

2011

TOWN OF BLACK
CREEK

Barbara Aycock
Town Administrator

Mayor Howard Moore
Commissioners:

Lucas
Franks
Godwin
Smith
Dawson

Town of Black Creek Town Board Meeting

Date: Aug 9, 2011

Time: 7:30 pm

Place: Black Creek Town Board Room

Present: Mayor Howard Moore, Commissioners Godwin,
Lucas, Dawson, Franks

Absent: Commissioner Smith

Minutes Taped: Yes

Quorum Present: Yes

Public Hearing

Mayor Moore: Before our regular scheduled meeting we are going to have a public hearing, which I now declare open. This public hearing is to hear comments from the public on the towns intent to apply for a grant from the USDA to renovate the town hall. The notice of this public hearing has been posted and advertised in the newspaper as required by law and a copy of the information has been available at the town hall for view. We have had no comments or letters from the public so I now declare this public hearing closed.

Regular Meeting

Mayor Moore: The regular meeting for August 9th 2011 is now in session. The first thing is to pay the bills. Do I hear a motion? Motion to pay the bills made by Commissioner Lucas, second by Commissioner Godwin, all in favor say I, all opposed, motion carried unanimously. The next thing is to accept the July minutes. Motion to approve the minutes made by Commissioner Godwin, second by Commissioner Dawson, all in favor say I, all opposed, motion carried unanimously. The next thing is to approve this grant and this resolution for this \$41,839.00 for the meeting room renovation by the USDA. If anybody has any

questions on this Barbara has the information she can provide for you. Motion made by Commissioner Lucas to approve the grant, second by Commissioner Franks, all in favor say I, all opposed, motion carried unanimously. Mr. Daniel Van Lear from Upper Coastal Plain RPO is next on the agenda.

Daniel Van Lear: Good evening, my name is Daniel Van Lear from Upper Coastal Plains RPO. I was here about two years ago to discuss the Wilson Comprehensive Transportation Plan we've been working on. We've completed the plan and we are now bringing it back to the town's asking that the towns adopt their portion; I am requesting you adopt Black Creek city limits portion tonight and endorse the rest of the plan for Wilson County. I believe some information was sent to you prior to this meeting. I have a few maps I can pass out for the plan for Wilson County. I can answer any questions that you may have about the plans and maps. What you have before you is three different maps. These maps were developed by NCDOT in conjunction with Wilson County employees and other members throughout the county. What this plan shows is a comprehensive transportation plan, meaning that it takes into account not only roads and highway purposes for cars, but also pedestrian and bicycles as well as transit element. You have three different maps in front of you. One is a highway map which is the big map that looks like a county. Then you have two smaller maps with breakdowns for the towns. One is for bicycles, one is for pedestrians. Again, what we are going to ask for is the board to adopt a resolution for what's going on inside Black Creek and an endorsement for the rest of the county. I can take any questions that you may have. Mayor Moore: This is the first I've seen it. Do you need this tonight? This is the first time anybody has had a chance to see it. You certainly can, I suppose I can come back next month. We had sent some information out, and I did not know there were some problems with the town's e-mails. What this plan is a 30 year plan. It looks at the current infrastructure of the town as well as the county based on traffic and on conditions of the road. They take those and project them out 30 years to see what the volume count may be at that time. Based on those projections they make recommendations on what kind of improvements may be necessary for these areas and roads. For Black Creek for instance the highway map. There are no real recommendations for highways. The volume counts and the information that was gathered by the NCDOT just did not merit improvements. There were not enough congestion or safety concerns that would merit roads to be fixed, recommendations for bicycles and pedestrians are the only merit for improvement, we recommend that as needing improvement which would mean bringing it up to current DOT standard. This allows for either striping on that road to allow for the bicycles to have a secure place to ride. There will possibly be repaving of that road as well. What this plan does is just make recommendations that it needs improvement. If money becomes available it goes to NCDOT for them to decide what kind of design measures are necessary to make those improvements. So this plan does not have any fiscal constraints to it, it's simply recommendations. It basically puts a plan in place if money becomes available, we can say we've already put some thought into this project and we know that these roads need fixing and it

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builds that project up a little bit higher than other projects because thought has been put in place. In terms of the pedestrian map, it shows the current infrastructure in place and makes recommendations to connect to the downtown area. Those are recommendations as to current DOT operations are today. The General Assembly recently passed something called the complete streets incentive which means that any road improvement or new construction is done so in a way that not only bicycle, but pedestrian are considered as well. So those improvements recommended for Black Creek in terms of pedestrian and even bicycles are in place. If the town were to apply for a Safe Route to School Grant later on when they become available, they would be able to use this plan and use those improvements recommended for Black Creek in terms of pedestrian and even bicycles and state that some thought has been put in place and that we have a plan and some recommendations for bicycle routes and pedestrian side walk elements. That would add points onto the grant application. We would ask that the board adopt the section for Black Creek, and endorse for the rest of the county. Mayor Moore: Motion made by Commissioner Dawson to adopt this plan, second by Commissioner Godwin, all in favor say I, all opposed, motion carried unanimously. Daniel Van Lear: Thank you very much. I will leave my card with you. My position as Rural Transportation Planner for the RPO is to act as a transportation planner for my 4 counties that I represent as well as all the municipalities within that area. When it comes to transportation there are a lot of questions that can be asked. I am paid to provide as much information as possible. Thank you all very much.

COMMISSIONER BUSINESS

Roland Lucas: Barbara has got a \$550.00 refund from a scholarship and she wants to use it to pay for all the expenses for an event in New Bern called the Master Municipal Clerks Academy. I make a motion that she uses that money to go to that session. Mayor Moore: Motion made by Commissioner Lucas, second By Commissioner Dawson, all in favor make a motion that she use that money to go to that class. Mayor Moore: Motion made by Commissioner Lucas, second By Commissioner Dawson, all in favor say I, all opposed, motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Lucas: Also we've got a training session for Logics, its 2 day training in Raleigh August 25th and 26th, so I make a motion that Cindy and Candy go to that. Mayor Moore: Motion made by Commissioner Lucas, second by Commissioner Godwin, all in favor say I, all opposed, motion carried unanimously.

Elton Franks: I just need to make a motion for us to purchase 2 tasers for the police department. The money has been budgeted in the years budget. Mayor Moore: Motion made by Commissioner Franks, second by Commissioner Godwin, all in favor say I, all opposed, motion carried unanimously.

Roland Godwin: Pass
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Ellen Dawson: In reference to the golf cart situation. I make a motion that we discuss this with the attorney and get our ordinance guidelines in order, and table it until the next meeting. Mayor Moore: Motion made by Commissioner Dawson, second by Commissioner Godwin, all in favor say I, all opposed, motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT HEAD BUSINESS

Joe Fortson: Pass

Greg Gates: Pass

Barbara Aycock: I brought to the boards attention about the workshop about this Green Project Preserve Grant/Loan. We have already had a planning grant for \$40,000.00 to upgrade our water tower and do some other things. It's has come to my attention the projects that it will cover are a lot of the things that are on the wish list on this planning grant. If the board approves, we would like to put in an application and see what is available, and also if the NC Rural Center has any pre grant money I would like to investigate that also. Mayor Moore: Motion to apply made by Commissioner Godwin, second by Commissioner Lucas, all in favor say I, all opposed, motion carried unanimously. Mayor Moore: Can somebody give us a progress report on the sewer. Barbara Aycock: We have got approval from the local government commissions, so we are ready to go. I am supposed to meet with the BB & T Bank on the 16th to finalize the paper work, for our interim part of the loan. The LGC sent us a note the next day after the meeting. Julia Johnson/USDA and I are supposed to have a meeting the 25th, and we will do some finalization on how we are supposed to respond to the federal government reports we have to do. After that we're ready to go. Also we have nearly finished our audit. The auditors were very pleased with everything. Candy, Cindy, and the staff done a very good job having everything prepared for the auditors and they were able to complete most of the work at the office in one day. Mayor Moore: Last time we voted to panel the police station, and that has been completed, I think.

AUDIENCE

Hubert Godwin: The main thing I'm up here for tonight is grass at 308 Mercer Street. I came by to pay my light bill last Thursday and I asked if my neighbor had been sent a letter about cutting the grass. I was informed that they had to go back thru the letters and look and see. A little later I was told that he was not sent one. I've got some pictures that I want you to look at. I took those pictures on the 26th of July. In my conversation with Mike Wilson he said to make a work order out at the town hall. But that afternoon about 6 p.m. my neighbor came by with his lawn mower and cut the grass. I'm wondering how the town let the grass get that tall and he didn't get a letter. I had called up here a week before and told them I lived on Mercer Street and was complaining about the grass. They told me the letters were sent out that week. But it was August 8th before it got

cut. Were the letters sent out like I was told? In some places it was taller than the yard stick. That is what we look at when we go out our door. I ride my bike 5 or 6 times a week and I have not seen grass in a yard as tall as that was. I've talked to people at the post office that said that they have had tags on their door saying their grass needed cutting. Mayor and Commissioner Dawson stated that this was an oversight that the grass needed cutting at that location. The board knows I'm up here often about that grass. I would like to help you try and figure out how to prevent it from continuing. I believe Greg Gates told me he was in charge of grass. As many times as the town employees ride thru town they should see it and somebody needs to report it. I'd liked to stop coming up here complaining about grass. My wife asked me to express her concerns for that dumpster in my neighbor's yard. That thing has been there for about 2 years. Pete comes up there and walks around the house, and then he leaves. His son said he and his wife are going to move in there if they ever get it fixed. Would the town be willing for them to move it across the street? If it was sitting next to one of the commissioners yards would it sit there for 2 years? Another concern for me, there is a light back here on the walking trail that burns 24 hours a day. Mayor Moore: They have worked on it several times and it always goes back to burning again. The last thing, I know I have mentioned about the police department, my tax dollars are going for the gasoline for the cars. They drive all the way out to Yank Rd, and then Hwy 117. The way the economy is when he is out of the city limits, he is not doing the job that our tax dollars are paying for. Mayor Moore: The town has property at the water tank and at community grocery too. Godwin: About the grass, Greg have you decided how you are going to handle that? Greg Gates: Yes, I've got to tighten up on the grass and that park light. I'll just tell my wife that nobody had an answer about the dumpster. It's hard to say if he's working on the house or not there is no electricity there. He's not staying there and you know if a person is not staying in town they don't give a hoot about the place. Greg Gates: If I'm not mistaken there is a time limit on the permit he got after the fire. I will talk to the county manager and see about it. Godwin: Like they used to tell me in baseball, if you don't go by the rules, whats the use in making rules. Somebody must have talked to the people on the other side of me because they are doing about 75% better. Greg Gates: Would it be alright if I just touch base with you in several weeks to see if you have come up with anything. Thank you Hubert.

Mayor Moore: If there is nothing else, meeting
adjourned

Barbara Aycock
Secretary to the Board

Mayor Howard Moore

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