

**TOWN OF BISCOE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
April 10, 2017**

The Town of Biscoe Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on April 10, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the Municipal Building. Present were: Mayor Jimmy Blake, Mayor Pro-Tem Jerry Smith, Commissioners, Gene Anderson, Eddie Reynolds, Jimmy Cagle, John Beard and Town Manager Brandon Holland Town Clerk Laura Morton were present.

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence

Mayor Blake called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The Pledge to the American Flag was recited and a moment of silence was observed.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner Beard, seconded by Commissioner Reynolds and so the motion carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the March 13, 2017 meeting.

Approval of April 2017 Financial Report

Town Clerk Laura Morton presented the Monthly Financial Report. Mrs. Morton pointed out a few new items on the financial report including the Budget vs. Actual report from the Town's Accounting Software.

She also informed the Board that the \$450,000 that was approved at the March meeting was reinvested as follows:

| NEW NCCMT INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|--------------|---|
| PAYROLL (GF) GOVT. | .56 | \$100,000.00 | ACCOUNT OPENED APRIL 3 RD & FUNDS WIRED APRIL 6 TH |
| CEMETERY (GF) TERM | .91 | \$50,000.00 | ACCOUNT OPENED APRIL 3 RD & FUNDS WIRED APRIL 6 TH |
| HALLOWEEN IN THE PARK (GF) TERM | .91 | \$25,000.00 | ACCOUNT OPENED APRIL 3 RD & FUNDS WIRED APRIL 6 TH |
| GENERAL NEEDS (GF) TERM | .91 | \$150,000.00 | ACCOUNT OPENED APRIL 3 RD & FUNDS WIRED APRIL 6 TH |
| WATER IMPROVEMENTS (WS) TERM | .91 | \$125,000.00 | ACCOUNT OPENED APRIL 3 RD & FUNDS WIRED APRIL 6 TH |
| | | \$450,000.00 | |

A motion was made by Commissioner Beard, seconded by Commissioner Reynolds and so the motion carried unanimously to approve the Monthly Financial Statement.

Biscoe Community Center

Mrs. Breon Allen appeared before the Board to invite them to be a formal partner with the Biscoe Community Center Committee. She said she was not asking for financial assistance. Renovations have been made and an open house is scheduled for May 11, 2017 from 5 pm to 7 pm. She asked if the Town could help with the publicity. There was a consensus of the Board to support the Center formally.

Bid on Town Property

Town Manager Brandon Holland said an offer from Mr. Larry Lewis for 20 acres of the Town's property (7568-16-93-9475) that shares a boundary with his property. The offer is for \$35,000 for 20 acres. The following required procedures were completed:

- Submission of Bid in writing, including parcel number, and offer amount
- Offer presented to Commissioners
- Advertisement for upset bid in local newspaper
 - Minimum increase of 5% required to qualify
- Bid notice runs for 10 days
- After 10 days, if no new offer; Offer goes back to Commissioners for consideration with draft resolution to formally accept or reject the final bid price

An upset bid from James H. Murray of Randleman was received. Mr. Murray's bid was for \$36,750 which is 5% more than the original bid. He paid 5% of his upset bid in the amount of \$1,837.50.

The Board discussed the importance of keeping the entrance to the Town Property that is located off of US Alt 220.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Smith, and so the motion was carried 4-1 to reject the bids. (Voting No was Commissioner Reynolds).

Hugh Martin Property

Manager Holland explained the Hugh Martin has received an offer on the property at 214 Hunsucker Street. The Board voted to place a lien on the property for the costs associated with the demolition of the structure located at this address. The offer is for \$9,000. Mr. Martin is requesting that \$1,000 for himself and \$500 for the realtor Bret Kennedy. This would leave \$7,500 toward the lien.

Mr. Martin, in a letter to the Board, stated that if the Town of Biscoe agrees to the contract all remaining funds from the sale would be applied to any outstanding taxes and liens against the property. He is asking for the remainder of the lien be forgiven.

Town Attorney Russ Hollers, Jr. said in his opinion the Board would have to go back through the same process including advertisement and legal fees to forgive the remainder of the debt. The tax law clearly prohibits release of payment of taxes. Attorney Hollers also stated the property can be reassessed as described in NCGS 160A-231.

After some discussion, the Board charged the Town Manager to investigate the cost of going through the process again.

Request for Approval of Resolution – Public Notices

A motion was made by Commissioner Beard, seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Smith, and so the motion carried unanimously to approve the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION BY THE TOWN OF BISCOE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
IN OPPOSITION TO SENATE BILL 343,
*INCREASE TEACHER SUPPLEMENT/ELECTRONIC NOTICE***

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility and obligation of all levels of government to be transparent, forthcoming, and to do its utmost to inform residents of the actions, laws, and intentions of governing bodies;

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation claims an intent to modernize and improve accessibility of notifications by placing them online in lieu of placement in a newspaper of local circulation, the results of placing vital information on stagnant governmental websites is counterintuitive to the intent of the longstanding legislation requiring notification in newspapers, and choosing online publication in lieu of local newspapers is incongruous with the responsibilities and obligations under which public officials are elected;

WHEREAS, print journalism remains, as a whole, the most trusted, respected, and judiciously self-governed form of news delivery to the people of North Carolina, especially in rural areas of the state;

WHEREAS, in disadvantaged rural counties internet access is often inferior, inconsistent, or often all together unavailable, and the costs of monthly internet access can exceed the cost of a monthly newspaper subscription by more than five hundred percent;

WHEREAS, notwithstanding any discussions on declining newspaper circulation numbers or the demise of the print media industry as a whole, the use of local newspapers as the venue for governmental notification is entrenched in the public's mind, and any legislative action which dilutes that ensconced place of notification by arbitrarily bestowing to each governing entity the power to opt out of local newspaper notification is detrimental to the whole of society;

WHEREAS, there is nothing which prevents governing bodies from using governmental websites for notification, and in fact such acts of transparency should be legislatively mandated, in addition to print notification, in the interest of the public;

WHEREAS, disguising legislation which, by design or otherwise, limits public access and information in a bill entitled *increase teacher supplement* is shameful and contradictory to the design and intent of education in a democratic nation;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the Town of Biscoe Board of Commissioners is opposed to any legislation which weakens the foundations of the Constitution and the rights of the people to be notified in a best and most recognizable and accessible manner available, at the most reasonable cost, and in a medium which has proven to be the most trustworthy, unbiased, and separate from the control of governing bodies.

Adopted this 10th day of April, 2017.

Request for Approval of Resolution - 457 Plan

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Smith, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, and so the motion carried unanimously to approve the following resolution:

BOARD RESOLUTION North Carolina Public Employee Deferred Compensation Plan

WHEREAS, the Town Board of Commissioners wishes to provide a qualified defined contribution plan to the employees of the Town of Biscoe.

AND WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina has established the North Carolina Public Employee Deferred Compensation Plan, a qualified governmental Deferred Compensation Plan under Internal Revenue Code § 457(b) for public employees of North Carolina.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Biscoe Town Board of Commissioners has adopted the North Carolina Public Employee Deferred Compensation Plan also known as "NC Deferred Comp" under the terms of the Plan Document and the Third-Party Administrator Agreement. All employees shall become eligible to defer compensation {immediately or waiting period}.

Signed this 20th day of April 10, 2017.

Cemetery

A motion was made by Commissioner Beard, seconded by Commissioner Cagle, and so the motion carried unanimously to approve the following:

- ♦ **\$30 recording fee** in addition to the grave plot fees. The fee will be collected to record the cemetery deed with the Register of Deeds. (It has been up to the one purchasing the property to record the deed; however, we have found the deeds are not being recorded. If the Town records them, this will insure a proper recording of the deeds.)
- ♦ Policy Amendment: Vaults are not required for hermetically sealed Urns.

Bruton Street Sidewalk Proposal

A motion was made by Mayor Pro tem Smith, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, and so the approve applying funding for Bruton Street Sidewalk.

Request to Schedule Budget Meetings

A motion was made by Commissioner Beard, seconded by Commissioner Reynolds, and so the motion carried unanimously to schedule a budget workshop on May 1 at 6 p.m.

Reports

Mayor's Minutes

- Attended a Market MontGOMery Meeting in Troy
- Attended a meeting in Troy on signage and destination for tourism
- Attended Business After Hours at Front Porch Picking in Troy
- Attended a Presentation regarding NC Rural Center in Troy
- Heard discussions on Natural Gas in Troy with Rural Center and County Commissioners
- Met with Richard Boles, NC House of Representative with Moore County regarding Natural Gas
- Spoke with Terry McCormick who provides Natural Gas for Mountaire and Perdue. His business is Neo Gas
- Attended Legislative Brunch at MCC with Brandon, Jerry, and Eddie
- Attended a COG Executive Committee Meeting in Kernersville
- Spoke on a weekly basis with Bill Lester, Town Engineer, regarding Carolina Dairy

Closed Session (NCGS 134-318 .11 (a)(6)) Personnel

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Reynolds, and so the motion carried unanimously to go into closed session in accordance with Closed Session (NCGS 134-318 .11 (a)(6)) Personnel.

No action was taken in closed session.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Cagle, and so the motion carried unanimously to go out of closed session.

Public Comment

No one spoke during the public forum.

Melinda Clark of Candor was present for a class she is attending.

Adjournment

There being no further business to bring before the Board, Commissioner Reynolds made the motion to adjourn, and Commissioner Anderson made the second. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.