



The Village of Walnut Creek Council met in Regular Session, February 24, 2016 at 7:30 PM, 103 Village Drive.

PRESENT:

Mayor Danny Jackson
Councilman Cyndi Dupuy
Councilman Pete Benton
Councilman Mike Daly
Police Chief, Ken Barrett

Mayor Pro-Tem Greg Ricker
Administrator Troy Smothers
Clerk/Asst. Administrator Sharon Geelen
Attorney Phil Baddour

ABSENT: None

Residents in attendance: Mark Lyons

Mayor Jackson called the meeting to order and Councilwoman Cyndi Dupuy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Pete Benton provided the opening prayer.

Mayor Jackson asked if there were any changes to the agenda. None were noted. Mayor Pro-Tem Ricker moved to approve the agenda. Mayor Pro-Tem Ricker moved to approve the January Minutes and Finance Report. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment:

Mark Lyons spoke to the council about the drainage issue he was facing on his property. He asked the council to help him with this issue since he thought that some of the problem was because of road runoff and a drainage issue in the right-a-way. He thanked Mayor Jackson, Mrs. Dupuy and the Village for coming out to his property and discussing the issue.

Manager's Report:

Administrator Smothers reported that it was time to renew the Deer Urban Archery Season for 2017 (which will run from mid-January to mid-February 2017). Council approved it and asked Mr. Smothers to mail in the renewal.

Mr. Smothers informed the Council of the price quote from Southern Corrosion to remove the water tower that is no longer being used by the Village. After discussing the desire to keep the bottom portion of the take as storage building the Council asked we

request another estimate from Southern Corrosion; to remove the tank but leave the bottom portion in place.

Mr. Smothers reported that the fish count on both lakes will be done at the beginning of April by Fosters Lake and Pond Management.

Mr. Smothers reported to the council the ECC would like as many elected offices to attend their Governments' Board of Directors meeting on Thursday April 14, 2016 at the New Bern Convention Center from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Clerk Report:

Mrs. Geelen briefed that we still have one outstanding tax bill from 2014 that is being handled by Mr. Baddour's office.

Mrs. Geelen was urged by the council to stay in contact with Alan at the county tax office to make sure the transition to the county collecting Village taxes goes according to plan and to make sure it is done with enough time for Mr. Baddour to review the documents.

Property tax collection is going very well.

Police Chief Report:

Chief Barrett announced the conceal carry class would be this Saturday. He also stated there have been no major crimes in the Village. Chief Barrett announced the next Crime Watch Meeting will be held March 8th at 7:00 PM at the Village Town Hall. The Chief said the State Auditor was in to check with compliance and everything went very well and there were no issues. Chief Barrett said the 5K & Half marathon sponsored by the YMCA went well and this was the first time the EMS was on bikes throughout the race.

Council Members Comments:

None

Committee Reports:

Mayor Pro-Tem Ricker: Water & Sewer, Lake Committee, Audit

Mayor Pro-Tem Ricker said the Lake Committee would like to use some of the money allocated for lake maintenance to do a fish count that way they can get a better idea of the cost of restocking of fish. Mayor Pro-Tem Ricker also asked we make sure Foster's begins the lake treatments in a timely matter.

Mr. Ricker moved the Village pay off the lift station loan early to save interest that would build on the loan. The motion passed unanimously. Mayor Pro-Tem Ricker asked Mrs. Geelen to handle this with the loan institution and to pay the loan off.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ricker stated we have had a few water line leaks this year which have been repaired.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ricker also provided comments on having to open and close the gates due to the vast amount of rain we had the past month.

Councilwoman Dupuy: Village Owned Property

Councilwoman Dupuy spoke about the drainage issue at 907 Mill Road and after discussing with the council Mrs. Dupuy moved to place a drop inlet box in the right-of-way at the edge of 907 Mill Road and uncover the existing perforated drain pipe so the resident could tie into that line to aid in the drainage issue. The council discussed having Mr. Smothers explore the use of Powell Bill money to pay for the project. They also want Maintenance Supervisor, Darren Howery, to look at the existing drainage pipe to make sure it was in good repair and adding the drop inlet was a feasible option. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Benton- Pete Benton: Cable TV, Trash & Recycling

Councilman Benton stated he still needed to meet with the trash collectors to discuss some issues with the collection process.

Councilman Daly: Police, Planning Board, Insurance

Councilman Daly stated the police audit went great and thanked Chief for doing good job. He also stated the Planning Board needed to add one more member. They have someone in mind but wanted to speak to that person before adding them to the committee. Councilman Daly spoke on the employee health insurance and the need to make a change away from BCBS because of the cost. Councilman Daly moved to switch insurance carriers to the League of Municipalities beginning April 1st of this year. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

First budget meeting will be March 28th at 5:00 pm.
Village Picnic will be May 14th from 4:00-6:00.

Announcements & Correspondence:

None

Adjournment:

With no further business to bring before the Council, the meeting was adjourned.

Clerk/Asst Administrator, Sharon Geelen

Mayor Danny Jackson