

TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 16, 2016
7:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Grant, Vice Mayor Angela Thomas, Councilman Eddie Cole, Rodney Daniels, and Councilman Theo Washington.

STAFF: Attorney Joseph Morrell, Roger Dixon, Chief Administrative Officer, Abu Canady, Public Works Director, Sherron Fort, Special Assistant to the Mayor, Joseph Jenkins, Deputy, Eric McIntyre, Chief of Police, Katrina Gibson, Finance Director, Rod Bargaineer, Recreation Director, and Cathlene Williams; Town Clerk.

I. CALL TO ORDER & VERIFICATION OF QUORUM- Mayor Grant called the Council Meeting to order at 7:45 PM., Pastor Critton led the Prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. AWARDS & PRESENTATIONS

A. Letters of Commendation by Mayor Grant to Public Work employees for the Water Main Break. Mayor Grant commended the Public Works employees for fixing the water main break, the area that broke several months ago, we spent roughly \$15,000 to repair it. The pipes broke again in a different place, the Public Works department responded accordingly, they got the job done, didn't cost nearly as much as the first break, less than two thousand dollars, thanks to staff from Orange County, in which we have an intergovernmental corporation agreement with. I would encourage all residents to get on the text notification system; it really works to get the notice out to our citizens. Letter of Commendation read by Mayor Grant; Mark Haynes and Chris Burns were in attendance to receive their Commendation Letters. In regards to our Eaton Street project, the funds that we were short \$800,000, we received these funds from USDA. Letter of Commendation also given to Mr. Canady.

B. Presentation by the Boys & Girls Club

In speaking for the entire Council, we are all involved with kids in some professional capacity. Presentation on Trip to Dallas, Texas, for 15 kids, half of the money has already been raised, we are still about \$10,000 short, and the trip is scheduled for March 17, 2016 the ages are 14-16, the fee includes the chaperones, and hotel stay, flight is from the Orlando airport. **Motion by Councilman Daniels, seconded by Councilman Washington,** to authorize \$5,000 to the Boys & Girls Club for their trip from the Town, and call a special session meeting for the CRA Board, for

their consideration of the remaining \$5,000, and help them to raise the remainder through corporate sponsorship as stated by Mayor Grant, he also requested that they come back before Council and give a presentation on their trip, and to lay out a fund raising format. **AYE: All, Motion Passes.**

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS ONLY

V. PUBLIC HEARING

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of February 2, 2016 Town Council Minutes.**
- B. Approval of Proclamation recognizing the 50th Class Reunion of Hungerford High School, May 27, 2016- May 29, 2016.**
- C. Approval of Denton Johnson Center Conceptual Floor Plan.**
- D. Approval of Detailed Budget and Check Register report for the month of January, 2016.**
- E. Approval of Resolution #2016-9, Uniform Method of Collecting Non-Ad Valorem Special Assessments Levied within the Incorporated Area of the Town.**
- F. Approval to purchase used school bus for the Recreation department. MOVED TO COUNCIL DECISION.**
- G. Approval of the Auditing firm of Cherry Bekaert, LLP for auditing services for year ended September 30, 2015.**

Motion by Vice Mayor Thomas, the motion was seconded by Councilman Daniels, to approve the Consent Agenda, with **Item (F)**, being moved to Council Decision. **AYE: All, Motion Passes.**

VII. COUNCIL DECISION

- F. Approval to purchase used school bus for the Recreation department.**
Motion by Councilman Daniels, Motion seconded by Vice Mayor Thomas; **AYE:** Mayor Grant, Vice Mayor Thomas, Councilman Daniels, and Councilman Washington. Councilman Cole stated for the record, he hopes we get a bus, just can't approve the bus not having a warranty with it. **NAYE:** Councilman Cole; **MOTION PASSES.**

VIII. STAFF REPORT

IX. ADMINISTRATIVE/COUNCIL/ATTORNEY REPORT

Councilman Cole- In the last 3-4 days 5 (k) race in the Town, turned into a 5-K gang at Maitland Middle School; Every Kid Outreach was called personally to come to the school, with 160-170 parents at the school for three (3) days. There were 11 suspensions, with other schools it was over 245 suspensions, with only 14-15 kids going to the gang, some were going to be expelled, this is serious right now; we have a Care

to Development Class at the school. I have met with Nancy Robinson regarding this situation on the kids getting suspended, that will help expedite the process on them getting back in school. Would this board consider all donations that the Town receive that we do this by Resolution to be drafted by the Town Attorney, to make sure we cover ourselves.

Councilman Washington- want to echo Mr. Coles concern on the Maitland Middle School situation, saw several parents that I knew, I will do my due diligence to sign up to be a mentor at the school.

Councilman Daniels- want to commend staff on the email and telephone calls getting out the notices regarding the water situation; have great respect for the Public Works staff, Mark Haynes, Mr. Abu, especially Chris Burns, to get in the hole and not have water, will take Public Works to lunch just to show my appreciation.

Vice Mayor Thomas- what is the status of the RFQ, and the Host Dime closing, need to be updated on this, if it has gone out, how far this pushes the contract back on the extension of the School Board contract. Also need copy of the policy on comp time from Mr. Dixon, or Ms. Gibson, by 2/17/2016 noon. Mayor Grant replied that with Host Dime the problem is with Duke Energy, with an easement in a certain area for the land that was sold to Host Dime. Orange County prepared the RFQ, it was sent to the Town, we did the RFQ, sent it back to them, they then hired an outside Attorney to review the RFQ, they still have it, our contract is signed, they've had it for (60) days, hopefully it will be cleared up next week, and we can go to closing.

Mayor Grant- assessment on pay station at the post office, a full assessment on the security is being done, once this is finished, we will bring it back to the board, if there is a cost associated with it. From an Administrative stand point, I have asked this Council for their support, we need to change the direction of the police department, I haven't received your support on this issue, I spoke with Chief McIntyre two (2) weeks ago on this issue. I am asking my colleagues to support me on this effort; the direction of the police department has to have new leadership. I have asked Mr. McIntyre to accept the Sgt. Position; I do not want to affect his livelihood in any financial way, he has (72) hours to consider accepting the position of Sgt, that is my position, ask for a motion to support this. Vice Mayor Thomas asked that if Mr. McIntyre accepts the Sgt. Position; will the Police Chief position be advertised, and what is the salary for the Sgt. position. Mayor Grant replied YES, the position will pay the salary that is budgeted. Motion by Councilman Daniels, seconded by Vice Mayor Thomas, for Eric McIntyre to accept the position of Police Sgt; Councilman Cole asked the reason for this change. Already explained as stated by Mayor Grant. Councilman Cole stated this is no way to do business, let's work with what we have. Mayor Grant stated this is consistent with past Mayor Mount administration, to bring in new staff. Vice Mayor Thomas asked is Chief McIntyre was vested; Mayor Grant indicated YES he is fully vested. **AYE:** Mayor Grant, Vice Mayor Thomas, and Councilman Daniels; **NAYE:** Councilman Cole, and Councilman Washington; **MOTION PASSES.**

Council members discussed the payment that PEC still owes the Town, after discussion, Mayor Grant entertained a motion to authorize Legal Counsel to take the necessary steps to litigate the issue with the Zora Contract in the event that funds are not paid by, February 19, 2016 at 5:00 PM. The motion was moved by Vice Mayor Thomas, and seconded by Councilman Daniels; **AYE: ALL, Motion Passes.**

Attorney Morrell- NO REPORT

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

NONE

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION-

Louissteen Cummings- In regards to the water problem, the text message systems works great, need notice of when the water situation first happen, a lot of citizens did not get a notice. On the door to door flyers, need to stop putting them in the mail boxes.

X. ADJOURNMENT- Council Meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.



**Respectfully Submitted by:
Cathlene Williams, Town Clerk**