

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, March 4th, 2014
7:00 p.m.

China Grove Town Hall
China Grove, North Carolina

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bringle called the meeting of March 4th, 2014 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.

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

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

CITIZEN COMMENT

Senator Gene McLaurin –

Senator McLaurin thanked the Town Council for allowing him to be able to address the Council and audience. He stated that the Town Hall is beautiful facility and congratulated the Town on this new enjoyment for the citizens and audience. He stated that he serves the 25th Senatorial District which includes Scotland, Richmond, Anson, Stanley Counties and a portion of Rowan County. He stated that he has enjoyed coming into this area. He is a businessman and took the experience to Raleigh as the State Senator and has enjoyed working with Senator Warren, Representative Ford and Senator Brock. He serves on the Senate Agriculture Committee and Local Government committees as well as a few others. He stated that he feels very comfortable with the relationships and partnerships that he has formed with the local governments. He stated that he attended Farmers Day last summer and attended a Carson High School football game as well as Gary's BBQ and has enjoyed the Town. He stated that the upcoming short session will convene in mid-May. He stated that they do not wish to do anything that will negatively impact

the local cities and towns and encourages the Council to call on him when needed. He stated that he welcomes any ideas and thoughts in the future

Mr. Upright stated that he has recently spoken about a citizen who is concerned with the status of his road, which is in major disrepair. He stated that the Town will most definitely need assistance in this area.

Mrs. Bopp stated that the Town receives around \$115,000 through Powell Bill Funds.

Mayor Bringle stated that streets are on a priority list with resurfacing and patching.

Senator McLaurin stated that this is a state-wide problem but will definitely remind those in Raleigh of the importance of roads and streets in the communities. He also stated that he has been active in getting the ponds cleaned up along the Dan River and understands the protection of our water supply. He thanked the Town Council.

Mayor Bringle and the Town Council thanked Senator McLaurin for representing our community. He stated that Sen. McLaurin reached out to the Mayor during the last major snow storm and thanked him for that.

Mayor Bringle recognized Greg Edds and Judy Klusman who are running for County Commissioner.

Barbara Doby – 805 N. Main Street

Mrs. Doby stated that the countdown is on for the 125th Anniversary Celebration for the Town of China Grove. She stated that there will be horse and buggy rides and invited Senator McLaurin to the events. She stated that though China Grove may be a small town, we are very big in heart. She stated that the Town definitely needs the roads repaired. She stated that she is looking forward to the Council participating at the Roller Mill and invited them to come to the weenie roast, buggy rides and tour the Roller Mill. She stated that there will be a small ceremony at the Roller Mill as well.

Mrs. Doby offered up a prayer for the Town Council and community.

NEW BUSINESS

I) China Grove Police Department K-9 Request

Mr. Deal stated that information has been provided concerning a K-9 unit requested by Chief Kluttz. He stated that the Council needs to be involved in this area to consider the costs associated with this unit. He stated that this could be useful with confiscation of drugs, etc.

Chief Kluttz stated that there are very minimum costs that will be assumed with this K-9 unit because of donations. He stated that he is not asking for an increase in budget to fund this program. He stated that he feels comfortable that money will be seized through this program and expects positive results.

Mr. Withers stated that he feels that Chief Kluttz has done a good job providing information in the past but feels this was started before approval but knows that Chief Kluttz will make sure the program is well taken care of. He stated that he hopes the officers involved will be trained adequately and insured.

Mr. Upright asked how often a K-9 is used in China Grove.

Chief Kluttz stated that it is utilized every other month.

Mr. Linn stated that there are some times that they are not assisted by other agents when needed and feels this would be beneficial. He stated that Landis is also attending this training along with the China Grove officers.

Mr. Stroud made a motion to approve the K-9 unit and expenses as outlined by Chief Kluttz. Mr. Withers seconded the motion. Mayor Bringle called for discussion.

Mayor Bringle asked why two units are needed.

Chief Kluttz stated that there are two available and the cost should be very minimal.

Mayor Bringle asked who owns the dog and what happens if the officer leaves.

Chief Kluttz stated that the dog leaves with the officer. He stated that all training and documentation will be kept to cover the liability by leasing the dog from the handler for \$1 per year.

Mr. Deal asked how much this will cost to train the officers.

Chief Kluttz stated that there should be no extra costs except if they are called when not on duty. He stated that dog injuries are only covered while on duty. He stated that he will gladly accept extra money but does not need it.

Mayor Bringle called for a vote. The vote carried unanimously.

Chief Kluttz presented the logos being installed on the SRO cars. He stated that Officer Helms has been appointed as the SRO for the middle and elementary school.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Bringle invited everyone to the 125th Anniversary Celebration Saturday at 2:30pm. He presented the display to the Town Council and audience from Rowan County. He thanked those who are working to organize this celebration.

Chief Gledhill stated that the siren will sound tomorrow morning at 9:30 am as part of the County-wide tornado drill. He stated that this is a good time of year to think about these things.

Mr. Seaford asked how the citizens will be notified.

Chief Gledhill stated that this is a statewide drill. He stated that it may be on the news.

Mayor Bringle stated that the County has advertised this in the newspaper and online at the Salisbury Post.

Mr. Deal reminded the Town Council of the Budget Retreat next Tuesday at 5:30 pm.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURN

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda A. Eller, Town Clerk

Donald E. Bringle, Mayor