

**TOWN OF LONG VIEW
TOWN ALDERMEN MEETING
September 8, 2008**

The Town of Long View Board of Aldermen met on Monday, September 8, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers of the Government Center in Long View, North Carolina.

BOARD PRESENT: The following members of the Board were present: Mayor Norman Cook, Alderman Ken Bumgarner, Alderman Jackie Bowman, Alderman John McDaris, Alderman Randall Mays, and Alderman Vernon Moyer.

STAFF PRESENT: The following members of staff were present: Town Administrator David Epley, Town Clerk Stephanie Watson, Town Attorney Redmond Dill, Finance Director James Cozart, Town Planner Charles Mullis, Public Works Director David Draughn, Fire Chief Eric Shepherd, and Police Chief Cecil Rogers.

OTHERS PRESENT: Henry Thomas and other residents were present

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Mayor Norman Cook called the meeting to order and Alderman Ken Bumgarner gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mayor Norman Cook asked for approval of the minutes. Motion was made by Alderman Randall Mays, seconded by Alderman Ken Bumgarner to approve the August 11, 2008 minutes. The vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC HEARING ON AMENDING CHAPTER 50: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF LONG VIEW WITH RESPECT TO NUISANCES AND WEEDS PROVISIONS

Mayor Norman Cook declared the Public Hearing on “Amending Chapter 50: An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Long View with Respect to Nuisances and Weeds Provisions” open.

Town Attorney Redmond Dill said that after reviewing the ordinance, he recommended that the Board to approve it.

There being no further discussion, the public hearing was declared closed.

Motion was made by Alderman Ken Bumgarner, seconded by Alderman John McDaris to approve the “Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Long View With Respect to Nuisances and Weeds Provisions” for adoption. The vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC HEARING ON AMENDING CHAPTER 90: ABANDONED, NUISANCE, AND JUNKED MOTOR VEHICLES

Mayor Norman Cook declared the Public Hearing on “Amending Chapter 90: Abandoned, Nuisance, and Junked Motor Vehicles” open.

Town Attorney Redmond Dill said that after reviewing the ordinance, he recommended that the Board to approve it.

There being no further discussion, the public hearing was declared closed.

Motion was made by Alderman Vernon Moyer, seconded by Alderman John McDaris to approve the “Amending Chapter 90: Abandoned, Nuisance, and Junked Motor Vehicles” for adoption. The vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC HEARING ON AMENDING CHAPTER 152: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 152, HOUSING STANDARDS OF THE TOWN OF LONG VIEW CODE OF ORDINANCES

Mayor Norman Cook declared the Public Hearing on “Amending Chapter 152: An Ordinance Amending Chapter 152, Housing Standards of the Town of Long View Code of Ordinances” open.

Town Attorney Redmond Dill said that after reviewing the ordinance, he recommended that the Board to approve it.

There being no further discussion, the public hearing was declared closed.

Motion was made by Alderman Randall Mays, seconded by Alderman Ken Bumgarner to approve the “Amending Chapter 152: An Ordinance Amending Chapter 152, Housing Standards of the Town of Long View Code of Ordinances” for adoption. The vote was unanimous.

CALL FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE I GENERAL PROVISIONS CHAPTER 10, GENERAL PENALTIES OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF LONG VIEW

Motion by Alderman Vernon Moyer, seconded by Alderman John McDaris to call for a public hearing on October 13, 2008 to discuss “An Ordinance Amending Title I General Provisions Chapter 10, General Penalties of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Long View.” The vote was unanimous.

FALL 2008 LITTER SWEEP ROADSIDE CLEANUP (SEPTEMBER 20, 2008- OCTOBER 4, 2008)

The Fall 2008 “Litter Sweep” Roadside Clean Up Campaign for all local governments in North Carolina has been proclaimed by Governor Mike Easley for September 20, 2008 – October 4, 2008.

See **Resolutions and Proclamations** for full text to “Fall 2008 Litter Sweep Road Side Cleanup Proclamation.”

Motion was made by Alderman Randall Mays and seconded by Alderman Ken Bumgarner to participate in the Litter Sweep Cleanup Campaign for September 20, 2008 – October 4, 2008. The vote was unanimous.

FINANCE REPORT

Finance Report

Finance Director James Cozart informed the Board that in the General Fund, Revenues collected totaled \$185,090.32 at the end of July. That is a \$35,575 increase over last year. The majority of the increase was due to having much stronger tax collections in July 2008 than in July 2007. Expenditures totaled \$308,009.77. Overall spending in the General Fund was down almost 2% from last year. Expenditures exceeded revenues in the General Fund by \$122,919.45. This was due largely to having to pay Worker's Compensation and General Liability Insurance in full at the beginning of the fiscal year.

In the Utility Fund, Revenues collected totaled \$146,084.20 at the end of July. This was a decrease of \$55,000 from last year. Expenditures totaled \$179,738.81 which was up slightly from last year. Expenditures exceeded revenues by \$32,934.97. Paying Workers Compensation and Liability Insurance in full at the beginning of the year also affects the Utility Fund. Other factors that played a part were the purchase of a new truck for the Water Plant in July and the Utility Billing for July was down this year from last year. At the end of August, the Town was around \$9,000 from the break even point.

Other

Finance Director James Cozart informed the Board that the Town had its preliminary annual audit back in May. The fieldwork was scheduled to begin on August 25th, however the Town's auditor resigned the week before. The Town is now scheduled for the first week of October. As the new Standard Accounting Statement 112 suggests, an outside firm was contracted to produce the Town's financial statements.

Mr. Cozart informed the Board that on Wednesday, September 10, 2008, George Sherrill from the NC Department of Commerce would be present to do an audit on the Tailored Foam CDBG Grant.

Mr. Cozart informed the Board that on Thursday, September 11, 2008, Carol Regina from the League of Municipalities would be present to do an audit on Worker's Compensation.

PROJECT'S REPORT – RICH ANDERSON WITH HSMM

Rich Anderson with HSMM updated the Board with the Town of Long View's current projects.

Mr. Anderson informed the Board that the Raw Water Pump Station Project was working toward completion. Items left for completion include grading and straw for the area around the station, fencing in the area, and adding lighting. He explained to the Board that the reason the start date was postponed was because of the delay in the arrival of the motors and the copper theft of the wires.

After a brief discussion by the Board, it was suggested to look in to making adjustments to the security around the Raw Water Pump Station.

Mr. Anderson informed the Board that the Tailored Chemical Project was close to completion. He explained to the Board that work on the curbing should begin this week.

Town Administrator explained to the Board that as part of the Audit process of the Tailored Chemical Project, the George Sherrill with the Department of Commerce and Sherry Long were scheduled to meet with a representative from Tailored Chemical.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT REPORT

Town Planner Charles Mullis informed the Board that he had attended a workshop on August 12, 2008 entitled Exploring Local Government Grant Opportunities for Brownfields.

Mr. Mullis informed the Board that the old Wastewater Treatment Plant would not be eligible for a Brownfield's Grant, however upon further research the Town of Long View may be able to work through the North Carolina Inactive Hazardous Sites Program. He explained that he would continue to research this program.

Mr. Mullis informed the Board of the CDBG Scattered Site Housing Rehabilitation Program. He explained that under this program the NC Division of Community Assistance conditionally awards Catawba County and its interested municipalities \$400,000 in Community Development Block Grant Funds. The funds would be available every three years on a noncompetitive basis. For a grant to be awarded, one of the requirements is that activities paid with Scattered Site Housing Funds must benefit persons with incomes at or below the 50% of the Catawba County Median Income. Mr. Mullis requested the Board to suggest five possible houses which fit the criteria for submittal.

Mr. Mullis informed the Board that the Planning Board was currently working on an amendment for the Town of Long View's sign ordinance. Under this amendment the Town would have a say on how a sign would have to be maintained. Mr. Mullis explained that the amendment would most likely be similar to the ordinance that explains the maintenance of fences.

Mr. Mullis informed the Board that the second phase of Pine Meadows was almost complete.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT

Public Works Director David Draughn updated the Board of the activities of the Public Works Department in the last quarter.

Mr. Draughn informed the Board that there were 283 work orders completed by the meter reader, 20 water leak repairs, 8 new water taps, 40 emergency sewer flushing calls, and 20 new meters installed.

Public Works staff performed daily inspection of the 37th Street sewer and water drainage project. Staff installed 200 feet of new sewer line on Main Avenue Drive NW for a small subdivision in March. Work was completed on the Public Works storage yard and 30 large concrete blocks were purchased to create storage bins for gravel, tires, sand, etc.

Mr. Draughn explained that Public Works oversaw Raw Water Line right of way done by J.W. Grading.

Mr. Draughn informed the board that his staff had installed a new 4" omni meter at Hill Top Apartments in August.

WATER PLANT REPORT

Town Administrator David Epley informed the Board that Plant Supervisor Rani Holland could not be present at the current meeting and would do a Department Head Report at the October 13, 2008 meeting.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Eric Shepherd updated the Board of the activities of the Fire Department in the last quarter. There were a total of 64 fire calls. The protected value equaled about \$1.8 million dollars with a loss of only \$3,600. Fire personnel spent a total of 343.48 hours on the fire grounds. There was an average number 7.7 personnel present at each fire call with an average response time of 3.5 minutes. Because of preventive education programs in schools and by public displays, the Long View Fire Department was able to reach about 496 students and teachers. The Fire Department Issued 9 Forest Service Burning Permits.

In other news, Chief Shepherd explained that the Fire Department has on its schedule to do a house burn in late October to early November. The Fire Department has also requested the "flash simulator" from Caldwell CC for training.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Chief Cecil Rogers updated the Board of the activities of the Police Department in the last quarter. He explained that the Police Department had completed its annual ECI Audit and was found compliant with no corrections needed.

Mr. Rogers informed the Board that the Police Department received a thank you note from the Muscular Dystrophy Association for the Police Department's assistance in the annual fundraiser to raise money. Officer Raymond Denton worked as a transport officer during the event.

Mr. Rogers informed the Board that Officer Scott Pitts took part in the Conover Night Out event this year and participated in a question and answer session.

Police Chief Cecil Rogers informed the Board that Police Department Interdiction ran two operations in July.

Mr. Rogers informed the Board that in the Narcotics Division the total street value of seized controlled substances during the last quarter was \$54,685.

Police Chief Cecil Rogers gave a brief synopsis of gang related activity in Long View.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Long View Lion's Club Request

Town Administrator David Epley informed the Board of the request of Lion's Club to hold fundraisers on:

- Saturday, September 27, 2008 from 10:00am – 2:00pm on the intersection of 1st Ave S.W. and 33rd St SW
- Saturday, October 25, 2008 on the intersection of 2nd Ave NW and 27th St NW
- October 4, 2008 (Rain date)
- Saturday, April 18, 2009 on the intersection of 1st Ave SW and 33rd St
- Saturday, May 30, 2009 on the intersection of 2nd Ave NW and 27nd St
- April 25, 2009 (Rain date)

After a brief discussion of the dates and times, it was the consensus of the Board to allow the Lion's Club to hold the fundraisers at the times requested.

Drought Conditions

Town Administrator David Epley informed the Board that despite the increase in rain, the drought conditions are still holding at Stage III.

Powell Bill - Street List

Town Administrator David Epley informed the Board that it was close to the time for the Town's yearly allocation for Powell Bill Funds. He asked that the Street Committee meet to decide which town maintained streets might need to be repaved.

OTHER BUSINESS

Alderman Randall Mays wished to let the Board and staff know that he has received compliments from citizens on the taste of Long View water.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion was made by Alderman Vernon Moyer, seconded by Alderman Randall Mays to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Stephanie C. Watson
Town Clerk

Norman E. Cook
Mayor