

**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, **May 5, 2011**, beginning at 7:00 PM.

**Present and Presiding:**

Mayor:

Thomas Lane

Council Members:

Michel Branch ... **arrived at 7:19 PM**

Vickie Cates

Christene Emory

Linda Jordon

Bill McKellar

Terry Turner

Thomas Marrow

James Wrenn, Jr.

Dianne White

Town Manager

Town Attorney

Town Clerk

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

2. ROLL CALL ... by Clerk

3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Invocation was given by Council Member Emory and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Cates.

4. APPROVAL OF APRIL 7, 2011 MEETING MINUTES

***Minutes above were approved on motion by Council Member Emory, seconded by Council Member Turner. All present voted in favor.***

5. ADJUSTMENTS TO AND/OR APPROVAL OF MAY 5, 2011 MEETING AGENDA ... None

6. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. Marshall Dixon, 304 West D Street addressed the Council regarding agenda item #9 ... Dixon said he wasn't familiar with LDO regarding banners; however, he hopes the Board will take this matter under consideration. He mentioned banners ... they are used to inform members of the community of various events – there is the Chicken Pickin event upcoming soon.

7. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT (SEE ATTACHMENT "A")

Hiscocks noted it's getting close to year end (6/30). She plans to sit down with the auditor, make sure everything is in order to close out FY 2010-11. Butner is in good financial shape she said. Application for B Street Athletic Park will be taken to the

LGC in Raleigh on Monday. They meet first week in June.

***The finance report was accepted on motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Jordon, seconded by Council Member Emory. All present voted in favor.***

8. COUNCIL CONSIDERATION - RESOLUTION OPPOSING LIFTING THE BAN ON URANIUM MINING IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA THAT POSES AN ENVIRONMENTAL THREAT TO THE ROANOKE RIVER BASIN AND TO THE CITIZENS OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA LIVING IN THE BASIN

Town Manager Marrow briefed the Council on this matter. The KTCOG is asking all local jurisdictions to approve the Resolution before Council tonight as this issue relates to potential unsafe drinking water. Comments were made by several in support of the Resolution.

***Council Member McKellar moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Council Member Jordon. All present voted in favor. SEE ATTACHMENT "B"***

9. REQUEST BY COUNCIL MEMBER TURNER - COUNCIL CONSIDERATION TO AMEND LDO CONCERNING REGULATING TEMPORARY DISPLAY OF BANNERS

Mayor Lane spoke of Gate 2 entrance recently ... up to 8 banners located in the area. Some were not well maintained; however real issue is what is stated in the LDO on temporary banners. Lane called Planner Hodges to the podium. She referred to LDO Section 12.3.8 (see below):

#### 12.3.8 Temporary Signs

(A) Temporary on-premise special event signs and banners for religious, charitable, civic, fraternal, or similar non-profit or not-for-profit organizations provided:

- 1) Signs are erected no sooner than 7 days prior and removed no later than 2 days after the event;
- 2) No sign exceeds 32 square feet in area;
- 3) Signs are not illuminated; and
- 4) Signs are placed at least 5 feet behind the right-of-way and out of any sight triangles.

Mr. Turner said banners are unique to the character of Butner ... he said we have a lot of fundraisers and banners ... a very effective means of communication. He spoke of people who don't own a computer, don't read/listen to news but, yet, they know when there is a chicken/fish plate event in Butner. Turner suggested banners be allowed in designated areas (with rules) to entrances (such as Gate 2). He further suggested a permit fee (maybe \$10) per banner/week. In conclusion, Council Member Turner said he is hoping this matter can be "adjusted" where banners can be

controlled to a degree but not too restrictive (he mentioned charitable and religious groups).

Council Member Emory spoke on behalf of the Exchange Club --- they put banners up twice yearly associated with child abuse events (April & September). She indicated she feels it is important to support child abuse prevention in Butner. The banners are important.

Council Member Branch spoke of banner/signs covering up "Welcome to Butner" signs. Ultimately, Mayor Lane suggested this matter go before the Planning Board with a recommendation back to Town Council.

## 10. REPORTS

### ➤ Town Manager

1. Tornadoes hit Raleigh/surrounding areas on 4/16 pretty hard Marrow told the group ... created lots of damage. **Butner Public Works employees have helped out Holly Springs** twice to date with clean up/clearing of streets
2. **Greenway Trail** – Bid opening last week – received 2 bids – minimum of 3 required; therefore, bids were not opened. It was rebid
3. **Butner Athletic Park** – Pre-bid Meeting held today ... bid opening is scheduled for 5/17 at 4 PM at SMSA. ***Special Note:*** The 5/17 date was changed to 5/24
4. **SRTS Project ... D Street Sidewalk** is moving along – a route has been established. Meeting with Asst Principals Monday hopefully to get support on the project. Following "Ok's", it next goes to DOT and then out to bid. This is a federal grant
5. **Street paving** of E (from Central to 12<sup>th</sup>) and all of 24<sup>th</sup> have been resurfaced (between D and E). Town will be erecting pedestrian crossing signs at 24<sup>th</sup> and 2 handicapped parking signs. There is a small punch list (address shoulders better). Marrow said E Street has greatly deteriorated within the last 2 years ... E (from 12<sup>th</sup> back towards 30<sup>th</sup>) will be expensive; however, it is a major thoroughfare. Depending on expense, may have to pave in phases. Received news yesterday (from Town Hall Day) that the State will dole out Powell Bill monies twice yearly, in Oct and Jan (rather than once) ... some good news, our population has gone up; hence, more Powell Bill monies for Butner!
6. **Town Hall** – hope to move in by June. We will ask for temporary Certificate of Occupancy (CO) so we can move in/get settled. Audio/visual, etc. may lag a little behind. Parking lot scheduled to be paved next week. Security system should be completed tomorrow making it possible for fire testing of building, etc. Other issues include getting internet in/up and running along with phone system. SGWASA is anxious to move also
7. The **chipper Town sold brought \$3200** (on Govdeals.com)
8. Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem and Manager attended **Town Hall Day** in Raleigh yesterday. Heard hot topics legislature is debating ... pushing de-annexation bills, damming of streams, etc., capping gas tax, prohibiting towns/counties from getting broad band, issue relative to

DOT not being allowed to accept federal funding for high speed rail without legislative approval, eliminate ETJs statewide, issue pertaining to ROW for billboards and plans to cut DEHNR by 1000 employees. Mayor Lane concluded ... “Not a thrilling day”

- Attorney
- Planner

1. **Easter Egg Hunt** at Gazebo Park – event went well, up to 50 kids participated ... individual pictures were taken with bunny (free photo to kids). Lots of help from Parks & Rec Advisory Committee and Public Works Dept
2. **Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance** – some tweaking needed. Will go to Planning Board with Public Hearing first Council Meeting in June
3. **Stormwater Issues** moving along – amendment(s) to Planning Board prior to going to EMC

## 11. OTHER MATTERS

- STATUS/UPDATE ... New Town Hall
- STATUS/UPDATE ... Community Building ... Mayor has made several calls – Rep Crawford will follow up on Butner’s behalf.

## 12. COUNCIL COMMENTS

**Mayor** said we will be submitting advertisement to replace Buddy Weaver who served on both Planning and Zoning Boards (Weaver recently passed away).

Mayor Lane brought up “budget situation as it relates to Butner Public Safety”. Lane recapped information when he and the Attorney went to the legislature as public safety was being discussed. They learned (at that time) legislative research staff was recommending BPS be totally eliminated from the State Budget. Ordinarily, citizens in the audience do not have an opportunity to speak; however, someone had notified the Chair that Butner representatives were present. Lane spoke of major concerns ... no recognition given of \$1.2 Million Town of Butner contributes to BPS’s budget – the only revenue shown was \$375,000 (contributed by DHHS to cover 6 BPS positions dedicated to CRH). Lane made it clear the Town of Butner has been contributing all property tax monies to BPS since 1983 and this omission is significant/a disservice to Butner citizens. This was during the morning session. Following a break for lunch ... in the afternoon session, legislative staff apparently had done further research and admitted Butner contribution(s) to BPS through the years. Lane/others met with Representative Crawford who said he was successful in getting BPS put back in the State Budget (with a reduction of \$209K this year and \$100K next year). This matter was not placed on tonight’s agenda due to the fact meetings were transpiring during agenda preparation/delivery. **SEE ATTACHMENT “C”**. Mayor said 96% of current BPS budget goes to salaries with 4% to operations. BPS has, in essence, been keeping several positions vacant. The 3 proposals on last page of Attachment C were options given by CCPS.

**Town Manager Marrow** gave a ‘history’ briefing on BPS and funding by Town of Butner. **SEE ATTACHMENT “D”**. Everything is contingent on what Governor does

and what the Senate does. Marrow has been working on the FY 2011-12 Budget and at this point had not planned any tax increase; however, in light of this dilemma, tax rate may have to be increased by 12-14 cents to cover BPS's operating costs. Marrow said we'll be talking with the Finance Committee. He concluded by saying "If we exceed 50% funding towards BPS, there are 3 things we'd like to have input in: 1) capital outlay, 2) staffing levels; and 3) assets reverted to the Town of Butner should the State discontinue funding BPS."

Mayor Lane said we'll watch what the State does ... he mentioned parity as it relates to BPS ... again, Butner has been paying towards BPS assets since 1983.

There was mention of a possible Bill being ready to introduce at any moment ... Town Attorney Wrenn has worked with Bill drafting section of legislature and was preparing accordingly.

**Town Attorney Wrenn** said an "authority" situation is being proposed by Butner. BPS would have its own independent governing board – members appointed by the Town, members appointed by the State and 1 from Granville County. The authority would contract with CCPS. Assets would come to the authority but should either party stop funding, these assets would ultimately revert to the 'funding' entity. Wrenn called this proposal/authority "an unusual concept" but necessary in hopes to keep "status quo as close as possible to what it is now but give the Town a little more input in the budgeting process and a clear mechanism for getting the assets."

This situation makes it difficult for the budget process that is underway. The Mayor said we have to establish a tax rate and adopt a budget by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Mayor Lane assured Council, as well as citizens, they will be kept apprised as the matter progresses. Chief Hobgood was in attendance at this meeting.

**Council Member McKellar** spoke of an article in "Independent Weekly" pertaining to Falls Lake – he will forward a link.

**Council Member Branch** noted the sirens during recent severe weather. Two sirens indicate bad conditions are imminent. Chief Hobgood said this probably needs to be publicized more. These are World War II sirens.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Jordon** personally thanked PW Director Daniel (and crew) for helping Holly Springs and services they do for Butner citizens. She shared info regarding email/link to NCLM hot topics discussions every Thursday at 3 pm.

**Mayor Lane** thanked the Butner Church Council regarding National Day of Prayer ... it was meaningful and rewarding. Church Council should be congratulated for working to meet community needs. Monies from fundraiser will go to support the food bank operated by the church council. He noted Council Member Emory is Chairman. Lane said area churches work together well.

**Council Member Cates** gave 2 reports (one from Granville Greenway Advisory Committee and the other from Restoration Advisory Board. **SEE ATTACHMENT "E"**. Cates said the first "Yard of the Month" recipient will be recognized at the next Council Meeting.

**Council Member Emory** said the Beautification Committee is working on the gazebo “dressing it up” for area prom pictures.

**Council Member Turner** said Memorial Day event is coming together (to include live music, wreath laying ceremony, favors for kids, display of military vehicles, etc.).

**Telessie McGhee from the Granville County Human Relations Commission** (HRC) was in attendance. They are striving to attend all area Council/Board Meetings. To get in touch with HRC, contact the Granville County Manager. This Commission was established in 1992 by the Granville County Board of Commissioners. McGhee spoke of their purpose.

13. ADJOURNMENT

***The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm on motion by Ms. Jordon, seconded by Mr. Turner. All voted in favor.***

Respectfully submitted,  
Dianne E. White, CMC, Town Clerk

---

Thomas Lane, Mayor  
Town of Butner