

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the China Grove Town Council

Tuesday, May 4th, 2010
7:00 p.m.

China Grove Town Hall
China Grove, North Carolina

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bringle called the meeting of May 4, 2010 to order and welcomed all in attendance to join in the Pledge of Allegiance. 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 4, 2010 with an addition under Other Business I) Employee Recognition. Mr. Linn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Upright made a motion to adopt the April 6, 2010 regular meeting minutes. Mr. Overcash seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no comments.

NEW BUSINESS

I) Centralina Council of Governments Guest Speaker – Bill Dustin

Mr. Dustin thanked the Council for allowing him to be present. He stated that he makes visits to the local governments through the course of the year. He stated that he has been with Centralina for over 25 years. He stated that he served for a short period as China Grove's zoning administrator. He stated that they appreciate the Town's membership with COG. He stated that Mr. Seaford serves on the COG board of delegates and executive board. He stated that the COG serve in many capacities for local governments and that China Grove is a member of the storm-water local partnership allowing them equipment, materials and other items for the amount of money that the municipality is allocated. He stated that their membership dues are about twenty-five cents per capita. He provided some handouts to the Council.

Mayor Bringle thanked Mr. Dustin and asked if there are any questions from the council. There were no questions.

Mr. Dustin thanked the Council for allowing him to speak.

II) Rowan Express Guest Speaker/Update – Phil Conrad

Mr. Conrad reviewed a PowerPoint presentation for the Council.

III) Slow Moving Vehicle Ordinance

Mr. Lee Withers provided a copy of another municipality's Slow Moving Vehicle Ordinance and asked the council to review and possibly set up a committee to review the ordinance for changes and recommendations.

Mr. Linn stated that he thought it would be a great thing.

Mr. Withers stated that it would basically allow golf carts, Gators, etc. on the streets of China Grove with approval by Police Chief.

Mayor Bringle stated that this particular ordinance is modeled closely to China Grove. He stated that it is an easy and straightforward policy. He stated that the criteria would have to be met along with proof of insurance and vehicle approved by Chief of Police. He stated that he thinks it could benefit the Town but could also create problems. He stated that there could be some revenue generated through the process. He stated that he would like to form a committee and have this item brought back to the Council at the next meeting. He appointed Chief Kluttz, Mr. Upright, Mr. Pless and Mr. Brooke for legal matters to a committee.

Mr. Upright asked the penalties for operating in violation.

Mr. Kluttz stated that it would be a violation of local government ordinance.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Bringle stated that the tabled agenda item from the previous meeting.

Ms. Jackson stated that there was not a quorum at the previous planning meeting so they were not able to give a recommendation.

Mr. Seaford stated that there are a dozen or more areas that have planters but no plants. He stated that these could be a trip hazard.

Mr. Pless stated that this topic is well versed and he would be open to something cost effective.

Mayor Bringle asked Mr. Pless to be in touch with the chairperson of the Appearance Committee to see what is going on. He stated that there are some merchants who want it and some who do not. He stated that he supports fixing these areas.

Mr. Withers stated that there will be a Farmers Market downtown on Fridays from 4-7 at the Historical Society Roller Mill. He stated that they are pushing for a grower's market as of July 1st by Farmers of Rowan County. He stated that up until that point, they are being allowed to sell other produce. He stated there should be a press release starting tomorrow. He stated that they are discussing a grand opening date. He stated that they have filed the proper permits and covered the sign ordinance with Ms. Jackson. He stated that Farmers must be members of the Historical Society to be able to sell produce. He stated that the market will run from May to September.

Mayor Bringle thanked Mrs. Barbara Doby for what they have done for the Town of China Grove.

Mr. Withers asked for the Town to consider a donation to the project.

Mr. Pless stated that the sidewalk project began last week. He stated that they are moving forward on track.

Mr. Ketner stated that they have saw cut 1,100 feet. He stated that they are trying to get far enough ahead before the concrete company comes in. He stated that they have not received complaints.

Mr. Pless recognized Mrs. Bopp for receiving her certification for Finance Officer. He stated that it took a good bit of time and effort to get to this point. He also recognized her for being on the verge of completing Leadership Rowan.

Mayor Bringle asked Mr. Pless to let the Salisbury Post know.

Mayor Bringle stated that there was a Singing in the Park event at Hannah Park Friday evening.

Mr. Pless stated that the event went well. He stated that the Park Advisory Board has made an effort to get citizens involved. He stated that there were a couple of council members present that may have comments.

Mayor Bringle stated that there should be more advertisements for the next event and appreciated everyone's efforts.

Mayor Bringle stated that there is a meeting May 6th at 6:00 for budget purposes.

Mr. Pless stated that the Public Hearing for June 1st, 2010 needs to be set.

Mr. Overcash made a motion to set a public hearing on June 1, 2010 for the adoption of the 2010-2011 budget. Mr. Withers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Overcash stated that they are serving about 450 children through the baseball program. He stated that the Town helps tremendously and wanted to thank the Town for the work and monetary contributions to the youth program.

Mayor Bringle asked Mr. Ketner to spray for bugs at the concession stand.

Mr. Linn stated that there was a major bust on Second Avenue and asked the Council to give praise to Officer Walther for his hard work and long hours.

ADJOURN

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda A. Eller, Town Clerk

Donald E. Bringle, Mayor