

May 26, 2015  
Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

The Wendell Town Board of Commissioners held their regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, May 26, 2015, in the Board Meeting Room at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Timothy A. Hinnant presiding. Present were Commissioners Virginia Gray; Sam Laughery; John Boyette; Jon Lutz; James Parham; Teresa Piner-Manager; Jonnie Driver-Clerk; Butch Kay-Finance; David Bergmark-Planning; Allison Rice Planner; Alton Bryant-Public Works; Jeff Polaski-Parks; Bill Carter-Police and Tamah Hughes-IT.

Mayor Hinnant called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chief Carter, and the invocation was given by Pastor Bob Albritton of Wendell United Methodist Church.

**Adjustment and approval of the agenda**

No adjustments were made and Commissioner Parham made a motion to approve the agenda. After no discussion the motion passed unanimously.

**Item 1 – Public Comment**

No one wished to speak.

**Item 2 – Consent Agenda**

- a. Approval of the Minutes from the May 4, 2015 Special Called Budget Meeting.
- b. Approval of the Minutes from Monday, May 11, 2015 regularly scheduled Board Meeting
- c. Approval of the Wake County Tax Report for March 2015
- d. Approval authorizing Wake County Tax Collection Office to continue the collection of property taxes for the Town of Wendell.

Commissioner Parham made a motion to approve the consent agenda as written. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

**Item 3 – Presentation of Lifesaving Award to Wendell Police Sergeant James E. Gill and Officer Justin D. Loy.**

Chief Carter stated that on January 28, 2015 officers were dispatched to the 200 block of North Main Street, in reference to an unresponsive 75 year old male. Sgt. Gill and Officer Loy responded to the call and upon arrival determined the man did not have a pulse and immediately initiated CPR until Fire and EMS arrived on the scene. Advanced cardiac protocols were initiated by EMS and after 40 minutes of medical intervention, the patient began breathing on his own and regained a strong enough pulse to be transported to Wake Medical Center.

Chief Bill Carter stated the Wendell Police Department has a peer driven Awards Committee that reviews actions, such as outlined above. The actions of Sergeant Gill and Officer Loy were reviewed by the Awards Committee and it was the unanimous decision that both be awarded the Wendell Police Department Lifesaving Award.

Chief Carter presented Sergeant Gill and Officer Loy with a certificate and a flagship pen that they could wear on their uniform above their name tag.

May 26, 2015  
Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

Mayor Hinnant said he could not think of a higher calling than to be able to save someone's life and its impact on that family. He said he could not imagine what it was like at that time, but your service is very much appreciated. Sergeant Gill said it had been a pleasure to serve the citizens of Wendell. Officer Loy said we are also grateful for the opportunity to receive the CPR training given by the town.

**Item 4 – Discussion, consideration and action on a request by the Wendell Chamber of Commerce to close Main or Campen Streets as a part of a Summer Concert Series.**

Manager Piner said the Wendell Chamber of Commerce made a request to close Main or Campen Street for the scheduling of a Summer Concert Series during the months of June, July and August from 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm.

Mrs. Piner said questions regarding the events include: The types of bands or music that would be played, would 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm be the total time of street closure or the time the band would play, would street vendors other than downtown merchants be included, would restroom facilities be needed, had the concert series been communicated to Main Street Businesses.

Mrs. Piner said that she had spoken with a Wendell Chamber member and they would like to see the road closed from 5:30-10:30 pm. Manager Piner also asked about the use of the Town Square and the stage that would not require Main Street to be closed. The chamber expressed that some of the merchants sponsoring the Concert Series were located on Main Street and would like to see the events located there.

Mrs. Piner said we had Chamber representatives Brad Rhinehalt and Stacy Bradfield available to discuss chamber events and this specific item. Manager Piner stated that the Chamber had stated that they felt the existing restroom facilities in the restaurants and businesses on Main Street would be sufficient and they are encouraging people to eat downtown.

Commissioner Gray made a motion to close Main Street on Friday, June 26, Friday, July 24, and Friday, August 28 from 5:30-10:30 pm for the Chamber of Commerce Summer Concert Series. Commissioner Boyette said he thought it was great to bring live music downtown and open up and bring people into the businesses. He said his only concern was closing Main Street. We lose a large portion of our parking and we have the stage available. He said he understood the merchants wanting to have it in front of their stores, but he would like to see if in the future we could utilize the facilities we had in place for these types of events. Commissioner Gray said she agreed, but thought the intention was to get people into those businesses on Main Street and if it was around the corner, people would not come around the corner and into those businesses. She said as far as parking there was plenty of parking. Without further discussion the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Rhinehalt stated he was planning on giving a Chamber update, but he could do that at the time of the budget presentation if that was ok. Mayor Hinnant said a Chamber update should be on the agenda, so let's wait until you can get with Teresa and put it on the agenda.

**Item 5 – Discussion and action on a façade grant and mural request for 33 N. Main Street**

Mayor Hinnant stated this item had been tabled.

**Item 6 – Review of citizen board applications.**

Mrs. Piner said we put in your packets information on the Planning Board, Economic Development, Parks and Recreation, Board of Adjustment, Tree Board and the Appearance Commission regarding upcoming vacancies and applications. Mrs. Piner said we had received sufficient applications to fill some of the positions, but we do not have applications to fill several of the ETJ vacancies. Mayor Hinnant said if the board was willing, if it was a position that we did not have any applicants for, then we should extend the application period for those positions only. Commissioner Gray made a motion to open the applications back up for the places that we did not receive applications for. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

**Item 7 – Discussion and action to authorize the bid award for the Lake Drive Storm Drainage Improvements Project.**

Mayor Hinnant said this Item has been tabled.

**Item 8 – Public Hearing on the FY 2015/2016 Budget for the Town of Wendell.**

Teresa said in accordance with Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the recommended budget for the Town of Wendell for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 had been submitted for the Board's review and consideration. The balanced budget identified revenue and expenditures for FY 2015-2016 and was prepared in accordance with the North Carolina Local Government and Budget Fiscal Control Act. She said the FY 2015-2016 recommended budget, totals \$7,035,133 for all Town operations, capital improvements and debt service requirements.

Mrs. Piner said the Fund Balance remains at approximately 40 percent of expenditures, as policy established by the board, estimated at \$1,817,384. She said the property tax remains at \$.049 per \$100.

Mrs. Piner said decal fees and fees for services would remain the same.

Mrs. Piner said the budget includes a COLA raise of \$1300 for each employee effective July 1, 2015, and possibly a merit raise in January 2016 after looking at the figures again.

Mrs. Piner said Raleigh would increase water rates by 5% as set forth in the Proforma.

Mrs. Piner said three new loans were being proposed:

59 month loan – vehicles and equipment with a payment of \$69,000

10 year loan – facilities \$66,000 per year

15 year loan – street and drainage improvements to be paid with Powell bill funds in the amount of \$115,164 a year.

Mrs. Piner said Butch Kay Finance Director and I met with the Local Government Commission and they felt even though we are not a wealthy community, but we are very sound financially. She said the town has two loans one with \$130,000 remaining for equipment and Open Space that the town purchased the Clark Property at the park for \$165,000. When we met with the LGC they recommended rolling the open space loan into the 10 year loan because the interest rate is lower and that would possibly save the town about \$2,000 a year. She said as part of the loan process we will be doing that.

May 26, 2015  
Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

Mrs. Piner said in looking at the budget there were always needs that would remain unfunded due to the lack of revenue. She said we had requests for additional positions that cannot be funded at this time due to budget restraints, long-range planning for the purchase of land and future municipal complex, way-finding system, road improvements to include local projects (LAPP), and updating the greenway/pedestrian plan.

Mrs. Piner said she would answer any questions that the board might have.

Mayor Hinnant opened the public hearing for comments.

Nora Cambier – 3851 Wendell Boulevard, Wendell, said she appreciated all the time and energy that the board and staff had put into working on this budget. She said she wanted you to know that the citizens' appreciated this effort. She said she understood that you were planning to stop picking up bulky waste items, and it was her understanding that most of that waste was generated by rental property. She said she felt like that was the cost of doing business when you own rental property, you should take care of that yourself. She thought it was a good idea to phase it out or if you have to continue that pickup, charge for it.

No one else wished to be heard and the Mayor Hinnant closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Parham made a motion to approve the budget as presented. Without further discussion the motion passed unanimously.

**Item 9 – Discussion and action on the FY 2015/2016 Budget Ordinance for the Town of Wendell.**

Commissioner Parham made a motion to approve the FY 2015/2016 Budget Ordinance for the Town of Wendell. Without further discussion the motion passed unanimously.

**Item 10 – Discussion and approval of a Reimbursement Resolution of loan proceeds.**

Mrs. Piner said Butch Kay and she had met with the Local Government Commission to discuss the Town's pending facility and equipment needs.

Mrs. Piner said the LGC said a Resolution of Reimbursement would be a tool for the Town to consider. The Resolution of Reimbursement would allow for the Town to use money on hand to make facility improvements while the Town and LGC work through the application process and approval of the loans.

Mrs. Piner said by passing a Resolution of Reimbursement, the Town can recoup and repay itself upfront costs which were incurred in the process. Commissioner Parham made a motion to adopt the Resolution of Reimbursement. Commissioner Boyette said as he understood this, the Resolution would allow us to spend money we have now with the anticipation that we would receive a loan in the future to replenish those funds. He said we would not drop fund balance below 40 percent. Mrs. Piner said that was correct. With no further discussion the motion passed unanimously.

**Item 11 – Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Laughery stated he had talked about supporting our local businesses over the past three years and we had quite a few good places to eat. A new bagel shop just opened, the Wendell Country Club has a great breakfast and lunch, Peedies, Boulevard Pizza, Agave, Bravo's, Domino's, Subway, Great

May 26, 2015  
Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

Wok, Country Café at Robinwood Retirement Center and Sheetz. Support our businesses that is the only way we can survive as a viable town.

Commissioner Boyette said he would like for everyone to think about the reason we were here on a Tuesday, rather than a Monday. He said yesterday was Memorial Day and he hoped everyone did something to remember the service that was given by our armed services members. If you see a veteran thank them, if you know one thank them and if you were one, thank you.

Commissioner Gray said she would like to congratulate Sergeant Gill and Officer Loy. She wanted to personally thank them for their service for our Town. She said it was an extra special thing to be recognized by your peers and she hoped they would treasure that. She said she recently attended an area transit meeting at the Community Center to learn about some opportunities being considered for Wake County. She said she attended two grand openings at Wendell Falls and they were very nice. She said at the VIP Grand Opening Wendell Falls made a donation of \$25,000 to start a track out program for our students and we very much appreciate that. She said she attended the East Wake Education Work Group and Shane Barham, Wendell Elementary School Principal spoke to the group. Wendell Elementary Magnet School was held up as an example as how to get test grades up and how to do great things for your students. She said she was very proud of Wendell Elementary. She said she also attended Leadership Day at Lake Myra Elementary School and Commissioner Parham was there and that was a wonderful day. She said those kids were like little business people and were very serious about what they were doing. She said the Chamber held a meeting with Suburban Living Magazine who was considering doing a Wendell Magazine that would come out four times a year and would be delivered to every home in Wendell. She said it was a great thing for our town, and she urged the businesses to support it.

Commissioner Lutz and Parham had no comments.

**Item 12 – Mayor Comments**

Mayor Hinnant said he would also like to thank the veterans for the sacrifices they had made as well. He also congratulated Sergeant Gill and Officer Loy. He said there was no bigger honor in your service than to save a life.

**Item 13 – Adjourn**

Mayor Hinnant adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

---

Timothy A. Hinnant, Mayor

Attest:

---

Jonnie S. Driver, Town Clerk