

Minutes of
City of Creedmoor
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
February 25, 2014

PRESENT

Mayor Darryl D. Moss, Mayor Pro Tem Jimmy Minor, Commissioner Del Mims, Commissioner Herman Wilkerson, Commissioner Thomas Jackson and Commissioner Larry Robinson. Also present were Tom Mercer, City Manager; Korena Weichel, Assistant City Manager; Robin Reif, City Clerk; and Tom Currin, City Attorney

INVOCATION

Mayor Moss gave the invocation

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Moss called the meeting to order and Mayor Pro Tem Minor led the pledge of allegiance.

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Mayor Moss gave the following State of the City Address:

Good Evening. It is my privilege to deliver the 2014 State of the City Address. As your Mayor, it is always interesting to look back at what the City has accomplished against our goals. The State of the City Address allows us to do that. It is impossible to capture all of a year's activities in a few minutes, so for a few minutes we will look back at some of our accomplishments, but more important, look forward to 2014.

I want to first thank our citizens for taking time to be with us this evening. I would like to recognize my colleagues on the Board of Commissioners, for their support and leadership of this City. Lastly, but by no means least, I would like to recognize our staff for the high level of professionalism and tremendous work they give to our community.

For just a few minutes I want to look at these four areas:

- *The issue of change*
- *Successes and challenges*
- *Priorities for 2014*
- *Our citizens*

The Issue of Change

Creedmoor as a city is in the process of a profound transformation. This transformation is being driven by the fact that we are at the heart of a region reinventing itself. We have to come to terms with what this change means for our community and how it affects us.

A report from the Research Triangle Regional Partnership says our 14-county area, which includes Granville County, is going to add 1 million people between now and 2030. As we are part of Granville County, I believe this represents both opportunity and challenge.

The challenge is the strain it places on our resources – water and sewer, roads, schools and other services. The opportunity is in concocting the proper recipe for economic vitality. We all know the end game – it's creating an environment that supports high-quality jobs that ultimately improve the region's overall health.

So what are some of our successes?

- *We are a safe community. Our crime statistics support this statement. Creedmoor's major crimes areas are down in almost every category. One exception is incidents of domestic violence.*
- *We continue to receive outstanding fire protection services from our Creedmoor Volunteer Fire Department.*
- *Commercial development on Main Street and our secondary business areas are strong and continue to develop. A recent survey of our 95 commercial spaces, as identified by the Granville County Tax office, shows that we have only 6 vacancies. This represents a 93% occupancy rate in our commercial sector. This is exceptional in this economic environment for any community, much less a small community like ours.*
- *We opened Harris Park in our historic Pecan Hill community. This is the first new park built in Creedmoor in over 30 years.*
- *We continued to improve our recreation facilities at Lake Rogers, the city gym, and the Battle Roberts field for our citizens.*
- *We partnered with the Granville County Recreation Advisory Committee to expand Creedmoor's recreation offerings to benefit, not only Creedmoor citizens, but folks outside our borders.*
- *This focus on recreation resulted in Creedmoor being named a Playful City USA by KaBoom for the 7th consecutive year. We are one of only 16 communities across the nation to achieve this distinction.*
- *We continue to partner with the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and 4-H to engage our youth in community service projects.*
- *We partnered with the Granville County Tourism Development Authority to promote Granville County's tourism initiatives.*
- *The City Manager initiated a Rural Development Economic Grant program designed to help small business in our community.*
- *We continued our long-standing partnership with the Tar River Land Conservancy, committing funding to help preserve open space in our county.*
- *We made our first significant foray into a major stormwater management project – the Church Street project.*
- *As we all see, our sidewalk infrastructure continues to grow. It is amazing to me to see a growing number of people using the sidewalks. The even better news is 2014 will see even more expansion of our Cross City Trail System.*
- *Our work with the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization continues to allow us to address mobility issues in our community. This work is unprecedented in Granville County. The fact that the three busiest roads in southern Granville County – NC50 & 56 and US15 – happen to intersect in Creedmoor is why transportation planning is getting tremendous attention.*
- *A final piece of the USDA Project is also underway. We are closing the sewer lagoon. The lagoon served as our wastewater treatment facility for many years. This project has multiple benefits. It relieves the city of a huge financial liability that was created for us when Falls Lake was built. It allows us to be an even stronger partner to help further protect our region's environment. As an added benefit we expect that once the lagoon is filled in with dirt it will add 20+ acres of recreation land inventory.*
- *Our partnership with Granville County brought water to Hester Road community. Our neighbors out that way have hauled water for about as long as I can remember.*
- *On the finance side, for the 4th year in a row Creedmoor received the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report award.*
- *We are served by a professional staff that routinely goes above and beyond the call of duty to serve our citizens. At almost every meeting we are recognizing a staff member for achieving a certification or reaching an employment milestone.*

Again, this is not the whole list. But it is representative of the results we get day in and day out for our citizens.

So what are the challenges this year?

- *Closing the deal with SGWASA;*
- *Maintaining our economic momentum;*
- *Improving the physical appearance of our community;*

- *Improving our transportation infrastructure – roads, sidewalks, bike paths; and*
- *Making our community safer and stronger.*

The follow up question is how do we meet these challenges? The answer I believe is to remember that it should always be about our citizens. The bottom line is our citizens want, need and expects more.

So here is the plan. Going forward everything we do will strive to embody the principles critical to meeting the needs of our citizens.

We will be:

- *Inclusive – nonpartisan, embracing diverse views and modeling civility*
- *Focused – on what matters most to our citizen*
- *Valuable – as a resource and advocate for our citizens and a partner to the state, the region and our neighbors here in Granville County*
- *Financially solid – because we have to be*
- *Forward leaning – with compelling opportunities to engage our citizens*

My personal vision as mayor continues to be pretty simple for citizens. It is to ask them to become even more involved in leading, supporting and inspiring our city. I have said it before, the work that needs to be done for Creedmoor is too big for the mayor, commissioners and staff.

Rising to the challenge of tomorrow will require our citizens to help as never before. In closing, I want to ask you to keep our President Barak Obama and Governor Pat McCrory in your prayers. Both men need our help. Our country needs our help. Civil unrest at home and abroad, educating our children, caring for our elderly, healthcare and the economy are just a few of the issues that we face as a nation. More important, these issues and others affect us right here in Creedmoor, NC.

In times of trouble Americans, despite our differences, have been able to rally and overcome every obstacle. Let's rally behind our leaders in Washington, in Raleigh and here locally to move our country forward.

Thank you.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Commissioner Wilkerson to approve the agenda with the addition of closed session as allowed by N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(6). Personnel; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Minor. Motion received a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Minor to approve the January 28, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes and February 10, 2014 Work Session minutes. Commissioner Mims made a subsequent motion and read her editorial comments and transcript of her public comment made. Commissioner Mims motion being that these edits be made to the January 28, 2014 Board of Commissioner's Regular Meeting minutes and February 10, 2014 Work Session minutes respectively. The Commissioner then presented the edits to the City Clerk. Discussion was held regarding necessary distribution of the proposed edits to the remaining board members in order to determine if they may be adopted as additions.

Mayor Pro Tem Minor amended his initial motion to state that Commissioner Mims edits be distributed to the remaining board members for review and consideration prior to the adoption of the January 28, 2014 Regular Meeting and February 10, 2014 Work Session minutes; seconded by Motion by Commissioner Robinson. The City Clerk was directed to distribute the proposed edits.

City Attorney Tom Currin clarified that anyone may ask the Mayor as holder of the authority to direct the Clerk to either enter additions in their entirety or in part.

PUBLIC HEARING: ZTA-1013-O-04: BOA Amendments and Technical Corrections

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Minor to continue Public Hearing ZTA-2013-04: BOA Amendments & Technical Corrections to the March 25, 2014 BOC Regular Meeting at 7:00; seconded by Commissioner Jackson. Motion received a unanimous vote.

Mayor asked if anyone came to speak to which no one responded.

REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Charles Michael Satterfield, 3675 Genesis Lane, Wake Forest, NC provided the following transcript

Building standards in Creedmoor are pretty much none existent. New construction has to meet all requirements the current city building code places upon it. While existing old, damaged and dilapidated buildings are allowed to exist with virtually no accountability. The code is set to reward older buildings and placing unfair fees on new construction.

The current building code for existing buildings is basically this:

There isn't any type of exterior or interior upgrades required except for fire safety. If the new tenant spends more than 50% of the value of the building on upgrades, they have to comply with the new city building codes. Basically a new tenant doesn't have to spend one dime on a property. This means someone can reopen the same type business that just failed and not be required to change or upgrade anything. If someone just failed, why would the city allow someone else to try the same thing in the same old building? Something may need to change, probably the condition of the property.

The tenant of an adjacent property was allowed to take down 5 exterior garages he had on site. He was allowed to grade his lot. He rebuilt these structures. He was then allowed to excavate behind his building and no building permit was ever issued. I was told by the planning department he was selling the buildings and the city building code was "open for interpretation". Permits are clearly required by city building code for this type of construction. No reference to selling any type of these structures.

2. Garage and Carports; 5. Accessory buildings, Structural Repairs and Alterations.

He continues to use this building to wash cars sending commercial chemicals down a drain with no filter system of any kind. This building was never intended to be a car wash. While a 6 bay car wash sits across the street empty and not operating.

The owners of the parcel of land behind Walgreens have graded the entire parcel. There was an oil company on this property for many years. Has the city tested the soils on this property? Has anyone contacted the EPA? Has anyone, of any agency checked behind this man and the dirt he is moving to cover bad soils? Where are the checks and balances?

There is a used tire business one block from City Hall. This business had been allowed to operate under no guidelines and structure. They have spray painted signs on their doors. This looks horrible and has to be in violation of the sign ordinance. You made one of my tenants take a banner down. There has to be some type of consistency on signage and appearance. This speaks volumes, that the City of Creedmoor is a second hand city. You have buildings on Main Street that are green, yellow, purple and multicolored. Where is the consistency on the look and appearance of these structures? You have as many as 15 signs on highway 50 telling people to steer clear of Creedmoor. I brought two investors to Creedmoor to look at properties. They both asked the same question. What stinks in Creedmoor? These are just a few examples of the types of inconsistent enforcement and interpretation of city building code. There should be codes for any change of occupancy, rental or ownership. Stop leaving it up to the inspector to police this and start treating everyone the same...fair.

I approached the city board two years ago and my request feel on deaf ears. I realize now the agenda the council had was not in the best interest of everyone. Only those who wished to help at that time. We had

two city councilmen put campaign posters up in the windows of the building they were changing the ordinance to benefit. This conduct doesn't sound fair or legal. Now look at the facility you reopened and the condition of its upkeep.

I propose: New ordinance be adopted to include exterior upgrades to all buildings at time of any change of occupancy, rental or resale. Including but not limited to, paved parking lots, sidewalks, storm water runoff and ADA compliant.

There have been five buildings built in Creedmoor in the last ten years. CVS, Union Bank, Family Fare, Walgreens and Champs. I have invested almost a million dollars in the city and its future. Now you want to allow a new tenant to occupy the old building across from my building in competition with me where are my returns? When is the city going to hold up its end of the bargain? Stop acting like a second hand city and start upgrading our future. Stop worrying about the water situation and start holding people accountable for the condition of their properties. Something stinks in Creedmoor but it sure isn't the water.

In closing I would like to thank you for allowing me this time to express my concerns. I will now answer any questions you may have. Thank you.

Mayor Pro Tem clarified that if the use changes then the requirement is triggered. Steve Colenda clarified that a change of use triggers the requirement.

Concerned about the quality of the types of businesses coming into the area. Concerned about the structures of the businesses coming in. Three different restaurants have failed. The City needs to step in and say this is not the correct business for this area. MPT Minor: believer in property rights. Cannot tell someone going in to the building that they cannot put a restaurant in then allow one come in next door. That is spot zoning. Upgrade the current building to meet the current City codes. We would have a lot of empty buildings on Main Street and everyone else.\

Mayor invited Mike to speak. Take exception to the signs on Highway 50....not in Creedmoor.

Commissioner Jackson noticed MS reiterated that MS said questions should the City use it for free when we have events or should the City at least be a little bit considerate and have the possibility of a rental structure back to Mr. Satterfield. This should be addressed.

Commissioner Wilkerson....event would not have people parking. Mayor and MS disagreed and said they thought they would.

Help these people upgrade these properties. Consistent in what we require on these old buildings. Asking for consistency.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Reverend Bernard Holliday

The Reverend spoke on the City's diversified population and the needs of persons his age, as well as older and younger citizens. Reverend Holliday called the City's population mobile and that citizens travel the width and breadth of this county shopping and going to work.

Reverend Holliday urged the Mayor and Commissioners to revisit the State Building Code stating Creedmoor should use it as a model for other businesses venturing to come in. He also questioned the number of franchises coming in to the City and asked for reinvesting in the life and blood of Creedmoor as he thinks it is essential.

The Reverend asked how we can perform our duties objectively, offer transparency and improve our situation with a skilled work force with the demographic growth that is taking place in Granville County. How can we promote entrepreneurship? He stated that the 2030 plan is short-ranged and the City should

consider projections beyond 2030. North Carolina is ranked 10th in state population in the United States therefore Creedmoor must be aggressive if it wants its citizens to be served.

The Reverend added that land acquisition is being considered by the City without comment from the community.

John Wilkerson 308 S. Main Street, Creedmoor, NC

Mr. Wilkerson reported that comments have been made by people on the *Something Stinks in Creedmoor* signs. He stated he would like to start an initiative and push back by collecting these signs and take them back to Canady Mill and Philo Mill Road to the owners so that they can enjoy them. Adding, since Jim Blaine is the CEO at the State Employees Credit Union, some signs can be taken some down there, can be put in his truck then put in the building so the employees can enjoy them. The election is over so the campaign should stop. Everyone is getting tired of looking at the signs and they need to be removed from the streets.

Tony Santangelo, 307 S. Main Street; Mr. Santangelo requested the following transcript of his Public Comments be entered into the minutes:

Mayor, Commissioners, Mr. Mercer, Attorney Currin, Robin Reif,

My first topic is about the previous election. The first incident was a personal experience. While at early voting, I was approached by Commissioner Jackson. He began to spew his rhetoric about the 15 million dollars that SGWASA was paying for our infrastructure. I politely told him I disagreed with his idea. He then flipped out on me and talked down to me like I was an idiot. I took the high road and walked away.

I also know that he belittled an existing commissioner to his daughter, and referred to our elected mayor as the devil to the Mayor's wife.

I would like to think this was the only time we would see this unethical, disrespectful, uncouth behavior, however this candidate was elected. That will encourage others to do such things to get they themselves elected. Because of this I would like this board to consider adopting an ordinance making it illegal to campaign at any voting place in the city.

My second topic is the treatment of wastewater in Creedmoor. I would like to thank Tom Mercer and the whole city staff down to the lowest ranking person, for their tireless work in making Creedmoor a better place for us all to live. I would also like to thank the police department and the fire department for their efforts to keep our city safe. I would especially like to thank the Board of Commissioners ending in December 2013 for their efforts in trying to do what they were elected to do despite the lack of any noticeable support. Not from the community, not from SGWASA, not from the "Something Stinks in Creedmoor" SSIC organization, not even from the County Commissioners including our own, Commissioner Ed Mims. And certainly not from the County Attorney who is also SGWASA's attorney.

I did not just start coming to these meetings when I decided to run for commissioner, as did the two new commissioners, nor when the possible wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) was adopted as a path to lower excessive water bills as did the SSIC organization. I have been coming here about six to eight years and the last four or five with almost the same attendance as the commissioners.

I was here when the first citizen spoke before you asking and sometimes pleading for you to do something about the water bills. I was here when a town hall meeting was cancelled and two citizens and I did not get the word. I got in touch with the Mayor and he left his home to talk to the citizens. I was here when all the presentations were made to show these chosen paths of possible solutions. I listened to the long presentations that were made and when the first mention of a WWTP was discussed. I was here at a Town Hall meeting when Mr. Blain showed no respect for our mayor and yelled at him for not informing the citizens that this would not lower the water bill, yet I remember clearly two occasions when the WWTP was

shown as a path and it was pointed out that the WWTP would not lower them at this time but would bring them back inline over time.

All this brings me to the SSIC organization and what they have accomplished or failed to do so. They claim they want to save the Tar River yet they would have accepted a partnership with Oxford who dumps in the Tar River, so we know that's not it. They say they want us to make a deal with SGWASA but when it was apparent that SGWASA was holding up the settlement they did not put pressure on SGWASA. So in my opinion what they are concerned about is an aroma of sewage in their area, and the reduction of property value, and they are legitimate reasons to oppose this plant. Instead of doing the right things to try to help this agreement succeed, they decided to be combative with their SSIC signs. These signs indicate that there is a foul aroma in our beautiful city. This does not only hurt this board but every citizen of this city. Someone trying to sell their house in Creedmoor will have to explain to potential buyers the meaning of the signs and may have to drop their selling price to sell, essentially lowering their property values.

It is time for the SSIC organization to go away. You do not live in the city of Creedmoor, you do not vote in the city, you don't pay taxes in the city, and you certainly do not pay the water bill in the city. So, gather up all your signs and go back to your odor free home in the country. Stop trying to control the Board of Commissioners with your two newly elected friends. This situation will go where it needs to go. I ask that all citizens of the city and ETJ remove these signs. As far as businesses, Sandy Plains store will not get a nickel of my money as long as one of those signs remains in front of their store.

I also am opposed to the WWTP, my reasons are the drastic change of two ecosystems and the WWTP does not address the issue of high water bills at this time, but have chosen not to hurt innocent citizens in my opposition. All that I have said is only my feelings, opinions, and what I have witnessed. You may agree or disagree, but I have said what I feel needed to be said. Thank you for the opportunity to vent my feelings.

Commissioner Ed Mims 2204 Regency Court, Creedmoor. Mr. Mims disclosed that he is a Granville County Commissioner and stated that none of his remarks are associated with his duties as such. Mr. Mims stated that during the January 28, 2014 Board of Commissioner's Regular Meeting, Tony Santangelo spoke and took the opportunity to make hearsay comments on events he did not witness. He said that Mr. Mims did not support Creedmoor's effort with SGWASA. Mr. Santangelo was not present at the January 14, 2014 SGWASA meeting when he asked SGWASA to approve the APA but not to include a service area. Mr. Mims urged Mr. Santangelo to check the SGWASA minutes from that meeting. Mr. Mims stated that Mr. Santangelo has made other unsubstantiated comments and since no one has questioned the validity of his comments he challenges Mr. Santangelo to prove comments made by then candidate Thomas Jackson to a voter on October 30, 2013. Mr. Mims stated that Mr. Santangelo was not present and only repeated hearsay and knows this because he himself was the only eye witness and this can be confirmed by asking Chief Judge Barbara King. False accusations seem to be commonplace and allowed in Creedmoor without proof.

On the subject of due process. Mr. Mims stated he frequently witness the City Attorney, while discussions are ensuing, just speak up. City Ordinance 30.24 states that Creedmoor uses Robert's Rules of Order which calls for the Chair to recognize individuals wanting to speak. When you speak without being recognized you are out of order. Therefore I believe we know the rules but just choose to ignore them. As a resident, Mr. Mims stated he expects his leaders to set the example and if they do not follow the rules why should anyone else? Mr. Mims continued by saying that when he attends the meetings he is evaluating the leaders to ensure that they are her through the rules and when they do not follow the rules, he will make public comment.

Mayor Moss, addressing Mr. Mims, said that he himself instituted public comment in Creedmoor before it was required even though the City Attorney advised against it. The Mayor stated that what Mr. Mims was asking the Creedmoor Commissioners to do is censor public comment. That is not the American way. When folks get up to make comments they have the ability to say whatever it is they wish to say, we may agree or disagree and the City leaders follow the rules. They may not be quite as tight as you think they

Mr. Mims promised to come back to a future meeting and cite examples where the board was not following Robert's Rules of Order.

Commissioner Jackson asked Commissioner Mims if he supported the citizens of Creedmoor. Commissioner Mims stated that he has a stellar record, more so than any other Granville County Commissioner.

Ed Gleason, 1973 Bowles Avenue, Creedmoor, NC.

Mr. Gleason commended the boards as the leaving president of the HOA of Golden Pond for working on doing something on Ferbow Street for traffic calming. Thank you for that. Mr. Gleason said that no one knows better than anybody that I he is against the *Something Stinks in Creedmoor* signs.

Mr. Gleason stated that the current situation with the Board is not going to work. This is Feb 25th and we haven't had a concise normal end-to-end meeting since December. I know getting along isn't easy but all of you are my friends. Mr. Gleason referenced a lengthy conversation with City Manager Tom Mercer on January 24, 2014 when he received some answers to his questions and learned there were statements made by people that were wrong. As a citizen, Mr. Gleason said he is very concerned that what is going on cannot go on much longer.

In closing, Mr. Gleason thanked the City for the transportation meetings and the sidewalks. He asked that we work towards getting the green and purple buildings gone.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Mercer reported on the following:

- SGWASA negotiations are still ongoing and the County has put together a task force to look at the municipal service area.
- CMAQ II/III
 - The contract has been signed and sent to AMT for execution.
 - The project is on schedule and going well.

Charter Matters - Corrections

Corrections to the City Charter were not ready from the City Attorney's office. City Attorney Tom Currin explained that the issue was with regard to a number of outdated provisions which have been superseded by statutes.

Commissioner Jackson asked City Manager Tom Mercer about the recent vote to send Commissioner Mims, Commissioner Jackson and the Mayor to the National League of Cities Conference in early March and that he had not seen that the registration for that event had been taken care of.

City Manager Tom Mercer explained that each board member takes care of their own booking.

Commissioner Robinson spoke on an email sent stating that it would cost more than was in the budget even though the Mayor is only going for two days. Two Commissioners going for a full five day event would put the budget over by \$300.00 so a transfer of funds from the elections budget which is under budget is in order.

Moved by Commissioner Robinson to transfer funds from the elections budget to cover the NLC Conference attendance by both Commissioners and the Mayor; seconded by Commissioner Minor. Motion received a unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Computer Network Usage Policy

Assistant City Manager Korena Weichel outlined the Computer Network Usage Policy.

Moved by Commissioner Wilkerson to adopt the Computer Network Usage Policy; seconded by Commissioner Minor. Motion received a unanimous vote.

Social Media Policy

Assistant City Manager Korena Weichel outlined the Social Media Policy

Moved by Commissioner Wilkerson to adopt the Social Media Policy ; seconded by Commissioner Robinson. Motion received a unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Water and Sewer City Code of Ordinances Chapters 50 & 52 Updates

Assistant City Manager Korena Weichel outlined housekeeping items needed to keep the ordinance chapters current.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Minor to approve proposed changes to the Water and Sewer City Code of Ordinances Chapters 50 & 52; seconded by Commissioner Robinson. Motion received a unanimous vote.

WEMC Meeting Delegate

Mayor Moss asked if anyone was interested in attending the upcoming Wake Electric in order to represent the City and vote of behalf of Creedmoor. Commissioner Wilkerson stated that if no one else wished to attend that he would go if needed.

Moved by Commissioner Robinson to appoint Commissioner Wilkerson to represent the City at the WEMC; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Minor. Motion received a unanimous vote.

Planning Board Re-Appointments

Moved by Commissioner Jackson to approve the re-appointment of Mike Allen (ETJ), David Forsythe and Ed Gleason to another three-year term on the City's Planning Board; seconded by Commissioner Robinson. Motion received a unanimous vote.

Traffic Ordinance Amendment

Moved by Commissioner Jackson to adopt amendments to the Traffic Ordinance for stop signs in Golden Pond Subdivision; seconded by Commissioner Mims. Motion received a unanimous vote.

PECAN STREET SURPLUS PROPERTY DECLARATION

City Manager Tom Mercer stated that no offer is in hand on the City owned property located on Pecan Street. The board discussed wishing to sell to an entity for a public purpose but that there were restrictions needing to be considered.

Moved by Commissioner Jackson to authorize the City Manager to sell the property.

As there is no offer on the property, the improper motion was withdrawn on the advice of the City Attorney.

Commissioner Mims asked for an inventory of City owned properties for the board.

DISCUSSION ON POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAINING REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT

Attorney Currin stated that action on the agreement would need to be deferred as the document was not available.

Mayors Report

Mayor Moss reported on Oxford Mayor Jackie Sergent's request that the County consider reinstating the Economic Development Commission and that conversation is underway.

New patrol officer Shane Fowler was introduced.

At this time the Mayor stepped down from the dais to address the board in light of comments made this evening. Addressing the entire board, the Mayor stated that what we are talking about politics and we have raised it to a new level here in Creedmoor. We have been rather insulated from what we have seen in other communities. Sometimes my memory helps me and sometimes it hurts me. While it may seem to Mr. Gleason like something new, the Mayor stated he saw the same thing in 2004 when Commissioners Karan, Ray and Mangum came on board. Things were very dysfunctional and meetings tended to last four to six hours yet the City has come out of those times better.

Again it comes back to politics. Mr. Jackson said some things during the election that I the Mayor said he knew about. There were some other comments made. The Mayor stated that campaign material, inspires him and that he has both Commissioner Mims's and Jackson's campaign literature still as well as similar documents from previous times that he uses to inspire him. Politics does not scare or intimidate him. He said he is willing to go toe-to-toe. He said at the board retreat and will say it now, that he is for Creedmoor and is serious. That does not mean that Creedmoor will not work with the State, Stem, Butner, Stovall, and Oxford. There has not been one time when Creedmoor has said no when someone asked for help. You won't find it because it is not there. We have been asked to work as a board. Communication is a two way street.

Whatever actions I seek to take will be for the best interests of the citizens of Creedmoor.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Mims (Transportation Infrastructure)

Commissioner Mims noted that she will be in Washington DC on March 8-12 attending the National League of Cities conference. The Commissioner reported she has been in discussion with Paddington Subdivision and that she need not repeat things that came up during the retreat.

Commissioner Mims stated that what Oxford Mayor Jackie Sergent is proposing would be extremely important to Creedmoor and that perhaps Commissioner Wilkerson will be interested as well.

Commissioner Mims stated she appreciated Mr. Ed Gleason's call for harmony and that she has asked for a facilitator for the board meetings. Commissioner Mims mentioned she knows of an individual who is professional and has a great deal of experience with dysfunctional boards. The board needs to cease with lectures, admonishments, commentaries and move forward as it is the Citizens' time.

Commissioner Mims reported on the upcoming webinar on open meetings law sponsored by the UNC School of Government and stated that it would be very beneficial to our board and it should be added to the list of things we consider and strongly pursue.

In closing, Commissioner Mims reported that she has already started fundraising for the Music Festival.

Mayor Pro Tem Minor (EENR)

Commissioner Minor reported on the upcoming burn out beginning March 3rd which will mean hydrants will be flowing due to testing of the new system and will take at least 30-45 days until it is complete.

Commissioner Robinson (FAIR)

Commissioner Robinson reported that the City is ahead as far as revenue and sales tax and has been doing well and above projection. The Commissioner stated his hopes that this continues for the next six months.

Commissioner Wilkerson (CED)

Commissioner Wilkerson stated that he had nothing to say as some people will make a mountain out of a mole hill and he did not feel like climbing a mountain tonight.

Commissioner Jackson (Public Safety)

Commissioner Jackson expressed that he was upset by his not checking out the facts on the reported problems in local school buildings and that he would find out the facts before talking in future. Commissioner Jackson reported on his talk with the Granville County Board of Education who made assurances that yearly inspections were conducted and that they expected the schools to rank much higher this year than last.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Moved by Commissioner Minor to go in to Closed Session pursuant to N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(6). Personnel; seconded by Commissioner Wilkerson Motion received a unanimous vote.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

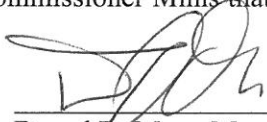
The Board continued in regular session after its closed session. Commissioners Minor and Robinson briefly discussed the results of the evaluation and review of City Manager Tom Mercer. Commissioner Minor moved that in light of Mr. Mercer's excellent evaluation he be immediately awarded a raise of ten percent of his existing salary effective for the current bi-weekly pay period. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson.

After a discussion and prior to a vote on the motion, Commissioner Mims requested that she be allowed to abstain on grounds that she was just recently elected and had not had sufficient time to observe and review the Manager's performance in order to be able to make an informed decision on this question and that it would not be proper official conduct for her to vote on the motion. All four remaining Board Members voted to allow Commissioner Mims to abstain.

Commissioner Jackson then requested that he be allowed to abstain on the motion on the same grounds. All four of the Commissioners voted affirmatively to allow Mr. Jackson's request to abstain.

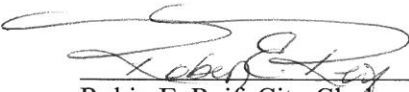
Thereupon, there being no further discussion, Mr. Minor's motion to award Mr. Mercer a ten percent raise was passed unanimously with three votes in the affirmative.

Thereafter it was moved by Commissioner Jackson and seconded by Commissioner Mims that the meeting be adjourned and the motion passed unanimously.



Darryl B. Moss, Mayor

ATTEST:



Robin E. Reif, City Clerk

Good Evening, my name is Del Mims and I reside at 2204 Regent Ct, Creedmoor, NC.

Mr. Mayor and members of the Board, I am here to register a grave concern that I shared at the Granville County Commissioners Meeting last Tuesday January 21st. I am taking this opportunity to make Public Comments as a member of the Creedmoor Board of Commissions and also as a private citizen.

On January 21st, I stood before the Granville County Board of Commissioners to make public comments about a matter that implicates the City of Creedmoor. In the spirit of full disclosure, I have prepared copies of my comments and will make those available upon request.

Subsequent to the SGWASA meeting where Commissioner Ed Mims made comments last week, the City of Creedmoor approved and presented to me not one, not two, but three separate Public Records requests demanding my PERSONAL EMAILS, all of my PERSONAL TEXT Messages and the most recent stipulated that I should turn over all of my ELECTRONIC CORRESPONDENCE before I was even sworn in as an elected official. The Granville County Board of Commissioners was confronted because after requesting the documents that generated the actual requests, it was determined that the requests were made through official channels of the Granville County Email System. There was no alternative but to confront the entire Board. And, that is what occurred last Tuesday.

The responsible Commissioner acknowledged being the solicitor of the personal information and had stated that it was being done for someone (*elected official*) and others at the City who wanted to remain in the closet.

Anyone can make public information requests. I am a proponent of transparency. However, when five (5) demands requesting personal information - between a husband and wife, a County Commissioner and a City Commissioner, both elected officials, a day after the SGWASA meeting ...from an individual who was not in attendance at any of the three meetings in question, the red flag waves foul. Granville County denied the requests as frivolous.

I consider these requests for my personal information as mean spirited and imply that there was some sort of wrong doing. Therefore, any further requests for my personal information will be considered harassment.

Yet, in spite of each of these frivolous attacks which I answered upon receipt, I still intend to work on behalf of the Creedmoor citizens. That is afterall why they sent me here.