

Town of Youngsville
P. O. Box 190
118 N. Cross Street
Youngsville, NC 27596
(919) 556-5073
Fax (919) 556-0995
Townyngs@townofyoungsville.org

MINUTES

JANUARY 17, 2014

9:00AM

WORK SESSION

YOUNGSVILLE TOWN HALL

Mayor Fonzie Flowers called the Work Session of the Town of Youngsville Board of Commissioners to order at 9:05am. In attendance were Commissioners Terry Hedlund, Joseph Johnson, Larry Wiggins, Catherine Redd, and Graham Stallings. Also in attendance were Town Administrator Bill Tatum, Town Clerk / Tax Collector Emily Hurd, and Parks and Recreation Director Pete Gibson. A representative from the Wake Weekly was also present.

The next item on the agenda was Citizen's Comments. There were no comments.

The first item for discussion on the agenda was the Parks and Recreation financial plan. Gibson handed out the YPR Long Term Plan. He explained that they want to make the big field into two smaller fields that will help bring all of the games to Luddy Park instead of splitting them at YES. He stated that the drainage needs to be fixed on the bottom field. Gibson explained that Franklin County received money in lieu of parks and recreation from developers that don't leave green space or park areas in their developments and this money is set aside specifically for parks and recreation. He also stated that it was dispersed based on local schools. Gibson stated that he has been unable to get in touch with the Franklin County Finance Officer to get the total amount of these funds. Mayor Flowers will get in touch with the Franklin County Managers Office and Commissioner Stallings will get in touch with Mr. Murray of the Franklin County Finance Office to help get this information. Gibson stated that he is also working on getting other sources of funds for these projects, including selling naming rights to the fields to sponsors and grants. His hopes are that this will also help in bring tournaments to Youngsville which, in turn, will bring in more customers to the local businesses during those games. Commissioner Hedlund mentioned the possibility of raising taxes if other funds were not available. Gibson stated that they are looking for outside funds based on grants and corporate sponsorship. Gibson explained that they were getting complaints but were not getting any volunteers to help with maintenance such as mowing the grass. He stated that they were trying to make a nice place and draw in more people. Mayor Flowers asked if it would be a cost savings if they went to a yearly registration fee that covered both spring and fall baseball and Gibson stated that they were looking into it. Gibson stated that they were also no longer taking late registrations so that there won't be an abundance of children on teams. They like for each player to play three innings per game and if they take on players after registration, some of the children won't be able to play as much per game. Commissioner Stallings asked what Gibson needed from the Board of Commissioners and Gibson stated that he wanted help, such as contacts for sponsors. Gibson stated that he wanted to make these improvements to the fields but he

understood the difficulty for the Board of Commissioners with only 10 participants inside of Town Limits. Commissioner Stallings stated that we have not raised taxes in four years and wanted to know if the Board should sit and do nothing or increase the taxes and move forward. He stated that we can't sit still and do nothing to help save this program. Tatum explained that Butner maintained the facilities but the program was run fully by the Parks and Recreation Department. He stated that if the program was self sufficient, then that would open approximately \$50,000 to maintain the fields. He stated that we needed to prioritize what the Town needs to improve on and Commissioner Redd stated that was why the Town needed to have a Capital Improvement Plan. She stated that she was looking for a time frame to go along with the financial portion of the plan that was presented. Tatum stated that we were getting the information on the applications as to which schools they attended so that could possibly help in getting the funds from Franklin County. Commissioner Wiggins stated that we have both immediate needs and long term plans and Commissioner Johnson stated that he would get with the Advisory Board and put together a 10 Year Plan for the February Board Meeting. Commissioner Redd stated that she felt this would help get more sponsors.

The second item was to continue the discussion on the roundabout. Commissioner Hedlund stated that will tie into the planning for the growth in Youngsville. He explained that we are currently failing and this will help bring up the intersection to a better rating. The LAPP program will pay for 80% and the Town will be responsible for finding the funding for the other 20%. Commissioner Redd stated that this will tie into the sidewalk grant and will improve the flow. Mayor Flowers stated that he knew there were concerns about the funding and the longer trucks not being able to make the turns. He asked if there were any other concerns. Commissioner Stallings stated that he had concerns about the money. He stated that eliminating the trucks would be an asset but was concerned about a back log at the Main and Cross Street intersection. Commissioner Redd stated that intersection was not big enough to put in a roundabout there and Commissioner Hedlund stated that there have not been any studies of that area yet. Commissioner Stallings if we had the support of DOT and Commissioner Redd stated yes. Commissioner Hedlund stated that this solution worked in Ohio. Mayor Flowers stated that he understood that this was not a 100% fix but it would make the situation much better. Commissioner Hedlund stated that we would need to complete the plan by June 17th and we needed to vote soon in a regular meeting. Mayor Flowers stated that he was in support. Commissioner Redd stated that the Envision Youngsville plan helped to bring notice of people like CAMPO and the DOT who wrote the plan for us. She stated that she supports this as well. Mayor Flowers stated that this situation would only get worse if we didn't do something to help. Commissioner Wiggins stated that he wasn't against it but it was a lot of money as well as there being issues at the Main and Cross Street intersection. He wanted to make sure that if we spent this money, that it would fix the problem. Commissioner Stallings asked who would pay for the property that would be taken to make enough room for the roundabout and Commissioner Hedlund stated that he would check with Clark to see. Tatum stated that the original estimated cost included the price on property acquisition. Commissioner Hedlund stated that they would be looking to get as much funding as possible to help pay for this. Commissioner Hedlund stated that this was our second opportunity and we probably won't get another chance. Commissioner Stallings stated that he supported it and we should move forward with it.

Commissioner Hedlund stated that it shows the Town that we are trying to fix the problem.

The third item for discussion was the paving and patching of roadways. Mayor Flowers stated that there were some potholes on Winston Street that needed to be taken care of. He stated that some repairs are being made to the 300 block of NW Railroad Street within the next couple of weeks. Commissioner Redd stated that she hasn't seen anything in her section that needs to be repaved. Commissioner Hedlund stated that we did need to get a Plan together to prioritize where we need to start and maybe do a section of town at a time. Hurd stated that there was \$129,787 in the Powell Bill and Tatum stated that was not a lot of money when you considered the costs of paving. Tatum asked if the Board did not want to start any paving projects at this time other than patching problem areas. Commissioner Hedlund asked when the funding ran out and Hurd stated that we would need to use at least \$35,000 within the next year and a half. Commissioner Redd asked if the Board wanted to just go ahead and do the patching along with the 300 Block of NW Railroad Street and then discuss this again. Hurd stated that the next session would be April 18th and we can discuss this more after the weather has warmed. Commissioner Wiggins asked what work Powell Bill covered and Hurd stated that it covered the paving, patching, sidewalks, some of the road signs, and anything in the right of way to include drainage. Hurd stated that she knew that some of the ditches needed to be worked on as well and that can be discussed at the April session. Tatum stated that he can't get anyone to bid on cleaning up the ditches and Commissioner Johnson stated that he can find someone to bid on that work. There were some concerns about the utilities that are buried in the right of way hampering any efforts to repair the ditches. Mayor Flowers stated that we have an idea of what needs to be handled immediately and we will bring the rest of it back at the next session.

Commissioner Hedlund wanted to discuss road cleanup. He stated that he, along with the Kiwanis Club, have tried to keep the roadways cleaned up and he felt that it would be good if we could do a "Town Day". He stated that Mayor Flowers has helped him before and wanted to know if the Board would be willing to set a date to help with cleanup on Holden Road and 1A. They decided to do a cleanup after the next session in April.

The fourth item for discussion concerned Christmas Decorations. After a brief discussion, it was decided to hold off on Christmas Decorations but to include some funds in the upcoming budget for banners on Main Street.

The fifth item for discussion was a presentation for adopting a minimal tax bill. Hurd explained that State Statute allowed for towns to set a minimal tax amount. This is due to the fact that the costs of collecting smaller bills are sometimes larger than the bill itself. She stated that she did not recommend anything lower than \$3.00 but could go as high as \$5.00. Hurd explained that she has already spent \$1.40 on collecting some bills, two of which are less than that amount. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed to have this put on the February Board Meeting to adopt the Resolution for a \$5.00 minimal tax bill.

Tatum stated that we would have to bring a Resolution for the ABC election before the Board again in February due to some changes in the laws.

Commissioner Redd stated that Wendy Jones is taking over YABA as both Janis Cyrus and Michele Price had retired. She stated that she felt that the Board needed to be aware of what direction that they will be preceding and get more involved. Tatum stated that he, Mayor Flowers and Brenda Fuller of the Franklin County Chamber had an upcoming meeting. It was also suggested that Mayor Flowers set up a one on one meeting with Wendy Jones to see what the future of YABA is.

The work session adjourned at 11:22 am.