

April 8th, 2014

7 PM

Randleman, NC

A regular meeting of the Randleman Board of Aldermen was held on the above date at the Randleman Community Center with the following members present:

Bucky Jernigan) Mayor
Melissa Blalock) Alderwoman
Ray Hudson, Jr.) Aldermen
Mike Dawkins)
Eric Ward)
Cliff Bowman)
Nick Holcomb) Interim City Manager (absent)
Ron Niland) Consultant
Bob Wilhoit) Attorney

Hugh Spaulding, Pastor of South Plainfield Church gave a prayer.

Call Meeting to Order

The Mayor called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes of February 25th, & March 4th, 2014, Investments & Department Reports.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Blalock, seconded by Alderman Ward, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes, investments, and department reports.

Public Comments

Austin Parker and Joey Dodd, representatives from Scout Troop 531 were in attendance to discuss the Motor – N – Monday event that the scouts will sponsor as a fun raising event for their troop. The event will run from March through October in Commerce Square.

Pre-Audit Authorization Form

According to NCGS §159-28.a, all purchases and obligations must be authorized previous to its purchase or obligation and must include a signed certificate stating that there is sufficient budget for the amount of the obligation. The statute authorizes the Finance and Deputy Finance Officers to sign the statement along with any others approved by the Board. The request was to authorize the City Manager and Purchasing Director be given the authority to approve expenditures as well.

A motion was made by Alderman Dawkins, seconded by Alderwoman Blalock, and unanimously carried to authorize the City Manager and Purchasing Director to sign for purchases and obligations.

Report on Storm Damage/FEMA

The City has been recovering from the March 7th winter weather event. Costs to the City include, overtime/additional man hours involved in disaster, disposal of brush, stripped wastewater plant motor, and damage to ladder truck, etc.

FEMA will be hosting a Public Assistance Applicant Workshop on Monday. This is a very important step for the City to apply for federal financial assistance related to the ice storm.

Public Hearing

The Mayor stated that the Public Hearing is the next step in the process of applying to the Local Government Commission for a loan. The debt service on this project is projected to be \$115,000/year for ten years. Existing debt service in our budget (\$116,000 for Fire Dept. equipment) that comes off, could be used to accomplish these projects without the need for additional general fund revenues.

The Board has already authorized the downtown capital project, if the loan is approved it would be used to reimburse the City for that project. Another commitment we have is the \$50,000 match on the \$200,000 State Trail Grant for our greenway. This step is necessary to apply for the loan. Before any money would be obligated, the board will have to vote to establish each individual capital project, except for the Downtown project which is already established. The amount of the application to the LCG for a loan is \$975,000.

A motion was made by Alderman Bowman, seconded by Alderman Hudson, and unanimously carried to open the public hearing.

Those speaking at the public hearing were:

Gloria King, 434 High Point Street, Ms. King stated that the Animal Awareness Society saves the city much money by their organization volunteering their time to address the feral cats in the city.

Kathy Ivie, 611 N. Main Street, Ms. Ivie stated that the Animal Awareness is run solely by volunteers.

Keith Fogleman, 103 Fogleman Lane, Mr. Fogleman stated that the city should not get involved in building an animal shelter and that the city tax payers should not be taxed to support it and that Randolph and Guilford County should help. He also stated that the Animal Awareness does a great job.

Sharon Cockman, 123 Randolph Street, stated that she agreed with Mr. Fogleman's comments and that the money could be better spent for a homeless shelter or a battered women's shelter.

Ann Marie Newton, 3599 Applewood Rd, stated that this is a high dollar amount to place on the taxpayers and that more information is needed.

Rodney Hardy, 708 N. Main St, stated that he is concerned with all the money that the city is spending. He also stated that Mr. Niland had previously stated that no tax payer's money would be needed for the Commerce Square project and now the city needs to borrow money. Mr. Hardy stated that he thinks a tax increase will be needed. Mr. Hardy also stated that it's a waste of tax payer's money to have an Interim City Manager and a Consultant.

Brenda Wilson, 406 Park Street, stated that she agrees with Mr. Hardy's comments.

Raymond Wall, 741 Holly Grove Dr, asked who would provide the upkeep of an animal shelter and that there may be other public needs for city funds.

Dottie King, 408 Shaw Street, stated that she is in favor of an animal shelter and that she cares for many cats in her own home.

Jeff Kinney, 4949 Old High Point Street, stated that the city has no business being in the cat business.

There being no one further wishing to speak, a motion was made by Alderman Dawkins to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Alderman Hudson and unanimously carried.

Consultant's Report

The May meeting will be held at the St. Paul's Museum.

The State Championship Food Truck event will be held in Commerce Square on June 20 & 21st, 2014.

The June meeting of the Board of Aldermen will be held at the new location behind City Hall. (105 W Naomi Street)

The utility work will begin soon on the Farmer's Market project. Terry Tucker was the low bid for the utility work.

Adjourn

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Hudson, seconded by Alderman Bowman, and unanimously carried.

Clarence R. Jernigan, Mayor

**Peggy N. Hinshaw, CMC, NCCMC
Clerk to the Board**