

# Town of Walnut Cove

## **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

**October 8, 2019**

**Mayor Charles Mitchell**

**Commissioners Present:**

Danny Hairston

Thomas Mitchell

Elwood Mabe

Charles Byron - Absent

Staff present:

Town Manager Kim Greenwood

Town Clerk Amanda Bryant

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM at the Walnut Cove Senior Center by Mayor Mitchell. Wesley Durrell gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS-**

- i. The Cove Group. November 4, 2019 at 6:30 PM. Oma's Coffee Shop
- ii. Walnut Cove Volunteer Fire Dept; Regular Meeting. 7:00 PM. Thursday, November 7, 2019, Walnut Cove Vol. Fire Dept.
- iii. Walnut Cove Board of Commissioners; Regular Meeting. Tuesday, November 12, 2019. Walnut Cove Senior Center.
- iv. Town Recycling; Oct. 18, 2019 and November 1, 2019.
- v. Planning/Zoning Board Meeting. October 17, 2019 @ 6:30pm. Walnut Cove Public Library.

- vi. County League Diner (hosted by County of Stokes) October 17, 2019 at 6:30PM.
- vii. VFW Flag Dedication. Fowler Park, October 17, 2019. 1PM
- viii. Halloween Street Celebration. October 31, 2019 5-8PM

**PUBLIC COMMENTS – 0**

No public comments

**ADJUSTMENTS/CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA-**

Add on addendum Item G under new business. Two separate resolutions.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Mabe to accept the agenda with the mentioned adjustment and seconded by Commissioner Hairston. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Consent Agenda**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Hairston to approve the minutes from September 20, 2019 Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mabe. Motion carried unanimously.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Fall Clean Up Report.**

- a. Town Clerk Amanda Bryant gave a verbal report with the estimated total of 30 tons of debris removed from the Town, this does not include the totals from the metal as well as the electronic/small appliances. Mrs. Bryant stated she would have detailed report in November including our cost for the Fall Clean up.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. LPA Update**

- a. Town Manager Greenwood gave the Board an update regarding the LPA of Rural Hall which has closed. Considering the increase in sales due to the Rural Hall office closing the girls have managed the extra work tremendously well. The State is happy with our Tag office and the public seems happy as well.

### **B. VFW Flag Dedication Details (Attachment B)**

- a. Town Manager Greenwood explained/ included in their packet was a flyer for Fowler Park Flag Dedication on October 17, 2019. The new flag will be very large and the Town will assist the VFW.

### **C. Halloween**

- a. Town Manager Greenwood gave the Board an update explaining the State had approved our street closure request from the ABC Store to Third Street. For Halloween night we will have 3 police officers, the Town Public Works department and the Walnut Cove Fire Department will all be present to help with crowd control.
- b. The Town will be set up at the gazebo and the Cove Group has a lot planned for the night as well.

**D. NC Capital Management Trust**

- a. Included in the packet for the Board of Commissioners and the Mayor was a paper booklet from NC Capital Management Trust with explains how the Town's investment accounts are reinvested.

**E. Wastewater Treatment Plant Analysis (Attachment D)**

- a. Town Manager Greenwood reviewed the previous information regarding the Wastewater Treatment Plant and the grant the Town obtained to dredge one of the lagoons. Dr. Burchell reported the previous permitted level of 10ML, the Town was at 11.07 has now been lowered to 8.53 after the lagoon had been dredged. The money spent by the Town was well spent. There was a copy of the report included in the Board's packet.

**F. Children's Outdoor Center for Academic Growth (Att E)**

- a. Town Manager Greenwood introduced the Board to Ms. Debbie Freitag, who is the Outreach Coordinator. Ms. Freitag explained to the Board the plan for the Outdoor Classroom at Southeastern Middle School, which will include raised vegetable beds. This will be the largest outdoor school which will help bring in Federal funds. Southeastern Middle School has lost all of its Federal Funding and has no home economic classes. There are currently 4 unused classrooms at SEMS. The goal is to help create the outdoor classrooms to teach children how to grow a garden to help ease the food shortage at home. If the program is successful they will be able to share the harvest with

other schools as well as be able to start outdoor classrooms in the county middle schools.

- b. Ms. Freitag stated they hope to be able to give to East Stokes Outreach with food donations. She explained they are needing the support of the community to make the program successful. They are currently applying for grants. They no longer have the backpack program at SEMS, 65% of students are on the Free or Reduced lunch. She has been in contact with Brian Hartman from the Stokes County Ag Extension Office. They are hoping to reach their first goal by the end of fall.
- c. Vulcan has agreed to match \$1 for \$1 up to \$1000.00. Commissioner Mabe asked what is the goal to reach? Ms. Freitag stated their first goal would be \$3500.00, this would cover the cost of the dirt, constructing the raised beds and the initial garden cost. They hope to eventually have more beds as well as install a hydroponics and aquaponics system.
- d. Commissioner Hairston asked if Ms. Freitag was here for a donation. Ms. Freitag stated of course by mainly for support and man power when the time comes. Commissioner Hairston asked what amount of donation was she needing? Town Manager Greenwood suggested a \$500 donation, Commissioner Hairston stated he wanted to do better than that to help our students in the community.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Hairston to give the Children's Outdoor Classroom a donation of \$1000.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **G. Approval of Resolutions for Water Supply**

- a. Town Manager Greenwood presented the resolution for the Local Water Supply Plan.
- b. Town Manager Greenwood presented the resolution for the Water Shortage Plan

**A motion was made by Commissioner Hairston to approve the Resolution for the Local Water Supply plan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mabe. Motion carried unanimously.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell to approve the Resolution for the Water Shortage Plan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hairston. Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Town Manager's Report**

1. We have completed and submitted the two grants regarding our water mapping and regionalization study. We hope to have their decision in the coming weeks.
2. We have abated several of the Dept. of Labor violations and will continue to make improvements on our facility. When the clean-up program is completed, we plan on cleaning our own facility to be in compliance.
3. The board authorized the changing of our telephone plan. Riverstreet has begun the initial phase of changing the town office system.
4. I have attached a letter from the Fire Marshal indicating that clean up on the burned property can begin with the property owner. Our Code Enforcement Officer has been in contact with the property owner.
5. We have completed several patching areas in Town and installed a couple of permanent speed bumps. We are ordering some new signage for various areas of Town.

6. The Consumer Confidence Report 2018 will be available on our webpage and we will publish a link that will make the report available. We will advertise the link on the next water bill statement at the end of the month.
7. The town financial audit will begin this month. The staff has prepared the required reports for review.
8. The Halloween plans for the Town responsibilities are almost completed. I have been in contact with the Sheriff's office and Fire Department in coordinating the safety aspect of the event.
9. I commend the Town staff for their efforts during a very busy September. With the closing and short staff at the LPA, they still recorded the highest profit month in our history. Our Admin staff completed their regular duties as well as prepare for an audit and the fall clean up program. Our public works folks have maintained their regular duties as well as picked up approximately 20 dumpster loads. We thank the Mayor, Board and Town for the privilege to serve.

### **GENERAL CONCERNS OF THE BOARD**

**Commissioner Hairston made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Mabe seconded the motion. Upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

**The meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM.**

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Date

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Charles Mitchell  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Amanda Bryant  
Town Clerk