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, June 5, 2012 **China Grove Town Hall**
7:00 p.m. **China Grove, North Carolina**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bringle called the meeting of June 5, 2012 to order and called roll. All council members were present, there was a quorum. The meeting started at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall.

Mr. Withers made a motion to adopt the agenda for the regular meeting of the Town Council on June 5th, 2012 with an addition of Closed Session for Client-Attorney Matters. Mr. Seaford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Stroud made a motion to adopt the minutes from the May 1st, 2012 regular meeting. Mr. Linn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Upright made a motion to adopt the minutes from the May 15th, 2012 budget meeting. Mr. Withers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Linn made a motion to adopt the minutes from the May 29th, 2012 budget meeting. Mr. Seaford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mrs. Anne Corriher – Main Street Mission

Mrs. Corriher was present to introduce their idea of a Sidewalk Chalk Festival as a fundraiser. She stated that she has worked with Amanda Eller and Jackie Elliott to organize the program. She stated that she wanted to present the fundraiser to the Council.

Mayor Bringle stated that he hopes that the Town will support the event and encouraged Mrs. Corriher to bring specific information to the Council once they schedule a date.

Mr. Chris Walters – N Harris Street

Mr. Walters stated that he received a warning violation concerning having chickens on his property. He stated that he has had chickens for over four years and has never received any complaints from neighbors and was surprised to receive the warning citation. He stated that he has a large garden that he maintains behind his property and uses his chicken manure to fertilize his garden. He stated that he would like permission to keep the chickens and see the ordinance changed to allow other citizens to have chickens as well.

Mayor Bringle stated that his comments will be taken into advisement and will bring this forward to the Planning Board for consideration. He stated that the Council will not meet in July; however, he needs to consider that he is in violation.

Mr. Stroud stated that until a decision is made, no enforcement action is made.

Mr. Walters stated that he wants to be in compliance and will get rid of the chickens if he must but hopes the Council will consider a change.

The Council thanked Chris for being present and for the letters from his family.

Mr. Fred Shipwash – 110 S. Myrtle Street

Mr. Shipwash stated that he was present concerning the paving of Myrtle Street. He stated that the Town is receiving taxes from the property owners along this street and very few times has the street been repaired. He stated that at the lower end at the cul-de-sac where the garbage truck turns around is torn apart. He stated that he doesn't know of any streets that have been built or repaired in China Grove and wants to know where the Powell Bill Funds are being used.

Mayor Bringle stated that he went down Myrtle Street a few weeks ago and noticed that there is more rock than pavement. He stated that while his street is in bad shape, there are streets that are in worse shape. He mentioned streets that have been repaired. He stated that the have identified streets that are in need of repair and probably 95% of the streets are in need of some type of repair.

Mr. Shipwash asked the Council for their help with this street and thanked them.

Mr. Ralph Luther – 312 Louise Avenue

Mr. Luther stated that he is also present to address Myrtle Street. He stated that this street is probably the worst street in Town. He stated that it is full of holes and you can hardly turn around without hitting a hole in the street. He asked for help from the Council and thanked them.

Mr. Alan Corriher – 503 Stevens Street

Mr. Corriher stated that the trees are hanging low over the streets and is requesting that there be maintenance done to them.

PRESENTATION

Mrs. Barbara Doby and Mrs. Judy Haire attended to present a plaque for the September 11th Remembrance Event. She stated that the Town joined with the Historical Society in planning the event. She presented the Mayor and Town Manager with a framed image from the event to thank the Town for their joint effort.

Mayor Bringle thanked Mrs. Doby and the Historical Society and stated that they will hang the plaque in the new Town Hall with great enthusiasm.

In the absence of Chief Kluttz, Mayor Bringle presented Officer J.E. Briggs with his Intermediate Law Enforcement Certificate. The Town Council congratulated Ofc. Briggs.

PUBLIC HEARING

I) 2012-UDO-01 Electronic Gaming Operations Text Amendment

Mr. Goodall reviewed the staff report for the text amendment requested to the UDO to the Council. He stated that there has been a huge increase in inquiries for Sweepstakes Businesses. He stated that they have adopted plans from other towns to develop this current amendment to the UDO. He stated that from here forward, all Electronic Gaming Operations must be located in the Highway Business District (HB).

Mr. Withers asked the length of the grandfathered terms for the persons already in business.

Mr. Brooke stated that he would have to look into this and bring it to the Council.

Mr. Upright asked if this is standard verbiage.

Mr. Goodall stated that it is and has been developed to conform to China Grove's needs.

Mayor Bringle opened the Public Hearing at 7:24 p.m. for the 2012-UDO-01 Electronic Gaming Operations.

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. Upright seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Upright made a motion to approve the amendments to the UDO, 2012-UDO-01 Electronic Gaming Operations. Mr. Withers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

I) Adopt Ordinance to Designate One-Way Traffic on Franklin Street

Mayor Bringle stated that the Council discussed this item at the April meeting. He stated that the

Town Manager has met with the School System along with Chief Kluttz and Mr. Ketner.

Mr. Deal stated that there is a slight misunderstanding to where the ending and beginning is of the one-way street. He stated that he doesn't feel that the school is concerned with the location and asked that the one-way street begin after the bus exit.

Mr. Withers stated that he feels he has a vested interest since his children go to school there. He stated that while this is accommodating the buses, it doesn't solve the safety issue.

Mr. Upright stated that he feels that if this were an issue, the School Board would have brought this before the Council.

Mayor Bringle stated that this will now identify the one-way traffic lane.

Mr. Withers stated that they should have gone to the school during the times when there is an issue. He stated that the schools do not want to have to reroute the buses out of the back drive. He stated that he was hoping it would have been investigated during the problem times.

Mr. Seaford asked if we want to table this item.

Mr. Deal stated that he doesn't feel that it is an issue or the school would have presented the item to the Council.

Mr. Seaford made a motion to table this item. Mr. Withers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mayor Bringle asked Mr. Deal to bring this item back to the Council at a time when school is back in session.

II) Adopt Ordinance to Amend Section 28 of Code of Ordinances Regulating Signs

Mr. Deal stated that this is conforming to the State regulations regarding election signs.

Mr. Linn made a motion to adopt Ordinance to Amend Section 28 of Code of Ordinances Regulating Signs. Mr. Withers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

III) Approval of Fireworks Plan for Farmers Day 2012

Mayor Bringle stated that this is required to allow the fireworks at Farmers Day.

Mr. Withers made a motion to approve the Fireworks Plan for Farmers Day 2012. Mr. Seaford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

IV) Set Public Hearing for Budget Adoption for June 21st at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Bringle and Mr. Linn stated that they cannot be present on the 26th.

Mayor Bringle requested the meeting be held on June 21st, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Withers made a motion to set the budget public hearing for June 21, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Linn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Bringle stated that the Town is requesting donations for Christmas Lights for the downtown area.

Mayor Bringle stated that the next Movies in the Park event will be held June 15th at 8:30 p.m. and will be showing "Cars 2".

Mr. Deal stated that they are projecting the completion date to be the middle of September. He stated that there are two superintendents on the project. He stated that liquidated damages are around $75,000 with a scheduled move-in date around April 15th.

Mr. Linn made a motion to cancel the July meeting. Mr. Seaford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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

CLOSED SESSION – Attorney/Client Matters

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

There was no action taken.

Mr. Withers asked that we consider the DOT right-of-ways and the height of the grass in those areas.

Mr. Deal stated that they are working to mend the Town's relationship with NCDOT and is willing to discuss this item with them.

ADJOURN

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

Respectfully Submitted,

_____ _____

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