TOWN OF VASS
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
July 20, 2015

The Regular Meeting was called to order by Mayor Eddie Callahan at 6:00 pm. Commissioners in attendance were: Blackwell, Bridgers, Kosem, Callahan, and Kellis.

A. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Callahan wanted to add item J. Water Tower demolition. Commissioner Kellis wanted to add item K. Debris from logging trucks. Barbara Boyd, Town Clerk wanted to add item L. Chip Dodd with Waste Management to speak to Board. Mayor Callahan wanted to add item M. Proposal to name the Town Hall Community Room and Kitchen to honor Vass Women's Club. Commissioner Kellis made motion to approve the agenda and the consent agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Consent Agenda

Items approved by above motion with the exception of the review of the June 8, 2015 minutes for Item P. Public Purpose Funding

1. Minutes of June 8, 2015 Regular Meeting
2. Financial Report as of June, 2015
3. Police Report for June 2015

C. Public Comments

Debbie Williams of 240 E. Maple Street spoke regarding the removal of the water tower. Public comment was saved and presented during Item J.

Kim Williams of 240 E. Maple Street signed up, but did not speak.

Old Business:

D. Follow up on discussion re paving problem on corner of Alma and Maple Street

Town Clerk relayed information that Jody Smith has spoken with Ron Atkinson on looking at repairing the corner of Alma and Maple Streets. He has not yet got back with her. Also, the County is having their engineer take a look.

E. Status on fixing grate on Seaboard Street

Town Clerk contacted Horner Paving who performed the paving work on Seaboard in regards to the deep hole on the street in the parking section. He suggested having Andy in Maintenance to make a grate and that he, the paver could cut back pavement to drop in grate. However, Andy looked and does not think this is something he could do. Jody Smith has contacted Ron Atkinson to take a look at repairing this.

New Business:

F. Tri-South Developers regarding proposed sewer line expansion

Wes Caddell of Tri-South Developers presented a concept drawing of a proposed development to be located off Alma Street based on 12,000 sq ft minimum lot which would be done inside either a cluster provision of the Town ordinance or a PUD. The lack of sewer and the soil there would not be conducent to a density that would be worth pursuing. They want to see if the town and county could install a lift station to service gravity sewer on the northern side of Hwy 690. Everything could gravity flow to that lift station.

The concept has approximately 86 lots on 54 acres. Tri-South Developers would like to open conversation about some way the Town could help them with the County who would be the owner of the system. They would like to pick up where McGill Associates has ran existing sewer line and install a proposed lift station. Mayor Callahan asked Commissioner Callahan if he had a chance to talk to Randy Gould. He said he has spoken informally with him about agreement with the County for sewer system. Commissioner Callahan also said he will go to County attorney regarding the agreement. Commissioner Callahan asked Tri-South how much project would be. They said the lift station would cost between $150,000 and up to $200,000.

Mayor Callahan asked if this would service just that area or more of the Town. Tri-South said it would be smart to plan for servicing that entire site or would end up with two lift stations and two force mains and you do not have to necessarily do that. He stated engineering would have to answer these questions. Commissioner Callahan asked if they could be allowed to just do sewer for this project and he stated they could. Mayor Callahan stated this would be an investment opportunity for the Town to find a way to fund this and to work with the County and commit to an amount. Mayor Callahan stated the tax revenues will bring growth to the Town. Mayor Callahan would like to see sewer not only for north 690 but south 690 as well.

There was discussion among the commissioners regarding the contract the Town has with the County for extending sewer throughout the Town. Mayor Callahan asked for a motion to pursue discussion regarding sewer expansion and agreement with County by calling an informal meeting with County principals. Commissioner Callahan made a motion. Motion carried unanimously.

G. Review proposed quote for new accounting software

Town Clerk and Deputy Clerk made a proposal to Board to purchase new financial software. The current software will not be supported after the end of this year. Town Clerk stated they had looked at purchasing a newer version of software from current vendor, but had found out that it could not operate on the same computer as the new one. This is when other options were pursued. Town Clerk and Deputy Clerk went to Southern Software and received a demonstration of their product. Other software companies had given quotes of much more than Southern Software. Southern Software would cost the Town an additional $5,049 over what has been budgeted. Only $1,000 has been budgeted which is the amount of the newer version of software from current vendor. Also, other vendors are heavily marketing cloud based systems and without an internal IT department, Town Clerk doesn't feel comfortable with these products. Chief Beck stated that they are using Southern Software and they have provided them with a free license to have more than one user for their system. He stated he is very satisfied with the software.

Commissioner Kellis made motion to table. Motion carried unanimously.

H. Review proposed revised travel policy

Revised travel policy for Town employees was presented to Board. Commissioner Callahan made a motion to approve revised travel policy. Motion carried unanimously.

I. Review and discussion of Performance Evaluation Forms

Three proposed forms for performance evaluations for staff were presented to Board. Chief Beck discussed the one he uses for the Police Department. These evaluations would be done annually on employee's anniversary date. Commissioner Kellis made a motion to table. Motion carried unanimously.

J. Water Tower

Commissioner Callahan has met twice with the County regarding the removal of the water tower. Commissioner Callahan has asked the County about the Town taking the tower back over, but the expenses of keeping up the tower would be tens of thousands of dollars to repair and that without water, it is a hazard. There would also be other costs of insurance and ongoing maintenance. Commissioner Callahan said he hated to see the tower come down, but the town is trying to move forward and the tank would be a liability to the Town. The removal is going to happen in a few weeks.

Debbie Williams asked how long it has been a liability. Commissioner Callahan said it had become a liability when a leak developed in the tank and it became empty after freezing during the past winter months. Commissioner Callahan stated without water in it, it was unsafe and could fall especially if there were to be high winds. Commissioner Callahan stated the structure had to be inspected routinely and painted. Debbie Williams asked how much the demolition is going to cost. Commissioner Callahan stated it will cost $25,000 plus the company gets the scrap metal. Commissioner Callahan said he would like to see it stay too and the County would gladly sign the tower back over to the town, but we would have to get it repaired and that would cost $20,000-$30,000 just to get it repaired and fill it with water and have a yearly contract with a water tank service company who inspects and paints water tanks. Ms. Williams asked would that need to be done even if there was no potable water in the tank. Commissioner Callahan said yes it would either way it has to be inspected and maintained.

Mayor Callahan stated the Town would have liked to get the tower declared an historic landmark. Ms. Williams asked how that went. Mayor Callahan said it did not pursue due to it being a liability and too expensive to maintain. Ms. Williams asked why the tank was not a danger for all the years there was water in the tank. Commissioner Callahan said as long as there was water in it, it was safe.

K. Debris from logging trucks

Commissioner Kellis commented on the logging business on Hwy #1 there is a lot of debris falling off the logging trucks coming through town and there are limbs and debris all over the highway. Some of it could prove to be hazardous to drivers. Mayor Callahan asked Police Chief what he

thought and he said he would check on this. Commissioner Callahan asked if anyone had noticed the log truck that parks by the bank on Maple Street each week.

Debbie Williams asked if a sign could be posted on cement bridge indicating there is a fire department coming onto Hwy 690. She stated it is unsafe when approaching intersection or to make a turn and asked if there is a way to slow traffic down there. Commissioners and Police Chief discussed the situation. Mayor Callahan stated we could check with DOT to see if a sign or light could be installed there. Town Clerk will contact DOT.

L. Chip Dodd with Waste Management

Chip Dodd with Waste Management presented to the Board to ask for flexibility for disposing of the Town's solid waste. The change would not affect the scheduled pick up for the Town or the rate. The current contract with the Town now states that the Town's solid waste goes to Moore County transfer station and then on to Uwharrie Landfill near Troy. They have recently closed the Moore County operation in Pinebluff and moved to their Sanford operation. They want to be able to take the waste to their location in Sanford and then on to a landfill in Sampson County. They are asking for approval to make an amendment to their contract with the Town to take the solid waste to another facility that is also permitted and approved for solid waste disposal by the State of North Carolina. Commissioner Kellis made a motion to approve the amendment. Motion carried unanimously.

M. Proposal to name the Town Hall Community Room and Kitchen to honor Vass Women's Club

Mayor Callahan requested the Town rededicate the Community Room and Kitchen by naming in honor of the Vass Women's Club. This group raised money to build the prior Town Hall by holding chicken and fish dinners. Mayor Callahan would like to contact active members to attend a ceremony to have an official dedication during our September meeting and have a plaque made. Commissioner Kellis made a motion to honor the Vass Women's Club by dedicating the meeting room and present them with a plaque. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Commissioner Blackwell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

TOWN OF VASS

Eddie Callahan, Mayor

ATTEST: Barbara Boyd

Barbara Boyd, Town Clerk