

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the China Grove Town Council

**Tuesday, May 5, 2009
7:00 p.m.**

**China Grove Town Hall
China Grove, North Carolina**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bringle called the meeting of May 5, 2009 to order. Mayor Bringle called roll. All council members were present, there was a quorum. The meeting started at 7:00 pm at the Municipal Building.

Mr. Withers made a motion to adopt the agenda for the regular meeting of the Town Council on May 5, 2009 with an addition under Old Business I) Park Advisory Board Requests. Mr. Lyseski seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Lyseski made a motion to adopt the minutes from the April 7, 2009 regular meeting. Mr. Bivens seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Mr. Richard Flowe - Rowan County Chamber of Commerce

He stated that it is a pleasure to be present and that he wishes to reach out to the Town to let them know that they keep the Town's best interest in mind as always and hopes that the Town will do the same in return. He stated that he is present as an outreach component and plans to return again in the next quarter as well to listen in on our meeting to hear what is going on. He thanked the Council and stated that if the Council has any questions or concerns, he would be glad to take that back to the Chamber.

Mr. Jordan – Concord, NC Chairman Mr. Luther King Committee, Parade

He stated that he is present to ask for the Town to consider proclamations pertaining to Black History Month, naming a street in China Grove after Martin Luther King, Jr., and more. He thanked the Council.

Mr. Pete Kluttz – Railroad Avenue

He stated that there are sidewalks on Ketchie Street that are broken and would like to see them repaired. He stated that he wished to address the police chief about parking on Bostian Street. He stated that it took him seven minutes to get one block. He stated that the new parking lot had spaces available and also stated that there are signs that say “No Parking”. He stated that people park illegally and in the wrong direction. He stated that he contacted the police department and the police told them that it was ok that they park in the wrong direction and wrong location. He stated that if there were a fire or rescue, he is sure that they would all move immediately. He stated that at 812 Railroad Avenue on the east side, the road is broken into many pieces approximately 100-200 feet. He stated that the Town has patched spots and now there is another area needing repair. He stated that the pavement is only a year old. He stated that he does not believe 6-8 inches of dirt should not be removed when they repave.

Mayor Bringle asked the appropriate department heads to tend to these matters.

Chief Coffield stated that they posted notices last year and they also made announcements. He stated that they will need to be educated and they plan to start on it tonight.

Mayor Bringle asked for the water line to be patched as well.

Mr. Alan Corriher – 503 Stevens Street

He stated that there is a place on Stevens Street that needs repair. He stated that the Town has too many elderly people in town and believes that the curbside pickup policy is too strict. He stated that the Town should clean up and haul off work that is done unless done by a contractor. He stated that he believes if an elderly person uses a family member to help trim, the Town should collect these items.

Mr. Harry Mills – 502 S. Bostian Street

He stated that he does not believe that he sees a single person that wants a sidewalk put throughout his street. He stated that he understands that this is grant money and that we can not send it back. He stated that he reads everyday where someone else needs money and that he does not want these sidewalks put in their neighborhood. He stated that he has formed a petition. He stated that if more people want the sidewalks then he will be quiet, but if more people don't want it, then he will not be in support of it. He stated that he also agrees with Mr. Corriher. He stated that he never received a newsletter. He stated that he used to be very proud of China Grove but believes it is time that the Board members start thinking about what the people want.

Mr. Mickey Blackwelder – Clinton Street

He stated that he is present concerning the sidewalk project. He stated that he is a new resident of China Grove. He stated that he attended the presentation the other night. He stated that Clinton and Elizabeth Streets were on the sidewalk project and finds it odd that the entire area isn't being included within the project. He stated that Myrtle and Louise Streets do not have sidewalks and believes the plans could be more thought out. He stated that a former councilman told him that sidewalk funds are one of the first ones to go. He stated that he would like the council to give it more thought.

Mayor Bringle thanked Mr. Ford and Mr. Hanzlik for being present.

PUBLIC HEARING

I) Rezoning Request Case #2009-01

Ms. Emily Jackson reviewed the information pertaining to Case #2009-01. She stated that no one has come to her about changing their properties. She stated that this is to “cleanup” the map.

Mayor Bringle opened the Public Hearing.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Bringle closed the Public Hearing.

a) Motion to Approve Statement of Consistency

Mr. Overcash made a motion to approve the Statement of Consistency. Mr. Withers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

b) Motion to Approve Zoning Map Amendment

Mr. Lyseski made a motion to approve the rezoning of parcels 101 227, 101 228, 101 202 & 101 222. Mr. Bivens seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

II) UDO Text Amendment and Addition to Floodplain Overlay District to Official Zoning Map

Ms. Jackson stated that FEMA has adopted new maps across the state and Rowan County is in the process of doing theirs. She stated that there were a few items that needed to be updated within their model ordinances. She stated that the Council has been provided a copy and that all will be adopting the

same languages and ordinances. She stated that the Interlocal Agreement will allow the County to do the enforcement of floodplain procedures.

Mr. Welter stated that he is missing several pages.

Ms. Jackson stated that she was just trying to conserve paper by not printing out the entire ordinance. She stated that the full copy is available.

Mayor Bringle opened the Public Hearing.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Bringle closed the Public Hearing.

a) Motion to Approve Statement of Consistency

Mr. Lyseski made a motion to approve the Statement of Consistency. Mr. Withers seconded the motion. Mr. Welter opposed. The motion carried 4-1.

b) Motion to Approve UDO Text Amendment and Zoning Map Amendment

Mr. Bivens made a motion to approve the UDO Text Amendment and Zoning Map Amendment. Mr. Withers seconded the motion. Mr. Welter opposed. The motion carried 4-1.

c) Motion to Adopt Interlocal Agreement

Mr. Overcash made a motion to adopt the Interlocal Agreement. Mr. Lyseski seconded the motion. Mr. Withers seconded the motion. Mr. Welter opposed. The motion carried 4-1.

III) Incentive Hearing

Mr. Robert Van Geons presented a slideshow to the Council. He thanked the Council for allowing him to be present. He stated that this is exciting news and has all interested parties on board.

Mr. Luke Terrell stated that they take waste and regenerate it into new fiber. He stated that this process is patented. He stated that they believe coming into China Grove will provide a work force that is already trained and the facility will meet their needs. He stated that they are excited to be offered such great incentives. They plan to hire 223 people, mostly those in Rowan County. He stated that if the Council has questions, he would be glad to answer any questions.

Mayor Bringle asked him to specify about the waste.

Mr. Terrell stated that it is textile waste from manufacturing facilities all over the world. He stated that this is consolidating to make a natural fiber product. He stated that their main goal is to keep their facility within the United States. He stated that their products are used globally.

Mr. Van Geons stated that this is a major positive impact on China Grove. He stated that there are stipulations pertaining to a cash grant and he explained further and provided a spreadsheet to the Council members. He stated that the State, Duke Energy, the County and Workforce Development have given approval. He stated that China Grove will be the “smallest dollar” invested. He stated also that they would be water users comparable to Hanes Brand.

Mr. Welter asked if legal, American residents will be hired.

Mr. Van Geons will hire employees based on legal standards, etc. He stated that they intend to hire previous employees of the mill first.

Mayor Bringle opened the Public Hearing.

Mr. Kluttz asked what the name of the company is.

Mr. Van Geons stated that their name is the Sustainable Textile Group, LLC. Straightline Industries is their current production facility.

Mr. Terrell stated that the legal name is Sustainable Textile Groups, LLC.

Mayor Bringle closed the Public Hearing.

Mr. Van Geons stated that agreement has been provided to the Town Manager. He stated that there is one section that the County is working on. He stated that he would like to ask for approval of the incentive based on the language changes.

Mayor Bringle asked when the resolution will be reissued.

Mr. Van Geons stated that it should be finalized within the next calendar month.

Mr. Withers made a motion to approve the incentive as requested off of the five year plan. Mr. Lyseski seconded the motion and stated that he is very excited and believes this to be an answer to prayer. He stated that they should expect the community’s support. Mayor Bringle agreed. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Bringle thanked the State, the County, Duke Energy and Mr. Van Geons for their hard work to support the opportunity to allow family, friends and residents to be reemployed. He also thanked the company as well.

NEW BUSINESS

I) Set Public Hearing for Budget Meeting

Mr. Pless asked the council to set a date for the budget meeting.

Mayor Bringle stated that the first work session is this Thursday.

Mr. Bivens made a motion to set the Public Hearing for June 2, 2009 regular meeting. Mr. Overcash seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

I) Park Advisory Board Request

Mr. Corriher reviewed the request. He stated that there is a need because of the daily use of the park facilities. He stated that people are using inappropriate locations for using the bathroom.

Mr. Welter stated that he would like to see how it would work.

Mayor Bringle stated that he would like to see Mr. Ketner choose a location appropriate for the best use and vicinity.

Mr. Welter stated that the trucks are fairly heavy and they need to be sure of a safe, sturdy location.

Mayor Bringle agreed that the Town use the lowest bid and tryout the service.

Mr. Corriher stated that the Town has put a barricade over the worst part of the path.

Mayor Bringle asked the Town to fix the problem.

Mr. Ketner stated that he can fix the problem if that is the board's desire.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURN

Mr. Overcash made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Lyseski seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda A. Eller, Town Clerk

Donald E. Bringle, Mayor