TOWN MANAGER
Ken Deal

TOWN CLERK
Amanda Eller

TOWN ATTORNEY
Tom Brooke

MAYOR
Don Bringle

TOWN COUNCIL
Brandon Linn
Charles Seaford
Steve Stroud
Mike Upright
Lee Withers

MINUTES
A regular meeting of the China Grove Town Council

Tuesday, May 1, 2012 **China Grove Town Hall**
6:00 p.m. **China Grove, North Carolina**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bringle called the meeting of May 1, 2012 to order and called roll. All council members were present with the exception of Mr. Stroud and Mr. Seaford. There was a quorum. The meeting started at 6:00 pm at the Town Hall.

Mr. Upright made a motion to adopt the agenda for the regular meeting of the Town Council on April 3rd, 2012. Mr. Withers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

JOINT MEETING WITH PLANNING BOARD

Mayor Bringle thanked those who serve on the Planning Board and to those who were present at the meeting including Mr. Morton, Mr. Basinger and Mr. Deal.

Mr. David Morton stated that they were present to communicate with the Council to take advantage of the current slower time that they are experiencing. He stated that the relationship with the County for planning services is going well so far. He stated that one of the items they wanted to discuss is business licenses. They believe that there needs to be a database for the businesses in the Town and doesn't believe there needs to be a fee involved. He stated that he believes implementing a business license would help the staff to know what businesses are in Town.

Mr. Upright asked if it would be only businesses in the Town limits or the ETJ as well.

Mr. Morton stated that he believes that could be addressed at a later time but feels that they need to implement something for in-town businesses.

Mayor Bringle stated that he is unsure with the idea of implementing a fee.

Mr. Upright stated that he feels it could be a great asset to the businesses and could work alongside the Board of Trade as well.

Mayor Bringle asked who would be responsibility for the updating of the database.

Mr. Upright stated that he feels as if there would need to be some way to enforce the program.

Mr. Withers stated that there needs to be an estimated cost of operating the program.

Mr. Morton recommends doing the program in house to keep things local.

Mayor Bringle asked Mr. Goodall's opinion on the matter.

Mr. Goodall stated that the zoning permits are kept at the County and are available to the Town as needed. He stated that there will be a lot of ground work to get the program operating.

Mr. Morton stated that they also would like to consider a Land Use Plan.

Mayor Bringle stated that the Town is extremely tight this budget season including a budget shortfall for this current year. He stated that he supports and endorses a Plan; however the Town cannot budget this item at this time.

Mr. Morton stated that they would like to lay the framework and they do not see it coming together in a year but over several years. He stated that there are planning board members that are willing to implement some of the work needed without needing funds currently for the plan.

Mr. Withers asked if there are planning services available from the CCOG and asked for us to look into that possibility.

Mayor Bringle asked Mr. Goodall to give a recommendation to the Planning Board.

Mr. Goodall stated that the first step would be a mapping program which is very expensive. He stated that there would need to be several people who could devote time to developing the plan as well.

Mayor Bringle asked Mr. Deal to get together with Mr. Goodall concerning this item.

Mr. Goodall stated that the Land Use Plans for eastern and western areas are available online for the Planning Board to view.

Mayor Bringle thanked the Planning Board members for being present and for their items that they have brought before the Council. He stated that they are open to meeting more often with them as needed.

Mr. Morton thanked the Council for the time to bring their items before them.

RECESS

Mr. Withers made a motion to recess until 6:45 p.m. Mr. Upright seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

RECONVENE

Mr. Withers made a motion to reconvene at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Linn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Upright made a motion to adopt the minutes from the regular meeting of the Town Council on April 3rd, 2011. Mr. Withers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Upright made a motion to adopt the minutes from the Town Council budget meeting on April 17th, 2012. Mr. Withers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mayor Bringle recognized Troop 315 for being present at the meeting and thanked them for being present.

There were no citizen comments.

PUBLIC HEARING

I) Zoning Request for Case 2012-Z-01 Tax Parcels 124A03101 and 124A04701 to HB

Mr. Goodall reviewed the staff report for the zoning request presented to the Council.

Mayor Bringle opened the Public Hearing at 7:05 for Zoning Request for Case 2012-Z-01 Tax Parcels 124A03101 and 124A04701 to Highway Business.

There were no comments.

Mayor Bringle closed the Public Hearing.

Mr. Withers made a motion that the request is consistent with Town Plans and Policies and the surrounding area. Mr. Linn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Upright made a motion to approve to zone Rowan County Tax Parcels 124A03101 (portion) and 124A04701 to Highway Business. Mr. Linn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

I) Set Public Hearing for Case #2012-UDO-01 – Electronic Gaming Operations

Mr. Withers made a motion to set a public hearing for June 5, 2012 for the Case #2012-UDO-01

– Electronic Gaming Operations. Mr. Linn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

II) Approval of Audit Contract

Mr. Deal stated that the Council will need to make a motion to approve the proposed contract for the Town audit.

Mr. Linn made a motion to approve the Audit Contract as presented. Mr. Withers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

III) Park Advisory Board Appointment

Mr. Withers made a motion to appoint Mr. Christopher Dooley to the Park Advisory Board with a term to expire in three years. Mr. Linn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Bringle encouraged people to attend the Market at the Mill which begins this Friday and will be held each Friday from 4-7 pm.

Mayor Bringle stated that the first Movies in the Park event will be held May 18th, 2012 at 8:00 at Hannah Park.

Mr. Withers asked that we reach out to the downtown business owners to let them know the dates and hours that the events will take place.

Mayor Bringle set the next budget meeting for May 15, 2012 at 6:00 pm.

CLOSED SESSION – Attorney/Client Matters

Mr. Withers made a motion to go into Closed Session for Attorney/Client Matters. Mr. Linn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

There was no action taken.

Mr. Linn made a motion to come out of Closed Session. Mr. Withers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Upright made a motion to approve the employment contract with Mr. Ken Deal to be effective on the next pay cycle. Mr. Withers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Deal provided an update to the Council on the Fire Department/Town Hall project.

ADJOURN

Mr. Withers made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Linn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda A. Eller, Town Clerk	**Donald E. Bringle, Mayor**