**Town of Haw River**

**Town Council Meeting**

**Monday, March 2, 2015**

The Town Council of the Town of Haw River held its Town Council Meeting on Monday, March 2, 2015 in the Haw River Municipal Building at 7:00pm.

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

Council Members Absent: n/a

Also Present: Manager Jeff Earp, Clerk Melanie Hamilton, Attorney Charlie Davis

Mayor Boggs called the meeting to order and gave the invocation at 7:00 pm.

**Public Hearing**

7:02 pm

**The Town Council held a public hearing regarding an application for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Water/Sewer funding from the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR). The grant funds will be used to extend sewer lines to serve a predominantly low income mobile home park.**

Manager Earp informed the Council that the October 2014 application submission for the sewer extension project was not funded. NCDENR provided staff with guidance for adjustments to make to the application in order to made it favorable for funding during the next submission period. In order to reapply during the next submission period, application must be made by March 30, 2015 and the Town must reapprove the Policies, Procedures, Resolutions, and Ordinances for the North Carolina Community Development Block Grant Program. If awarded, these grant funds would be used to accommodate a request for service in the Trollingwood/Hawfields Road area.

The new grant application is for $2.4 million with no Town match. The proposed project is for new sewer lines in the Trollingwood/Hawfields Road area in order to benefit low/moderate income residents. The old area of the mobile home park has old septic systems and new sewer lines to the area would prevent the issues that go along with failing septic systems. This project will not cause any displacement or relocation of any residents during its completion. The goal of the project is for 100% of the funding to benefit these low/moderate income residents. The Town has been awarded two CDBG projects in the past and these were completed in 2012. Rehab work was done in the Lang street area on older homes, new water lines were installed, and stormwater issues were addressed. This project is considered to be a success with lots of positive feedback from both residents of the homes that were rehabbed and from the general population of the Town. As always, if anyone has any complaints or grievances regarding CDBG projects, please contact Town Manager Earp or Clerk Hamilton at Town Hall (403 E Main Street/PO Box 103 Haw River, NC 27258 (336)578-0784) and you will receive a response within 15 business days.

7:08 pm

The mayor opened the public hearing.

7:08 pm

Sue Tippett/628 Keck Rd.

Ms. Tippett expressed concerns that the proposed project will not benefit the Town of Haw River. She would like to see grant money coming into the Town limits.

7:09 pm

Cathy Wilson/324 Roma Road

Ms. Wilson asked if all grant funding would be spent on the sewer lines at the MHP. She expressed concern for the cost of roads, street lighting, etc if this project is approved and the MHP is annexed into the Town. She also expressed confusion as to why the Town is considering funding sewer lines for a private property MHP as that hasn’t been done in the past with housing subdivisions.

7:13 pm

Pat Davis/Haw River Gun & Pawn/340 Trollingwood Road

Mr. Davis asked who benefited from the 2012 CDBG project and what benefits this project will bring the Town. Additionally, he is not pleased with the concept of the Town investing $2.4 million dollars into a single property owner. He would like to sign up for any free funding the Town is giving away as his business is always interested in additional funding. He stated that he finds the concept of this project to be absurd and illogical.

7:19 pm

The mayor closed the public hearing.

**Consent Agenda**

7:20 pm

**The Council considered approval of minutes from the February 2, 2015 regular meeting.**

Councilmember Allen made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

**New Business**

7:21 pm

**The Town Council considered approval/adoption of the following items in regards to the Town’s application to the NCDENR; Division of Water Infrastructure in regards to the 2015 CDBG Infrastructure Program:**

* **Policies, Procedures, Resolutions, and Ordinances for the North Carolina Community Development Block Grant Program**

Council confirmed with Manager Earp that these are the policies, procedures, resolutions, and ordinances that would need to be completed for any CDBG application. They then spoke with Manager Earp about the grading system for grant applications and the likelihood of our score increasing with reapplication.

Following discussion, Councilmember Lovette made a motion to approve the Policies, Procedures, Resolutions, and Ordinances for the March submission of the North Carolina Community Development Block Grant Program for Infrastructure improvements. Motion carried 5-0.

7:30 pm

**The Town Council reviewed and considered a School Resource Officer Contract with the ABSS Board of Education.**

Manager Earp presented the Council with an updated copy of a contract for the HRPD personnel to provide SRO Services at Haw River Elementary School. The Council already approved a memorandum of understanding in order to allow Town officers to provide resource officer services to the school system but a completed contract still needs to be put in place.

Following brief discussion, Councilmember Allen made a motion to approve the School Resource Officer Contract with the ABSS Board of Education. Motion carried 5-0.

7:34 pm

**The Town Council reviewed and considered a request for funding from Alamance County regarding the World Trade Center Memorial.**

Manager Earp presented the Council with a request from Alamance County Manager Craig Honeycutt for funding regarding the World Trade Center Memorial project currently in the works. The cost of the memorial is $10,000 - $11,000 and if the Town chooses to donate, our name will be placed on a plaque associated with the memorial. While a certain dollar amount has not been requested, a recommended donation of $500 was referenced.

Following brief discussion, Councilmember Lovette made a motion to approve donation $500 to Alamance County for the World Trade Center Memorial to be funded out of general fund balance. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilmember Warren recused herself.

7:38 pm

**The Town Council reviewed and considered a technical correction of an earlier agreement with ALCO Development concerning tap and connection fees in the Henry’s Farm Subdivision.**

 In July 2012 the Council acted on a request from ALCO Development concerning a waiver of fees associated with connecting the Town’s water and sewer system. The Council acted and waived the Tap fees instead of the Connection Fees inadvertently. The subdivision was not subject to tap fees as the developer had already installed taps at his cost when the initial infrastructure was installed as per our policy. Manager Earp asked the Council to consider correcting this action and waive connection fees in the Henry’s Farm Subdivision.

Following discussion, Councilmember Fogleman made a motion to correct the wording of the motion made on 7/2/112 and to waive connection fees for the Henry’s Farm Subdivision. Motion carried 3-1 with Councilmember Allen dissenting.

Councilmember Warren returned to open meeting.

7:47 pm

**Manager’s Update**

* Council set a Special Called Meeting on Monday, March 16, 2015 at 6:30pm in the Council Chambers at Town Hall in order to approve minutes from the March 2, 2015 meeting, receive a presentation from Braird Consultants, and the have a pre-budget planning session.
* Manager Earp publicly thanked the Town’s staff for their exemplary work during the recent winter weather.
* The HRFD will be hosting an arson class in the fire department this week. Additionally, they will be training at and then burning on March 7th a home on Town Branch Road.
* The HRPD will be having a training and standards audit conducted by the state this week.
* Staff has started work on the 2015-2016 Budget.
* Staff is working on the Water Supply Update and the Hazardous Mitigation Plan.
* Manager Earp is expecting paperwork back next week from Ms. Riggan for the purchase of her property on E. Main Street for $10,000.
* Work will begin on the walkway at Redslide Park once the weather clears and warms up.
* Financial Report
* NCDOT sent the Town a list of qualifications for an information Museum sign on the interstate. At this time, the HR Museum does not qualify.
* The Town received a letter of thanks from ACC thanking the HRFD for their response and hard work at the recent fire in the ACC auto center.
* Manager Earp and Mayor Boggs will be meeting with Allen Gant and the managers and mayors from all Alamance County municipalities for a strategy session in an effort to save time and money county wide.

**Announcements**

* Councilmember Lovette thanked all the members of the public for showing up and asked them to return next month.
* Councilmember Allen recapped a story that was recently in the Times News reiterating the importance of downtown restorations in order for towns to thrive.
* Councilmember Warren thanked public works for the superb job they did scraping snow during the recent snowstorm.

8:00 pm

**Open Forum**

Neraldine Pierce/515 Rolling Road

* Ms. Pierce expressed her concern for the amount of private property damage being done with the Green Level sewer line project.

Pam Smith/313 Graham Road

* Ms. Smith expressed her displeasure with the graffiti on the bridge at the underpass and asked the Town to please work to get that cleaned up.

8:04 pm

Councilmember Fogleman made a to motion adjourn. Motion carried 5-0.

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