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, December 3, 2013 — **China Grove Town Hall**
7:00 p.m. — **China Grove, North Carolina**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bringle called the meeting of December 3rd, 2013 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.

Mayor Bringle led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States.

Mr. Upright made a motion to adopt the agenda with an addition of Closed Session after Other Business. Mr. Withers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mayor Bringle congratulated and welcomed the returning Councilmen. Mrs. Eller administered the Oath of Office for Mr. Charles Seaford, Mr. Brandon Linn and Mr. Mike Upright with terms to expire December 2016.

Mayor Bringle opened the floor to the Councilmen for nominations of Mayor Pro-Tem. Mr. Upright nominated Mr. Withers as Mayor Pro-Tem. Mr. Withers nominated Mr. Seaford as Mayor Pro-Tem.

Mr. Upright made a motion to appoint Mr. Withers as Mayor Pro-Tem. Mr. Seaford seconded the motion, which carried with a vote of 4-1 with Mr. Withers casting the opposing vote.

Mr. Seaford made the motion to adopt the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Withers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT

None.

QUASI-JUDICIAL PUBLIC HEARING

I) Conditional Use Permit CUP-2013-02 – Graham Auto Sales on Hwy 29

Mr. Burton reviewed the staff report and stated that Mr. Graham has requested for a Conditional Use Permit to allow auto sales at 1130 US Hwy 29. He stated that the Council is required to approve the findings of fact as well as make a motion to approve the conditions to allow. He reviewed the Findings of Facts and stated that the Planning Board approved the request with conditions.

Mr. Upright stated that he doesn't see any issues until the documentation is completed.

Mr. Burton stated that documentation has not been completed on either item; however, he did speak with NCDOT concerning the driveway and does not see that as an issue.

Mayor Bringle opened the Public Hearing for comments.

Mrs. Eller swore in Mr. David Graham affirmed that his testimony is both truthful and accurate.

Mr. Graham provided lighting information to the Council for their inspection and he is available to answer any questions that they may have.

Mr. Upright asked Mr. Graham if he has spoken with the neighbors behind the business.

Mr. Graham stated that he has spoken with all of the surrounding neighbors and has received positive feedback with the way the property looks and interest in job opportunities.

Mayor Bringle thanked Mr. Graham for the "sweat equity" that he has invested in the property.

Mayor Bringle closed the Public Hearing for comments.

Mr. Withers made a motion to approve the Findings of Facts for CUP-2013-02. Mr. Upright seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Stroud made a motion to approve with Conditions to allow Auto Sales of TP 128 007 zoned Highway Business (HB). Mr. Withers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

II) Certificate of Convenience and Necessity for a Taxi Business – Mr. Weanquoi

Mr. Burton reviewed the staff report. He stated that a motion is needed to approve the certificate.

Mrs. Eller swore in Mr. Charles Weanquoi for testimony.

Mayor Bringle opened the Public Hearing for comments.

Mayor Bringle asked where the place of business would be.

Mr. Weanquoi stated that he is from Liberia, West Africa and has been a resident of Charlotte since 1990. He stated that his business will be located in China Grove, location to be determined. He stated he believes the need is great for this area for a taxi cab service. He stated that he would work in accordance with County and Town regulations. He thanked the Council for their time.

Mayor Bringle closed the Public Hearing for comments.

Mr. Withers made a motion to approve the Certificate of Convenience and Necessity for a Taxi Business by Mr. Charles Weanquoi. Mr. Linn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

I) Appointments to the TAC and TCC of the Cabarrus Rowan Urban Area MPO

Mr. Withers stated that he would like to be reappointed to the Cabarrus Rowan Urban Area MPO.

Mr. Stroud made a motion to approve the appointment of Mr. Withers to the TAC. Mr. Upright seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Stroud made a motion to appoint Mr. Upright as alternate to the TAC. Mr. Withers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Stroud made a motion to appoint Mr. Ketner as the TCC representative. Mr. Upright seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Stroud made a motion to appoint Mr. Upright as the alternate TCC representative. Mr. Withers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Jason Wilson, SRU, gave an update on the meter replacement program that they are continuing in Town. He stated that they hope to have the project completed the week before Christmas. He stated that it has gone smoothly so far. He stated that he has an example of the new meter if anyone would like to look at it.

Mayor Bringle commended their professional job of completing the project and thanked Mr. Wilson.

Mayor Bringle invited everyone to "Christmas in China Grove" on December 13th from 6-8pm. He stated that there would be horse-drawn carriage rides, refreshments, Santa and music. He asked the Council to attend the event.

Mayor Bringle stated that leaf collection has gone very well this year.

OTHER BUSINESS

I) Update from China Grove Police Department

Officer Reese Helms updated the Council on the "Movember" project. He stated it was a great success and gained good attention from the press. He stated that they were approached by many people that never would have spoken with them before the event. He stated that they raised $120 and were nationally recognized through the press and on Facebook with over 10,000 hits to the website. He stated that multiple events are being coordinated including the "Christmas in China Grove" where they will handout hot chocolate and cookies. Also, they are collecting Christmas gifts and food for a military family which includes a female soldier and three children. They are also collecting items for residents of the China Grove Retirement Home and canned goods and toys for Main Street Mission. He thanked Mr. Deal for participating in the "Movember" event as well. He thanked the Town Council.

Mayor Bringle and Council thanked Officer Helms.

Mayor Bringle thanked everyone that was involved with the parade. He asked Mr. Deal to work with the parade staff with a contingency plan for future events.

Mayor Bringle asked about the police car that is in disrepair.

Mr. Deal stated that he does not believe the disrepairs on the police car are under warranty, but they are looking at pricing for repairs to keep this car until July if possible.

Mayor Bringle stated that Administration and Public Works will continue to keep the four, ten-hour work days. He stated that he does have concern with impending bad weather for the upcoming months. He stated that he would like to see the Council come to a vote on whether to keep this schedule. He stated that he would support the Council in their decision.

Mr. Stroud stated that he believes Mr. Deal should be allowed to keep the authority to administer the schedule. He stated that he has not received any complaints from citizens and believes the employees are enjoying the schedule.

Mr. Linn stated that he believes it is a morale booster and believes staff is doing an excellent job and agrees to leave it in Mr. Deal's authority.

Mr. Withers stated that he agrees with the morale booster, but also is concerned with the issue over overtime in the instance of bad weather. He stated that he will leave it up to Mr. Deal until it costs the Town money.

Mr. Upright stated that originally this was a summertime plan, but would like to be sure this is a good decision.

Mr. Stroud stated that they should not micromanage the Town Manager.

Mayor Bringle stated that Mr. Deal had requested to bring this before the Council, which was why he brought it up this evening. He cautioned Mr. Deal for the upcoming winter.

Mr. Deal stated that he received a great compliment on the street cleaning, leaf collection, Christmas lights and décor.

CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Stroud made a motion to go into Closed Session. Mr. Seaford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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

There was no action taken.

Mayor Bringle stated that Mr. Deal was able to negotiate the purchase price of the garbage cans and thanked Mr. Deal.

ADJOURN

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

Respectfully Submitted,

_____ _____

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