

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF GASTON
TOWN OF CRAMERTON**

August 2, 2016

The Board of Commissioners for the Town of Cramerton met in a regular session on Tuesday, August 2, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the G.M. Michael Room at the Cramerton Town Hall.

Board members present: Mayor Ronnie Worley; Mayor Pro Tempore Will Cauthen
Commissioners Houston Helms, Demetrios Koutsoupias, and Susan Neeley. Commissioner
Donald Rice was absent.

Staff present: David Pugh, Town Manager; Chief Greg Ratchford; Joel Lineberger, Finance
Director; Dave Pettine, Interim Planning Director; and Wilene Cunningham, Town Clerk. Bill
Brown, Town Attorney, was absent.

Call to Order and Determination of Quorum: Mayor Worley called the meeting to order and
determined a quorum was present.

Invocation: Given by Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen.

Pledge of Allegiance: Given by all.

Adoption of Agenda for this Meeting: Commissioner Koutsoupias made a motion to approve
the proposed agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Helms and approved by all.

Public Comment: Dave Starrett, 384 Woodlawn Avenue, stated he would like to make a public
safety request regarding a possible study of the area at the stop sign at Mayflower and possibly
changing it to a yield sign as many people do not stop at that intersection. He stated traffic from
Cramer Mountain Road onto Woodlawn Avenue needs to have a left turn yield sign installed.

**Proclamation to Celebrate the life of C.B. Huss and recognize his positive contributions to
the Town of Cramerton.** Mayor Worley read the proclamation recognizing Coach C.B. “Jack”
Huss and his contributions to the Town. Mayor Worley stated this proclamation will be forwarded
to Mr. Huss’s family. Mayor Worley recognized Dave Starrett, Ted Reece, and W.T. Queen at
tonight’s meeting as they had attended Mr. Huss’s funeral service.

Agenda Items Not Requiring a Public Hearing:

Planning: Ratchford Apartments: The Interim Planning Director stated plans and permits
have been submitted to the proper agencies regarding the proposed projects. Updates will be
provided as received.

Public Works: Road Paving/Maintenance Update: The Town Manager stated staff has
continued to work with USI Engineers to expand the scope of the 2016 road paving and
maintenance project in the hopes of lowering unit cost prices by performing maintenance on
more roads. Core samples have been recently completed. Cimarron Boulevard has a good
stone base and due to the current construction in this area the repaving process will be delayed.
Center Street will not be included in the re-bid process as the asphalt is solid and crack sealing
is only needed at this time. Mayflower Avenue will be included in the re-bid process due to
the issues with the curb and gutter creating poor drainage and the integrity of the sidewalks
over time. Mayflower Meadows, Riverside Drive, and Sixteenth Street will be included in the
re-bid process. South Fork Lane was recommended to be included in the re-bid process
including new curb and guttering. Staff recommended to continue working with USI
Engineers regarding the above streets as listed along with the previous bid of Washington,
Woodlawn, Front Street, and the Front Street alley. This bid is anticipated to be under
\$500,000.00 and will use the informal bidding process. The Town Manager stated this a good
time to put this project out for bids. Commissioner Helms asked how many lots were in the
Timberlake area for future construction. Mayor Worley stated there were about six left.
Commissioner Koutsoupias asked how the current street list compare to the survey completed
several years ago. Mayflower Avenue was not on the original list but was added to the re-bid

list due to the integrity of the sidewalks and poor drainage due to problems with the curb and gutter. Sixteenth Street was added as it is located in the same vicinity as other areas being repaved and would assist in keeping the unit costs low. The bidding process should be in September if engineering work has been completed.

Gaston Outside (GO) Image Campaign: Mayor Worley commented that there have been several image campaigns in the newspaper and on billboards. Commissioner Koutsoupas asked for clarification regarding the “GO Month” concept. The Town Manager stated this will be highlighting downtown, education/industry/culture and recreation beginning October 1st through October 31st. Awareness building will start in September. Visual unity for this campaign was discussed using placement of banners in the municipalities. The sizes of the banners will be 18”x36” or 18”x46” and could be used over the term of the three year campaign. Commissioner Helms stated he enjoys forwarding the GO Gaston Outside information link to other people.

Town Manager’s Report:

- **Tiger Grant:** The Town Manager stated that the Town was not awarded the Tiger Grant.
- **Tree City USA Award:** The Urban Forest Council awarded Cramerton as Tree City USA for the State of North Carolina. Mr. Pettine stated the award will be presented September 22nd in Charlotte. Commissioner Helms and Mayor Worley stated they would attend the ceremony.
- **Citizens Academy:** Discussion was held regarding beginning the application process in September. Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen stated he would be okay in delaying at this time.
- **Golf Cart Policy:** Discussion has been held regarding golf cart travel between the local municipalities. Chief Ratchford stated license inspection and registration is possible through NCDMV which would increase reciprocity. The Board stated they would like to receive feedback from citizens prior to making a decision.
- **Building Improvements:** The Finance Director stated he was going to speak to several more roofing contractors regarding the Town Hall and recreation complex. Several more contractors have been contacted and request for proposals will be issued soon. Additional information will be available at the next Board meeting.

Two Rivers Utilities: Mike Bynum stated TRU responded to thirty-one water meter related service requests, repaired three water leaks, and responded to two sewer related calls. TRU installed one new irrigation service and a new sewer service. TRU performed twenty-two preventive maintenance requests at the pump stations. One fire hydrant was flushed to maintain water quality service since the last report. All samples were in compliance with the state drinking water quality standards. Commissioner Koutsoupas asked about the work on Eastwood Drive. Mr. Bynum stated the leak has been repaired and the area is scheduled to be patched.

Town Attorney: Absent.

Town Clerk: An invitation from International Minute Press was forwarded for Friday’s Grizzlies game for anyone who would like to attend. The Town Clerk stated she would not be at the next Board meeting as she will be attending the clerk conference in Asheville.

Police Department: Chief Ratchford stated he will send an e-mail with the requirements of the federal motor vehicle safety act regarding low speed vehicles and registration. A security upgrade is being completed and the glass door in the lobby will be locked. Entry will be provided after visitors have signed in at the front desk.

Fire Department: Chief Foulk was absent.

Planning and Zoning Department: Mr. Pettine stated two neighborhoods have contacted him regarding installation of traffic calming devices. A community meeting is scheduled at the First Baptist Church friendship hall regarding the conditional rezoning at Peach Orchard Road and Wilkinson Boulevard. A public hearing will be scheduled to be held in September. Mayor Worley

stated he received a petition from the Timberlake subdivision asking that no zoning changes be made in their neighborhood.

Finance Department: The Finance Director stated information regarding the year end would be presented at the next meeting. Collis and Associates has started the general procedures for the audit. Mr. Lineberger stated there are 4,156 vehicles at a tax value of \$45 million registered in the Town.

Committee Reports:

- **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board:** Commissioner Koutsoupas stated the swimming pool is scheduled to close on August 20th. Pool parties continue to be booked for weekends. The gym floor has been refinished. The camps for basketball and volleyball were completely full. Fall sports registration ended yesterday and an extension of sports registration is being offered. A youth fishing tournament is scheduled for September 24th along with a movie and possible bluegrass band are being discussed for some time in late August or early September.
- **Historical Society Interest Meeting:** Commissioner Koutsoupas stated the next meeting will be held on August 11th. Ted Reece stated the meeting will be held at the Presbyterian Church in the fellowship hall at 6:30 p.m.
- **Cramerton Community:** Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen stated the proposed bylaws for this committee were included in the agenda packet for review. He commented this was a living document. Discussion was held regarding the type and size of possible projects and expected deliverables. Commissioner Helms said he was ready to begin some projects that need to be completed. Commissioner Helms made a motion to approve the proposed Community Committee ordinance and bylaws. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Neeley and approved by all.
- **Cramerton Merchants Association:** Mayor Pro Tem stated the inaugural golf tournament will be held on Monday, August 15th.

Topics of Discussion for Each Commissioner:

Commissioner Helms had nothing to report.

Commissioner Koutsoupas had nothing to report.

Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen had nothing to report.

Commissioner Neeley had nothing to report.

Mayor Worley stated he, the Town Manager, and Commissioner Koutsoupas attended the recent MPO meeting and the Catawba Crossing project was discussed regarding reclassification from a division tier level moving it up to the regional tier. A feasibility study is being proposed at a cost of approximately \$150,000.00 and local communities will be asked to contribute. The Town Manager thanked the Mayor and Board for reaching out regarding this project.

Closed Session: A motion was made by Commissioner Neeley to enter into closed session regarding NCGS 143-318.11(a)(4) to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of business in the area served by this body. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Koutsoupas and approved by all.

ADJOURNMENT: On return to open session, there being no further business, a motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Neeley and approved by all.

Mayor Ronnie E. Worley

ATTEST:

Wilene Cunningham, Town Clerk