

A Butner Town Council Meeting was convened in the meeting room at South Granville Water and Sewer Authority (SGWASA) located at 209 West C Street, Butner, NC 27509 on Thursday, **October 1, 2009**, beginning at 7:00 PM.

Present and Presiding:

Mayor:

Thomas Lane

Council Members:

Vickie Cates

Christene Emory

Linda Jordon

Elbert Oakley, Jr.

Edgar Smoak

John Wimbush

Thomas S. Marrow

James C. Wrenn, Jr.

Dianne E. White

Town Manager

Town Attorney

Town Clerk

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER ... by Mayor Lane

The Mayor and Council congratulated Town Clerk Dianne White on receiving ***Outstanding Region K COG City/County Clerk award for 2009!***

2. ROLL CALL ... by Clerk

3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Invocation was given by Mr. Wimbush and Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Oakley.

4. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 3, 2009 REGULAR MEETING AND SEPTEMBER 14, 2009 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES (See Attached)

Minutes of 9/3 and 9/14 Council Meetings were approved on a motion by Council Member Emory, seconded by Council Member Wimbush – all voted in favor.

5. ADJUSTMENTS TO AND/OR APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 1, 2009 MEETING AGENDA

The Manager and Mayor noted:

- An Agreement for Purchase and Sale of Real Property
- Resolution Opposing Increase in Electric Rates

6. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Marshall Dixon, 304 West D Street, Butner announced a “Meet the Butner Candidates” forum to be held on 10/13 from 7 – 9 PM at Butner-Stem Middle School ... this is sponsored by “Butner Citizens Planning Ahead”.

It was also noted an additional forum will be held at Creedmoor Town Hall (sponsored by Granville Human Relations Commission and Granville Chamber). Mayor Pro-Tem Jordon spoke of still another forum being held tonight in Oxford.

7. PUBLIC HEARING(S) ... None

8. CONSIDERATION - TOWN TAKING OVER DRIVE AT VGCC (S. CAMPUS) (See Attached)

Randy Parker, the President of VGCC, has approached the Town to see if we would be interested in taking over the ownership of their driveway entrance off Hwy 56. They have asked NCDOT to take it over, but since Butner became incorporated, DOT is no longer taking over streets, etc. within municipal boundaries. The Manager told Parker the Town would consider his request if they could find the funds to have the street resurfaced before the Town would take it over. Brian Alligood, Granville County Manager, said it may be possible to use some of the library bond money to resurface this street since it would serve the new Granville County Library. VGCC has a very nice presence in southern Granville County. It would be nice to see three (3) governmental agencies working together to make this a good project for all concerned. Marrow would be in support of this as long as the road gets resurfaced before the Town takes it over.

Following a briefing by the Manager, Mr. Oakley said he feels this is a good idea (benefiting all in Granville County). Mr. Smoak spoke in favor as well and added comments about 'needed' street lights in this area. ***A motion was made by Mr. Oakley, seconded by Mr. Wimbush that the Town will take over maintenance of drive/road at VGCC if and when the drive/road is appropriately upgraded. All voted in favor.***

9. CONSIDERATION - PURCHASE OF MOTOROLA 800 MHZ RADIOS FOR BUTNER PUBLIC SAFETY (See Attached)

Consider request from BPS for the Town of Butner to submit an application in the amount of \$50,000.00 to purchase some mobile and hand held radios for BPS. They are requesting funding for Motorola 800 MHz radios for their fire trucks and cars. Unfortunately, the funding source is only for local units of governments ... state agencies are not eligible. They would like to purchase eight (8) –XLT 2500 Mobile radios (\$30,000.00) and five (5) handheld radios (\$20,000.00) for officers to replace some old ones. The Manager should have a MOU by Thursday night's meeting.

The "key" word relating to above item is **GRANT**. The Town would be applying for a grant on behalf of BPS. Director Hobgood (in attendance) said there would be an executed Memorandum of Agreement between Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management and the Town of Butner ... contingent upon Town Attorney Wrenn reviewing/approving. ***This agenda item was approved on a motion by Mr. Smoak, seconded by Ms. Cates. All voted in favor.***

10. DISCUSS MOVING OLD CAMP BUTNER BUILDING LOCATED ON MINI-STORAGE PROPERTY

Several Council persons at our last Council meeting were interested in salvaging one of the last remaining Camp Butner buildings located at the mini storage complex behind SGWASA. The owner of the mini storage has contacted me to see if we can have the building removed within the next 30 days. If I heard everyone correctly, the main idea was to salvage the building and turn it into a museum for Camp Butner and others. If the Town were to move this building now, we have no permanent place to put it, thus we would end up moving it twice. The Manager has contacted Master Sergeant Kenneth Beal at the National Guard to see if they would be interested in restoring this building into a museum. They said they were very interested and would follow up ASAP. The Manager hopes to have cost estimates and additional information for you Thursday night.

Tentative plans of the Guard are to move the historic building across the street from its current location (on B Street) or behind the NCNG building on Western Street. The only expense incurred by the Town would be moving expenses. Mayor Lane said both Beal and Col Johnson are interested and excited about this taking place. All Council Members were in favor of the Manager pursuing this initiative ... Marrow will get a price for the actual relocation cost of building.

11. CONSIDERATION - ENDORSEMENT OF A CONGESTION, MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) GRANT TO INSTALL A TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT THE INTERSECTION OF NC-56 AND THE I-85 SOUTHBOUND EXIT RAMP AND SYNCHRONIZING THAT SIGNAL WITH THE SIGNALS AT EAST LYON STATION, WEST LYON STATION, AND THE SOUTHBOUND EXIT RAMP (See Attached)

An opportunity has arisen to improve the intersection of I-85 Southbound exit ramp at the intersection with NC-56, exit 191 with a grant. Because this intersection is causing a back up of traffic trying to turn safely, it has a negative impact on air quality; therefore, an intersection improvement could qualify for a CMAQ grant. CMAQ grants are 80% funding with a 20% match required. NCDOT has said they would consider paying the 20% match to an intersection improvement at this location. There are 2 proposals to improve this intersection that the Planner would like to bring up.

The first is a traffic signal at this intersection and with that, synchronization of that new signal with the existing three (3) traffic lights in the area at West Lyon Station, the Southbound I-85 exit ramp, and East Lyon Station. NCDOT has given preliminary support of this proposal. It appears to be the most cost effective and quickest solution to the traffic problems at this intersection, making the intersection safer, and reducing emissions. Also, a previous request for assessment of this intersection has shown it meets/warrants a signalized intersection.

The second option is a roundabout. The proposed roundabout would combine the intersection at the southbound exit ramp with West Lyon Station road in a large roundabout. While this option might increase capacity, there are some lingering

questions about the feasibility of the project at this location given the high volume of tractor trailer traffic, and the large undeveloped property at the southwest corner of this intersection. NCDOT has also given preliminary support of this proposal.

There are pros and cons to each of these options. For a traffic signal, it is a much more affordable solution because it requires so little construction, and no right-of-way acquisition. The cons would be that it does not make as big an impact on emissions, though it would still bring a reduction and does qualify for CMAQ funding if signal synchronization is included. Additionally, the fact that it makes no major changes to traffic patterns in that area is both pro and con. It will make this intersection run more smoothly now, but aside from synchronization with the West Lyon Station signal, it does little to resolve the problems between those two (2) intersections, and a realignment of West Lyon Station would still be needed at some point as this area grows. The roundabout would give a much greater reduction in emissions; however the biggest con is that there are a lot of questions with a roundabout. The first question is the how well a large volume of tractor trailers would be able to navigate a roundabout. There is already some industrial development that access I-85 from this interchange, and there is still vacant industrial land ready to be developed. The second is the impact of a roundabout on future use of the large vacant parcel at the southwest corner of this intersection. The property is large and zoned for Highway Business allowing a large retailer that could bring a great deal more traffic that a roundabout could accommodate requiring another improvement to the intersection. Third is the much larger cost of a roundabout compared to a traffic signal. Fourth, how would future improvements to NC 56 such as possible widening impact the roundabout and its location? Fifth, the size of the roundabout required to allow for tractor trailers use, and to incorporate West Lyon Station traffic to really improve traffic movement in the area would require additional right-of-way, possibly relocation of utilities, plus the cost of construction of the roundabout and change in alignment of West Lyon Station Road. Also, there is 10/30/09 deadline to submit this application. The roundabout option may be a longer lasting solution but until further studies are made, the most efficient solution to existing concerns about traffic flow and emissions would be the traffic signal and synchronization.

Therefore, the Planner would recommend the more cost effective solution that does not change traffic patterns, and wait until development comes to determine what would be the best long term solution based on what the new developments need.

Hodges said DOT, most likely, will put up the 20% match as long as Butner/Granville applies for and administers the grant. DOT, however, will not give a letter to this effect until actual engineer drawings are done. Hodges said CMAQ funding is not available until 2012 but endorsement is needed to meet the 10/30 deadline. Approximate project cost for traffic signal/synchronization is \$200,000. Mayor Lane noted roundabout cost could be \$1,500,000. Mr. Smoak said he feels Butner should apply for this. He said we've been trying to get the signals synchronized for seven years.

A motion was made by Mr. Smoak, seconded by Ms. Jordon to apply for the CMAQ Grant installing a traffic signal at the intersection of NC Hwy 56 and I-85 Southbound exit. All in favor.

12. DISCUSSION OF WEBSITE UPDATES AND FUTURE MAINTENANCE OF THE SITE

We have discussed two (2) options for maintaining the Town's website. Linda Jordon has generously offered to handle updates to the site. Hodges spoke to Kathy Wolford about what she would charge. A lot depends on what the Council wants from the website as Hodges does not want to request too much of Ms. Jordon. Kathy Wolford, who created the site for us, would maintain and update the website for \$100/month. She requires an annual contract and would be able to make adjustments on the day they are requested such as putting agendas on the website, canceled or special called meetings, and special events.

There are also some additional calendar options other than the one currently on the website, which is a free version. The Planner will distribute calendar options and costs at the meeting on Thursday.

Following a briefing by the Planner, Ms. Jordon indicated she feels it is OK to move forward with a maintenance contract for possibly a year; however, in the future, she suggested Council may want to look into Butner owning its own website. The Mayor said he feels it would be asking a lot of Ms. Jordon to handle maintenance – there will be quite a few last minute things – all time consuming. ***Ms. Jordon noted Wolford is capable and will do a good job; therefore, she motioned to approve a one-year contract with Kathy Wolford. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cates. All voted in favor. This includes a Budget Amendment in the amount of \$1200 (monies from General Fund).***

Mr. Smoak stressed the importance in having as much historical info and old photos in hand (and on website) as possible.

Hodges talked about the free calendar on website. There are options at a minimal cost for additional services. She spoke of allowing visitors to add events/schedules, etc. with approval by Butner (such as posting of an athletic schedule from SGAA) and the feature of a printable view screen feature. ***The Council approved this expense (\$30/year) on a motion by Ms. Jordon, seconded by Ms. Emory – all in favor. This motion includes a budget amendment – monies from Planning Dept budget.***

13. CONSIDER AWARDING BIDS IN CONNECTION WITH 2009-10 POWELL BILL STREET RESURFACING IMPROVEMENTS

The bid opening was held on Tuesday, September 29, 2009. Town Manager Marrow will have recommendations for you Thursday night.

A spreadsheet with bids was distributed to Mayor/Council. Low bidder is Barrett, Irvin and Jordan Contractors, Durham, NC (\$268,284.25 to include street resurfacing, pot hole repairs and resurfacing Gazebo Park). Marrow said references on this vendor have been checked – all are good. Mo with DMP told Council with good prices, it is a good time to do work. Mo checked out references – professional quality work. Street resurfacing and pot hole repairs would come from Powell Bill funds and resurfacing Gazebo Park would come from General Fund.

Mr. Smoak was happy about bids and lower prices – a good time to get work done he said. Therefore, he motioned to accept the low bid of Barrett, Irvin and Jordon Contractors (\$268,284.25) recommended by Manager and DMP. Motion was seconded by Ms. Jordon – all voted in favor.

In addition, there is money for landscaping project in the Gazebo Park (up to \$30,000).

14. CONSIDER BUDGET AMENDMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,565 TO INSTALL ONE (1) 50 AMP 4 WIRE RECEPTACLE AND ALL ACCESSORIES IN ORDER TO PROVIDE A RECEPTACLE FOR BANDS TO PLUG THEIR MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

This request was from the Town Council.

This item was approved on a motion by Mr. Oakley, seconded by Ms. Jordon – all were in favor. Marrow said the receptacle will be in the middle of the building down the right hand side.

15. CONSIDER BUDGET AMENDMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,024 TO INSTALL TWO (2) MONITORING MODULES AND ACCESSORIES FOR THE SPRINKLER DRY SYSTEM

These plans were submitted to the Fire Marshal before we ever bid this project out. During one of his inspections, he made this request in order to have it approved.

This item, too, was approved, motioned by Mr. Oakley, seconded by Ms. Emory – all in favor.

Marrow made the group aware of a potential major problem today at Sports Arena --- worker took bags (from sanding floors) outside under breezeway and placed next to plywood. The contractor walked by and saw smoldering and smoking. He took the bags out to the lawn – they burst into flames! ... Arena fire alarms are not working yet (have not been inspected). Marrow also told Council two coats have been applied to the gym floors, cups in floor have been smoothed out. Marrow and Mayor described the floors as “breathtaking – gorgeous”. Lines will be painted and two more coats will be applied.

16. CONSIDER BUDGET AMENDMENT – PLACE PARKING LOT STONE AROUND SPORTS ARENA

The Town Manager will have the amount for you at the meeting Thursday night.

Marrow explained options – replacing 3” of stone (a band-aid approach) would run \$10,000 – could last 3-5 years. The stone is needed for drainage problems around the Arena. To do this work the proper way, the Manager suggests 6” of stone around the building that will run \$20,000. This should take care of the problem forever to include paving down the road should Council choose that route at some point in time. Marrow said stone currently is at a great price (will never be lower). Hauling is cheap

as well – a super deal he said. Council Member Oakley said to do this any other way would be wasting money.

A motion was made by Mr. Wimbush, seconded by Ms. Emory to approve a budget amendment up to \$20,000. Marrow indicated this will maximize parking needs.

Add-On Items:

A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Butner Opposing Various Electricity Rate Increases for NC was introduced by Council Member Oakley, seconded by Ms. Jordon. All were in favor (SEE ATTACHMENT A). Marrow said the proposed increase could cost Butner up to \$2,000 more a year for street lights. The Resolution will be forwarded to the NC Utilities Commission.

Mize from SGWASA advised the Manager that Mayor Lane's term is about to expire on SGWASA Board a new or reappointment is needed. ***A motion was made by Mr. Smoak, seconded by Mr. Oakley to reappoint Mayor Lane – all in favor. Oakley said Lane has the experience and should remain on the Board. Special Note: Mayor Lane excused himself on this item --- Mayor Pro Tem Jordon presided.***

Town Manager Marrow told the group of a "policy going forward" for purchase and sale of real property. He called attention to page 3, (h). Rosemyr Corporation is the buyer of lots on B Street on this particular Agreement. Town Atty Wrenn spoke of 10% upset bid (rather than 5%). He said Butner would be agreeable to sell property at appraisal price by Brooks Appraisal ... they, in turn, will appraise for the highest and best use.

Wrenn is General Counsel for Rosemyr; however, there is a conflict waiver provision in the agreement (Section 23). The Attorney asked Council to carefully consider whether they feel there is a conflict. The Mayor suggested trying this agreement format and amend policy if necessary – Council concurred. ***Mr. Smoak made a motion to accept Agreement for Purchase and Sale of Real Property, seconded by Ms. Cates ... all in favor.***

17. REPORTS

- Town Manager
 - August financial info was distributed (**SEE ATTACHMENT B**) – total in bank accounts is \$7,111,000 with \$720,000 in Powell Bill funds (restricted to spend on Powell Bill streets) leaving \$6,344,000 in General Fund. He said a fair amount of ad valorem taxes received in August (roughly \$450,000). A second coat was put on Sports Arena floor today.
 - Butner's Architect on Town Hall will be meeting with SECU to discuss sharing of driveway.
- Attorney
- Planner
 - Adding four (4) trees at the Park to fill in gaps – Hodges spoke with Powell Fox and there are plans to plant three (3) Leland Cypresses and another Crepe Myrtle will be added ... \$1100 is already budgeted to handle this.

- Council was in agreement to get the work underway.
- Pedestrian Planning Grant is being advertised in the paper next week. At some point in the near future, a steering committee will be formed.

18. OTHER MATTERS

- STATUS/UPDATE ... New Town Hall
- STATUS/UPDATE ... Community Building – Mayor made contact with DOC – this person is very interested in working with Butner; however, Lane noted no formal reply yet from Secretary of DOC. Mr. Oakley noted a brief conversation with Rep Crawford who will help in any way he can regarding this matter.

19. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Wimbush requested McFadden (in attendance) bring Council up to speed on accomplishments by Granville Greenways. McFadden said MOU and bylaws will be on agenda for Granville County meeting on Monday, updates on the website are forthcoming. He spoke of tying residential, college, retail/commercial in with greenway trails.

Ms. Cates noted a Restoration (RAB) Meeting on 10/15, 6:30 PM at SGWASA.

Mr. Smoak spoke of the Lord Granville Tractor Show upcoming this weekend and invited all to attend. There will be demonstrations of old time living, including cooking, farming, etc. Bands will be playing as well as gospel music on Sunday, lots of activities for kids, etc.

Mr. Oakley said Secretary of Agriculture will be in Butner tomorrow for the Earthen Roast at Community United Methodist Church. Mayor Lane said he plans to take the midnight shift in a few hours for this event tomorrow.

20. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM on motion by Mr. Wimbush, seconded by Ms. Jordon. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Dianne E. White, CMC
Town Clerk

Thomas Lane, Mayor
Town of Butner