**Town of Haw River**

**Town Council Special Called Meeting**

**Monday, March 17, 2014**

The Town Council of the Town of Haw River held a Special Meeting of the Town Council on Monday, March 17, 2014 in the Haw River Municipal Building at 6:00 pm.

Council Members Present: Mayor Buddy Boggs, Lee Lovette, Jeff Fogleman, Kelly Allen, and Ashley Warren

Council Members Absent: n/a

Also Present: Manager Jeff Earp, Clerk Melanie Hamilton

Mayor Boggs called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Manager Earp spoke to the Council regarding the recent ice storm. Due to the severity of the storm, this will likely be a FEMA eligible event. The Town reported to Alamance County approximately $36,000 in additional expenses to the Town related to this event. Alamance County Emergency Management is coordinating an accumulation of storm expenses county-wide in anticipation of this being a FEMA eligible event.

Manager Earp has talked to several other managers and officials with state emergency management and has been given guidance to treat this event as a FEMA event in order to qualify for reimbursement if/when the event become FEMA eligible. Staff is currently logging all costs associated with the ice storm in a manner to seek reimbursement.

Starting about 3am Friday morning March 7, all available fire, public works, and police responded as the power began to go out. Most of these employees worked throughout the weekend in order to make sure that the health and safety of our citizens was taken care of.

The fire department answered approximately 115 calls between 3am Friday and 8am Monday morning. The calls included structure fires, EMT calls, downed power lines, and fallen trees. They worked aggressively throughout the event to keep our roadways open to traffic and emergency vehicles. All went very smoothly except one firefighter was injured after being hit by a falling tree. The current estimate for per call pay through this event is currently at $12,000.

There is also currently an estimated 5,000 cubic yards of vegetative debris to be picked up on our Town streets due to the ice storm. The estimated cleanup cost is between $50,000 and $60,000.

For the most part debris cleanup will be the last piece of the puzzle. Due to limited resources, Manager Earp feels it is in the best interest of the Town to hire a vendor to assist with the debris cleanup. Please be aware that the NCDOT has agreed to clean up all debris along their roadways including the debris that is within the municipal limits.

The Town has two options in deciding how to find a vendor to assist with this cleanup. Option 1 is to release an RFP to interested local vendors and have the Council award a contract accordingly. This process will delay pickup but will keep all funds local. Option 2 is to piggyback on a current contract Burlington has with Phillips and Jordan to clean up the debris. This option would allow for pickup to start as soon as a contract is signed and a notice to proceed is issued.

With both options the Town will be requiring vendors to:

* comply with all federal, state, and local codes and ordinances
* obtain all necessary permits and licensing
* provide proof that each bidder has adequate experience, equipment, and knowledge to do the job
* produce proof of needed insurances
* complete repairs or fixes for any property or items damaged during execution of the contract
* complete work records and documentation to FEMA standards in order to make it easier for the Town to file for reimbursement
* hold the Town harmless for any or all damages relating to the contract
* provide all necessary security and oversight for their operation
* provide all needed traffic control
* provide serialized copies of the contractor’s debris load tickets (FEMA approved)
* comply with any other provisions deemed necessary by the Town

Councilmember Warren recused herself from the issue regarding storm debris cleanup.

Following considerable discussion by the Council regarding possibilities for storm debris pickup, Councilmember Fogleman made a motion to piggyback on a current contract Burlington has with Phillips and Jordan to clean up the debris at a cost of $6.85/cubic yard and dispose of the debris at Key Properties at a cost of $2.28/cubic yard. Motion carried 4-0.

Councilmember Lovette then made a motion, in the interest of expediency, to allow Mayor Boggs to approve the storm debris cleanup contract without bringing the contract back to Council. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilmember Allen then made a motion to approve $50,000 from general fund balance for debris cleanup and $12,000 from general fund balance for fire pay per call with the understanding that any funding that is eligible to be used from the Powell Bill fund will be taken from that fund and not general fund balance. Councilmember Allen also stated that if additional funding is needed for this event, to bring that request back to Council. Motion carried 5-0.

6:40 pm

There being no other business, Councilmember Fogleman made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried 5-0.

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Buddy E. Boggs, Mayor Melanie R. Hamilton, Clerk