



The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held today Tuesday, June 6, 2017 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: Carroll Franklin  
Alderman: Benny Orders  
Alderman: Terry Yount  
Alderman: Richard Propst

Others present:

Attorney: Rod Willcox  
Town Manager: Sherri Bradshaw  
Town Clerk: Sherry Dula

Mayor Ritchie opened the meeting with Alderman Orders leading in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

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

**Public Hearing for Proposed 2017-2018 Budget** – The public hearing for the proposed 2017-2018 Budget was opened at 7:04 p.m. by a motion from Alderman Propst, seconded by Alderman Orders. Manager Bradshaw gave a summary of the budget.

- Tax Rate will remain the same at \$0.38/\$100
- Total Budget is \$4,511,085
- Electric Rates will remain the same at this time with the exception of Renewable Energy fee from 0.61 to 0.62 for residential and 2.95 to 3.39 for commercial
- Water/Sewer Rates will remain the same at this time
- Health Insurance decrease of 3%
- Cost of Living Increase of 2%
- Solid Waste Fee will remain the same at \$7.00 per month on the utility bills
- Fire Department Matching Grant is \$23,000
- Electric Department contract with WPCOG for the asset inventory and assessment of the town's electric system
- Electrical service expansion to the old Drexel Heritage site
- Public Works warehouse expansion
- Police Department implementation of CAD (Computer Assisted Dispatch)
- 60 radio-read water meters are budgeted for the Water Department
- State Water Infrastructure Authority Grant match
- No changes to fee schedule

Dick McCall suggested that the town hire two extra seasonal public works employees since the town has taken on the added responsibility of the Drexel Properties and Recreation Department. He mentioned that the public works employees are stretched thin at this time and could use some extra help. Manager Bradshaw stated that we had already hired one employee which would start on June 7, 2017.

With no further comments, the public hearing was closed at 7:10 p.m. by a motion from Alderman Franklin, seconded by Alderman Propst.

**2017 – 2018 Budget Adoption** – A motion was made by Alderman Franklin, seconded by Alderman Orders to adopt the 2017-2018 Budget as written and the vote was unanimous. A copy of the budget ordinance is attached as part of the minutes.

**Western Piedmont Council of Governments Agreements** – Manager Bradshaw briefly reviewed the following agreements between WPCOG and Drexel:

1. WPCOG Agreement for Technical Planning Assistance – This agreement will provide the Town with trained planning personnel to assist in the administration of the Town's Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations, code enforcement and minimum housing issues. Also, providing technical planning advice and opinions to the Town Council, Manager and Planning Board.
2. WPCOG Agreement for provision of GIS, GPS Application Development Services in the Collection and Update of Spatial Databases Related to Electric and Water Utility Inventories – This agreement involves the professional services of the COG to inventory and assess the town's electric and water utility systems and provide GIS/GPS or geographic information of both systems.
3. WPCOG Agreement for provision of GIS, GPS Application Development Services in the Collection and Update of Spatial Databases Related to Wastewater Utility Inventories – This agreement involves the professional services of the COG to inventory and assess the town's wastewater utility system and provide GIS/GPS or geographic information of the system.

A motion was made by Alderman Franklin, seconded Alderman Orders to approve each agreement listed above and the vote was unanimous. A copy of each agreement is attached as part of the minutes.

**Resolution Accepting Offer for Wastewater Asset Inventory and Assessment Grant from NC Department of Environmental Quality** - Manager Bradshaw explained that Drexel has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$150,000 from the NC Department of Environmental Quality. This grant is for the asset inventory and assessment of the wastewater system. The town's match is 10% and has been included in the new budget year. A motion was made by Alderman Franklin, seconded by Alderman Orders to approve the resolution accepting the offer for wastewater asset inventory and assessment grant and the vote was unanimous. A copy of the resolution is attached as part of the minutes.

**Burke County Narcotics Task Force** – Manager Bradshaw suggested that the Council go ahead with giving the Task Force the required one year notice of intent to leave the organization. Our yearly contribution is \$4,500 and that has been included in the 2017-2018 Budget. A letter has already been written and just needs approval from the Board to send it on to the Task Force. A motion was made by Alderman Franklin, seconded by Alderman Yount to empower Manager Bradshaw to send the letter giving the Town's one year notice of intent to leave the organization and the vote was unanimous.

**Departmental Reports** – The Council reviewed the Financial and Tax reports for the month of May, 2017. A copy of each report is attached as part of the minutes.

**Recreation Department** – Tim Rhoney was present to update Council on ROH Center activities. Recreation revenues for the month were \$2,750. Baseball is finishing up with championship games.

**Police Report** – Chief Treadway reviewed the May report stating they had a very busy month. A copy of the report is attached as part of the minutes.

**Attorney Report** - No issues to report except Manager Bradshaw asked that he look into what the Town can do about the abandoned semi-trailers parked in the Drexel Properties parking lot which is now owned by the Town.

**Miscellaneous** –

- The Council approved cancelling the July meeting because it falls on a holiday. If any urgent issue should occur before the August meeting then we can call a special meeting.
- The individual that is interested in developing the Drexel Properties is in the process of preparing a site plan and gathering financial information to present to the Town for review.
- Alderman Propst inquired about the \$300,000 grant that the County recently received and whether the Town would be able to access any of those monies. Manager Bradshaw stated that we were included in the grant application and if we received monies it would go toward a Phase II analysis of the property.

**Adjournment** - With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m. upon a motion from Alderman Franklin, seconded by Alderman Yount.

TOWN CLERK \_\_\_\_\_

MAYOR \_\_\_\_\_

ALDERMAN \_\_\_\_\_

ALDERMAN \_\_\_\_\_

ALDERMAN \_\_\_\_\_

ALDERMAN \_\_\_\_\_