

The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held today Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the Municipal Building.

The following members of the Governing Body were present:

Mayor: Danny Ritchie
Alderman: Benny Orders
Alderman: Terry Yount
Alderman: Dennis Anthony
Alderman: Carroll Franklin

Others present:

Town Manager: Sherri Bradshaw
Town Clerk: Sherry Dula

Others Absent:

Attorney: Rod Willcox

Mayor Ritchie opened the meeting and asked Alderman Anthony to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

Approval of Minutes: The Council voted unanimously to approve the March minutes by a motion from Alderman Anthony, seconded by Alderman Franklin.

Drexel Properties Update – Manager Bradshaw stated that we are currently waiting on funds to be released on the CDBG Demolition Application and our portion of the grant funds will be \$500,000. EPA grant that Burke County has applied for is in process and we could receive some of those funds also. Some research is being done on the Brownfield Program which will allow us to bury some of the debris on the property instead of having it all hauled away. A Comprehensive Wetlands Test for water and soil has been done but we haven't received the reports yet. We are in the process of applying for the NC Commerce Rural Ready Sites Program for \$500,000 which can be used for infrastructure repair. These monies would help greatly since the sewer lines on the property are deteriorating and the demolition that has been completed thus far also caused heavy damage to the lines. There is 2600 linear feet of sewer line with 13 manholes and 11 open drain lines on the property. Norfolk has visited the property several times and stated that there is 3 areas on the property available for rail spurs and this site is being marketed by Norfolk with some interested parties. Manager Bradshaw also stated that we are also eligible for the ElectriCities Site Program. She stated that we have property rights for the power except for the front portion of the property where Drexel Heritage Plant was located. Duke Energy has rights to the front portion which works well because large industries usually want dual phased power and require 10 plus megawatts of power. Mayor Ritchie asked when the Phase II will be started and would like to have a time frame by the next Budget Workshop on April 17th.

R.O. Huffman Center Update – Manager Bradshaw gave the Board a rough estimate for demolition of the Center in the amount of \$150,000 but this does not include landfill fees.

History Book Update – Manager Bradshaw explained that Phyllis Garrison would like the Board's approval for putting together a committee to update the Town of Drexel History Book. A motion was made by Alderman Franklin, seconded by Alderman Orders to approve the request made by Phyllis Garrison for a History Book Update committee and the vote was unanimous.

Departmental Reports – The Council reviewed the Financial, Police and Tax reports for the month of March, 2018. A copy of each report is attached as part of the minutes.

Tax Release – A motion was made by Alderman Franklin, seconded by Alderman Yount to release taxes in the amount of \$4.92 for Donnie Hambrick which lives in Valdese now and the vote was unanimous.

Recreation Department – Manager Bradshaw updated the recreation department activities. The indoor soccer season is over. Baseball season has started with 6 teams signed up to play. Volleyball sign ups have started.

Miscellaneous –

- Budget Workshop will be rescheduled to Tuesday, April 17th at 1 pm
- Next meeting May 1st
- WPCOG Annual Meeting will be April 26th at the Crowne Plaza in Hickory at 6:00 pm
- Alderman Yount stated that he had been getting complaints on the area below Prices old store near the Main Street side. He says there is a lot of trash and the trailers stored there make it look very bad. Manager Bradshaw states that those trailers belong to Rick Ramsey. Also some discussion was made by Board concerning the trailers parked in the Drexel Property parking lot which is owned by the Town. The Board would like to have a fee and permit process set up for those using the lot for parking their trailers and the Town needs to know if the trailer is empty and if not, then we should be made aware of what is inside each trailer.

Adjournment - With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m. upon a motion from Alderman Franklin, seconded by Alderman Yount.

TOWN CLERK _____

MAYOR _____

ALDERMAN _____

ALDERMAN _____

ALDERMAN _____

ALDERMAN _____

