

MINUTES OF  
CITY OF CREEDMOOR – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
AUGUST 25, 2009  
7:00 P.M.

**PRESENT:**

Mayor Darryl D. Moss, Mayor Pro-tem Tim Karan, Commissioner Jimmy Minor, Commissioner Otha Piper, Jr, Commissioner Larry Robinson and Commissioner Herman Wilkerson. Also present was Mr. Tom Mercer, City Manager, Sandra Harper, City Clerk and Attorney Tom Currin.

Mayor Moss called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioner's Room at City Hall and welcomed everyone.

**INVOCATION:**

Mayor Moss

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Commissioner Karan

**REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:**

No one was scheduled to address the Board.

**MINUTES:**

Moved by Commissioner Piper and seconded by Commissioner Karan to approve the minutes of July 28, 2009. The motion received a unanimous vote.

**APPROVAL/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:**

Moved by Commissioner Wilkerson and seconded by Commissioner Robinson to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion received a unanimous vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Mr. Stephen King, 205 W. Dogwood Drive spoke in reference to the management of the drainage ditches. He expressed that this has been a big complaint in the neighborhood. Mr. King noted that his property sits low and after the last large rain the water from the opposite side of the road ran onto his property leaving three feet of standing water on his carport.

Mr. Steve Colenda, City Inspector advised that the maintenance crew had cleaned out the ditches on the West side of the driveway and are to go out tomorrow to clean out the east side where Mr. Veasey had construction. Mr. Colenda noted that Mr. King was correct in stating that all of Dogwood Drive needed attention.

Ms. King, 205 W. Dogwood Drive expressed that the ditches across the street also need to be cleaned out. She said that the amount of water that ran onto their property was overwhelming.

Chief Tim Benware, 2663 Bowden Drive, advised that there was a parking problem last year at Pine Valley Drive by the South Granville High School kids. He said that there had also been concerns of school kids congregating and fighting at that location. Chief Benware advised that twenty vehicles were parked there today. Chief Benware suggested no parking in that area or no parking during certain hours. He noted that there are 65 parking spaces available to rent at the school.

Mayor Moss expressed that he and Commissioner Minor would be meeting to discuss this matter and other public safety issues.

No one else wished to speak so Mayor Moss closed the Public Comments section.

Mayor Moss said that he sent an e-mail to the Commissioners yesterday in reference to explanations of utility rates. He said that when citizens question the rates he explains about the debt service that the City entailed; the rate increase that was passed on to the City from SGWASA and the historical shortfall in water/sewer.

Commissioner Minor expressed that last year the City was \$100,000 in the red for sewer and SGWASA increased water/sewer by 34%. He also noted that there has been an increase in fuel costs, cost of living increases for employees and the Enterprise must be self sufficient. Commissioner Minor said that unfortunately the City made a few bad decisions years ago and it has caught up with us.

Commissioner Karan said that he tells citizens that SGWASA increased the base charge from \$6,000 to \$10,000 for water and increased the sewer from \$12,600 to \$21,000. He expressed that the City is paying an extra 20% per month for rain water infiltration and there was an increase in the actual 1,000 per gallons of water usage. He said that Butner customers have been hit hard because the state is no longer subsidizing and their bills have doubled. Commissioner Karan said that next year the base rates will also be increasing \$2,000 for water and \$2,000 sewer plus an additional 30¢ for water and 20¢ for sewer. He also noted that the cost for trash pickup in Creedmoor is currently \$17.00 per month.

Commissioner Robinson said that when he was questioned by citizens he quoted the rate increases by SGWASA. He said that he also explained that year before last the City subsidized the increases.

Commissioner Piper said that the water/sewer rates from SGWASA are going to continually increase. He expressed that the Board has been working diligently with staff to consider other options.

Commissioner Wilkerson said that he had been asked about the rate increases and he explained to citizens that SGWASA increased the City's rates by approximately \$120,000; therefore, the City had to increase its rates. Commissioner Wilkerson said that the elderly citizens on social security will not be receiving an increase next year and it will be hard for them to pay the bills.

Commissioner Minor expressed that last year the City had a 2,000 gallon minimum, which helped the senior citizens and currently there is a 1,000 gallon minimum. Commissioner Minor said that next year the Board may want to consider reverting back to the 2,000 minimum.

Mayor Moss said that the objective should be to make sure that the City gives out the correct information. Mayor Moss expressed that the Board has listened to citizen's concerns and are working hard to make things better.

#### **MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Mr. Tom Mercer, City Manager/Finance Officer gave an overview of the report that was in the Board's packet in reference to important events, water, sewer, refuse collection, roads and miscellaneous.

Mr. Tom Mercer, City Manager/Finance Officer advised that a USDA meeting had been scheduled for Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.; however, Mr. Dan Boone, the Wooten Company may not be able to attend.

Mayor Moss expressed that he felt that Mr. Dan Boone should be present for this meeting and the City may want to reschedule.

Mr. Tom Mercer said that the audit was scheduled for October 12, 2009 with Mr. Jim Winston. The deadline is the end of October; however there is a 30 days grace period. Mr. Tom Mercer, City Manager/Finance Officer expressed that he was trying to move up the audit date.

Commissioner Minor had concerns of the timeframe for the audit and would like to see the audit completed before the deadline.

Mr. Tom Mercer, City Manager/Finance Officer advised that he had received quotes for all meters over 1", which totals approximately \$31,000.

Mr. Tom Mercer, City Manager/Finance Officer said that the repairs to the gate at the dam of Lake Rogers had been successfully completed.

Mr. Tom Mercer, City Manager/Finance Officer expressed that Ms. Scottie Wilkin, Business Development & Transportation Project Manager contacted NCDOT and they placed the crosswalks on Main Street. He said that he, Ms. Scottie Wilkins and Chief Benware plan to educate the public about the laws in regards to crosswalks.

Mr. Tom Mercer, City Manager/Finance Officer expressed that he was pleased with the Strategic Plan Public Informational/ Town Hall Meeting held August 20, 2009. He said that there was good attendance and citizen input.

Commissioner Karan referred back to the meter sizes and inquired about the school system's water usage.

Mr. Tom Mercer, City Manager/Finance Officer advised that no one had approached him further about that; however there was a concern of the meter reading. He noted that there was not a problem as to the usage on the City side. Mr. Mercer, City Manager/Finance Officer said that if they change to a smaller size they must have it certified by an engineer.

Commissioner Karan asked if Mr. Tom Mercer, City Manager had scheduled a meeting with Mr. Lindsay Mize, SGWASA Executive Director about the meter size of the Wilton water line.

Mr. Tom Mercer, City Manager said that they were hoping to schedule a meeting this week.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

##### **Department Head Reports:**

Provided in the Board packets were the monthly reports from the various departments.

Mayor Moss asked Chief Benware if there had been any traffic complaints on the first day of school.

Chief Benware replied no.

##### **Lake Rogers Boating Ordinance:**

Attorney Currin said that the Lake Holt Board Ordinance needed to be changed to meet the needs of Creedmoor and read the ordinance. He expressed that they were only replacing the provision for electric motors and speed limit.

Commissioner Piper had concerns of the 25 mph because of the stumps in the lake.

Commissioner Robinson said that he did not understand the need to have gas powered motor boats on Lake Rogers. He referred to the handout from the City Manager that was presented

at the last meeting. Commissioner Robinson said that statistics show that the safest boats on a lake are kayaks, rowboats and canoes, which do not have motors. Most deaths on water are accidental drowning caused by falling overboard. Commissioner Robinson also had concerns of noise pollution.

Commissioner Minor suggested that the boat dock area be defined as “that area within 500 feet of the dock.”

Commissioner Robinson said that he would like to see the speed lowered to 10 or 15 mph.

Moved by Commissioner Minor and seconded by Commissioner Wilkerson to adopt the ordinance with a speed limit of 25 mph and that the dock boat area to be defined as a distance of 500 feet and the other language to remain as written. The motion failed by a 3-2 vote.

Aye Votes: Commissioner Karan, Commissioner Minor and Commissioner Wilkerson

No Votes: Commissioner Piper and Commissioner Robinson

The motion failed because this was an ordinance which has a force of law. The motion did not have a four/fifths vote on the first reading.

Mayor Moss asked the Clerk to place this item on the agenda of the September 14, 2009 Work Session meeting. He said that at the next meeting it could pass by a simple majority.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **CMAQ Trail Grant Application:**

Ms. Scottie Wilkins, Business Development & Transportation Project Manager expressed that the City wanted to pursue opportunities for pedestrian and greenways. She gave an overview of the handout of the following:

1. NC East 56 Greenway Connector – 1.3 miles.  
Total project CMAQ: \$907,672    Matching: \$226,918    Total: \$1,134,590
2. NC 56 West Greenway Connector – 1.2 miles.  
Total Project CMAQ: \$765,348    Matching: \$191,337    Total: \$956,685

These ped-bicycle trail systems would provide transportation options for residential communities, schools, athletic facilities, and proposed future mixed-use development. The trail would be varying 8’ to 10’ paved asphalt and would provide benefit to a mix of citizens, improving upon recent and ongoing projects to reduce vehicle use and emissions along the NC 56 corridor.

Ms. Scottie Wilkins provided maps for review. She said that there was no guarantee that the City would be granted the funding.

Mr. Tom Mercer, City Manager advised that the proposal from Kayser Roth to the Paddington area has wetlands that could be used by the schools to work with wildlife. Both areas are beneficial to the City and also help with emission control.

Commissioner Karan questioned the width of 8' to 10' on NC Highway 56.

Ms. Scottie Wilkins said that they were open to several different options. She said that what they are recommending is a proposed connection. If this grant is awarded to the City there would be public involvement meetings and land owners would have the opportunity to participate. The City could review other options and solutions as to the alignment.

Upon discussion, moved by Commissioner Wilkerson and seconded by Commissioner Piper to support the CMAQ Grant Application. The motion received a unanimous vote.

**Creedmoor Cemetery Nominee:**

Mayor Moss advised that the Cemetery Committee asked that this item be tabled.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Moss announced that the highway 50 corridor study is to be released for bid in the near future. The City has requested from CAMPO that the study scope be expanded to go through Main Street Creedmoor and end at Highway 56.

Mayor Moss said that Ms. Scottie Wilkins, Business Development & Transportation Project Manager advised last week that the Creedmoor Connector, R2542 from Hwy. 50 to Hwy. 56 is on the preliminary prioritization list to be submitted to NCDOT. He expressed that after three years in CAMPO the City has made it to the competitive list and hopefully will make it to the final list.

Mayor Moss said that it was exciting that the BP Family Fare opened today and is the fourth new business to open on Main Street. He noted that the CVS, Cardinal State Bank and AAA Gas Company have also recently opened on Main Street.

Mayor Moss announced that Ms. Scottie Wilkins, Business Development & Transportation Project Manager passed out an article from the Butner Creedmoor News that BB&T contributed to Main Street, Creedmoor. He said that BB&T funded benches, trash receptacles, new monogrammed planters and flowers. Mayor Moss advised that BB&T is scheduled to come out and help with the placement of these items on Main Street September 9, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. There will be an unveiling of these items at the Music Festival.

Mayor Moss announced that the Alive-After Five was scheduled for Thursday, August 27, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. at Ellington-Brim Chevrolet. Main Street will be closed from 4:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

Mayor Moss announced that the preparation of the Music Festival was moving along. Commissioner Piper has done a tremendous job with solicitation of sponsors and anticipates a collection of approximately \$4,000. There are approximately 38 vendors that have signed up for the festival thus far. Mayor Moss expressed that he had six bands lined up for the festival.

Mayor Moss expressed that the Town Hall Meeting was held Thursday, August 20, 2009 and there was good attendance. He said that staff did a great job with their presentations and the attendees actively participated. The input from citizens was based upon recreation, shopping and restaurants.

Mayor Moss announced that Sunday morning Creedmoor was shown on Carolina Community on NC Spin. He said that if citizens missed the television show it could be seen on their website.

#### **COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:**

Commissioner Piper had nothing further to report.

Commissioner Robinson had nothing further to report.

Commissioner Karan announced that he would be meeting with Senator Hagan and Representative Brad Miller in Washington, DC on September 17, 2009 and asked that the Board and citizens consider questions that they would like asked at that meeting. He said that he would be attending for the Human Development Steering Committee of the National League of Cities. He said that the committee would be addressing issues of rising health care costs, public safety and water/sewer increases.

Commissioner Karan announced that the City would have a booth for KaBoom and they are soliciting volunteers to put together playground equipment. There will be grilled hotdogs to serve the volunteers.

Commissioner Wilkerson said that the Cemetery Chairman asked that the City scrape the roads and fill in the ruts at the cemetery.

Commissioner Wilkerson requested that the bushes be pruned at the dam. He said that the City is proud of the lake and it needs to be maintained.

Mayor Moss said that at a previous meeting Commissioner Wilkerson requested that there be a grease collection after Thanksgiving and he felt this was a great idea. He asked that Commissioner Wilkerson coordinate the pickup.

Commissioner Minor asked that Commissioner Karan thank Senator Hagan and Representative Miller for their letters of support for the Fire Department.

Commissioner Minor referred to last month's discussion of the upgrading of the Hester Water line and gave an overview of the connection fees. The initial fee was \$186,000 and the outcome was that the City only had to pay \$79,000.

Commissioner Minor advised that one of the reasons for higher rates was due to 30% of water flushing because of the quality of the water from SGWASA. He said that he also noticed the chlorine levels have dropped.

Mr. Steve Colenda, City Inspector said that he would meet with Mr. Chris Thomson and review the recording charts.

Commissioner Minor said that he would like to have an early review of the flushing. He requested that a copy of the monthly billing from SGWAS be forwarded to him.

Commissioner Minor said that he had been working with Dave Roesler, Planning Director and Mr. Steve Colenda, City Inspector to get a pond reclassification on the land owned by the Fire Department. He gave an overview of the requirements and requested that the City send staff with a backhoe to cut a trench.

Commissioner Minor expressed that the Fireman's Day Parade is scheduled for Saturday October 10, 2009 and asked Chief Benware to obtain the permit for the event.

Commissioner Minor asked if a date had been scheduled to meet with Oxford.

Mr. Tom Mercer, City Manager/Finance Director advised that they have requested further information.

Mayor Moss asked Attorney Currin to give an overview of the Memorandum of Understanding that Granville County sent to the City in reference to the Clean Water Management Trust Fund.

Attorney Currin expressed that the City is in the process of getting everything in place for consideration by the Clean Water Trust Committee at the September meeting. Attorney Currin said that the motion should designate the City Manager as the project manager and authorize him to execute the Budget Exhibit and the Assurances to meet the requirement for the non-Federally funded contracts.

Moved by Commissioner Karan and seconded by Commissioner Piper to designate City Manager, Tom Mercer as Project Manager for the Fontaine Project and specifically authorize him to review "Exhibit B - Project Budget" and "Exhibit C.2 - Assurances for non-Federally



Funded contracts” and to execute these exhibits to the Clean Water Management Trust Fund Grant Agreement on behalf of the City. The motion received a unanimous vote.

Attorney Currin gave the Board a handout of the Memorandum of Understanding that was sent today from Granville County. Clean Water Management Fund personnel was aware that the City is considering possibly allowing the County to become involved and provide the matching funds needed for this project. He explained that this MOU recites the fact that the City has applied for the Clean Water Management Trust Fund Grant and an Upper Neuse Clean Water Initiative Grant to acquire a certain tract or parcel of land located in the city limits of Creedmoor known as the Fontaine Tract in order to protect water quality, preserve natural buffers and provide for recreational facilities. Attorney Currin advised that Granville County is interested in acquiring the Fontaine Tract if the Clean Water Management Trust Fund Grant and the Upper Neuse Clean Water Initiative Grant can be transferred from the City to the County. He said that the City of Creedmoor would agree to the transfer of the Clean Water Management Trust Fund and the Upper Neuse Clean Water Initiative Grant from the City of Creedmoor to Granville County in the event that Granville County determines that it wishes to purchase the property and subject to the approval of granting agencies. Attorney Currin said that he deleted the language in the contract “WHEREAS, *the City of Creedmoor has determined that it will not purchase the Fontaine Tract; and.*” He has included the language in No. 1; “*subject to the approval of the granting agencies and subject to the County providing 100% of the matching funds for the project.*”

Moved by Commissioner Piper and seconded by Commissioner Robinson to adopt the Memorandum of Understanding as presented by the City Attorney. The motion received a unanimous vote.

Moved by Commissioner Wilkerson and seconded by Commissioner Minor to adjourn. The motion received a unanimous vote.

---

Mayor

---

City Clerk