013; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Piper. Motion received a unanimous vote.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Police Officer Robert Morris – Five Year Service Recognition

Mayor Moss read the following statement from Police Chief Williams:

Officer Rob Morris has served the citizens of Creedmoor for five years. Since the beginning of Officer Morris' career with the City of Creedmoor, he has used his many talents and abilities to aid the police department in its endeavor to maintain peace and security in the city. Officer Morris has shown an unmatched work ethic, always has a "can-do" attitude, and often makes sacrifices to ensure that the mission of the Creedmoor Police Department is as accomplished as necessary. Officer Morris has shown an exceptional aptitude in the area of Crisis Intervention and has given so much to assist those individuals who are in need of this valuable service. Officer Morris is a valuable member of the Creedmoor Police Department and it is with great pride and professional appreciation that we present this 5 years of service award to Officer Rob Morris.

Mayor Moss added that Officer Morris is a leader in the Police Department and presented him with a certificate and city pin in recognition of his five years of service to the City.

REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Alicia Hobson, 209 E. Lyons Street, Creedmoor: *Abuse of power by Creedmoor Police Department/Mayor Moss*
Ms. Hobson spoke on a tazing incident occurring in her neighborhood on April 26, 2013. Her complaints include police officers questioning children without parental presence, bike riding not being allowed on sidewalks or in the street, targeting by officers, violation of civil rights, and verbal threats from officers to youth.

Speaking on being reported to the NAACP by Ms. Hobson, Mayor Moss expressed his disappointment in the agency not following up with him and explained that children not giving the right-of-way to vehicles caused him to take the appropriate action by reporting their activity to the police.

Police Chief Dennis Williams provided a report on crime activity reported in the neighborhood from January 2013 through June 2013 which included complaints of shots fired, loitering, impeding traffic, drug activity, breaking and entering, vandalism, larceny, stolen property and communicating threats. The chief reported that ten (10) of the calls came from Ms. Hobson. In closing the Chief stated that the department is trying to keep the community safe.

Ms. Hobson reported that she has successfully had bicycle helmets donated and that she is trying to do more to encourage the kids. She asked the board what they intended to do in response to her complaint. Mayor Moss responded that the allegation of officers making inappropriate comments will be researched by the City Manager and the Public Safety Committee for further necessary action. The Mayor added that neither he nor the city will turn a blind eye to the drug and other criminal activity occurring in the neighborhood.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chris Crowder 2651 Tar River Road, Creedmoor: Speaking on the proposed Tar River Waste Water Treatment Plant said that it is abhorrent and arrogant for the city to purchase land in a closed session and prior to grant approval. Alleging that someone is being "paid off", Mr. Crowder questioned the purchase of an 80 acre tract that would not perk, nor sell and that he had heard it rumored that the building of 200 houses were being proposed for which no water and sewer would be charged. Mr. Crowder finished by questioning the city's trying to put the plant in an area of non-voters.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Mercer reported on the following:

- USDA Water/Sewer Projects
 - A satisfactory review of the project was conducted by the USDA. Everything is going well and the USDA was pleased.
 - Two items remain on punch list.
 - Progress on the lagoon closing has been halted by rainfall.
- CMAQ
 - Projects Director Scottie Wilkins reported no major activity since the last report.
 - Seven firms submitted bids for CMAQ II/III and US-15, and have been short-listed down to four firms.
 - The four firms were interviewed for experience related to source funding and design on July 15, 2013.
 - One firm was selected and has been submitted to NC DOT for processing.
- Paperwork for CMAQ I being finalized by NC DOT.

LEGAL MATTER

The city is scheduled for mediation in August on the matter of duck hunting on Lake Rogers. City Manager Tom Mercer and Mayor Pro Tem Otha Piper are to attend. An opportunity to hear a land owner's dispute on the property lines of the lake will be provided. The city attorney's office sees no merit in the allegations.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Call for Public Hearing

ZTA-2013-03: *CDO Streamlining Text Amendment.*

Planning, Zoning and Subdivision Administrator Mike Frangos explained that the text amendment proposal is a staff driven request and that the city's Planning Board voted unanimously to support staff's recommendations. The request being made is for a public hearing to be scheduled for the August 27, 2013 Board of Commissioner's Regular Meeting.

In his absence, Commissioner Robinson relayed Commissioner Minor's concern that the proposed amendments would limit the public's opportunity to weigh in on zoning matters. Commissioner Robinson, conveying his own opinion, stated that current text drags the process out for builders.

Moved by Commissioner Stallings to schedule a public hearing for August 27, 2013 on ZTA-2013-03: *CDO Streamlining Text Amendment*; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Piper. Motion received the following vote:

Ayes: Mayor Pro Tem Piper, Commissioner Stallings, Commissioner Robinson

Noes: Commissioner Wilkerson

Motion passed with a 3-1 vote.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Moss asked Administrative Services Director Korena Weichel to update Council on the Music Festival. Ms. Weichel reported the addition of a car show by Ellington Brim Chevrolet which will impact festival parking. Ms. Weichel provided sponsorship status updates, explained the implementation of t-shirt giveaways and expounded on the new band selection process.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Wilkerson (Transportation Infrastructure)

Commissioner Wilkerson provided a report on the W. Church Street improvements progress.

Commissioner Minor (EENR)

None

Commissioner Robinson (FAIR)

None

Commissioner Stallings (CED)

Commissioner Stallings congratulated Mayor Moss on being designated *Public Official of the Week*. The Commissioner reported on the appearance that the economy is on an upswing and that Walgreens was making progress on the new store in Creedmoor.

City Manager Tom Mercer added that an estimated 12,000 cubic yards of material (600-700 truckloads) is to be moved in the excavation of the lot for Walgreens and may be used to fill the lagoon upon the removal of 10M gallons of water if approved by DENR.

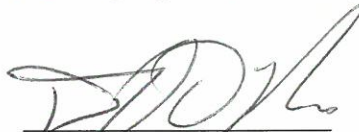
Mayor Pro-Tem Piper (Public Safety)

Mayor Pro Tem Piper reported that Joe Henderson has joined the city's police department and that Chief Williams was appointed Chairperson of the Juvenile Crime Prevention Committee replacing Xavier Wortham after twenty years.

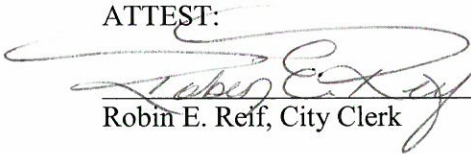
Officer Kizer Blackburn provided a slide show presentation and overview of the city's implementation of the Explorer's Program for the community's youth. The program was begun in November upon Officer Blackburn's arrival to the department and Officer Blackburn has put together what he feels is a good program that is well ahead of the January 2014 projected launch date. Officer Blackburn stressed that the program is totally dependent on time donated by officers and staff.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the board, moved by Commissioner Robinson to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Stallings. The motion received a unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.


Darryl D. Moss, Mayor

ATTEST:


Robin E. Reff, City Clerk