



Town of HOLLY RIDGE

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HOLLY RIDGE TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING January 12th, 2016

Mayor Dingler called the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Holly Ridge Town Council to order at 7:00 P.M. at the Holly Ridge Town Hall. Council members present were Mayor Pro-Tem Bragg, Councilman Hines, Councilman Lang, Councilwoman Stanley, and Councilwoman Hall. Also present were Town Manager, Joe Pierce; Town Clerk Heather Reynolds; Attorney Chuck Kitchen; and Deputy Clerk, Tracy Martin.

Invocation and Pledge

Councilman Hines gave the Invocation and Mayor Dingler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of Minutes

A motion was made by **Mayor Pro-Tem Bragg** and seconded by **Councilman Lang** to adopt the December Minutes. *All Agreed*

Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by **Councilwoman Stanley** and seconded by **Councilman Lang** to adopt the Agenda as presented. *All Agreed.*

Persons Wishing to Address the Council

There were none.

Annual Audit Review by Larry Carpenter CPA

Mr. Carpenter presented the following highlights in the Financial Statements ending June 30th, 2015:

- Mr. Carpenter conducted an audit of the basic financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Holly Ridge, as of the year ending June 30th, 2015.
- Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
- It is the auditor's responsibility to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. Mr. Carpenter said his firm conducted the audit in accordance with auditing standards accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate.
- In our opinion, the financial statements referred to present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Holly Ridge, as of June 30th, 2015, and the respective changes in financial position, and, where applicable, cash flows thereof and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- Mr. Carpenter stated this was a clean audit with no mistakes.
- The Town's assets exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources at the close of the fiscal year by \$1,983,547.
- The government's total net position increased by \$162,511.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the Town's governmental funds reported ending fund balances of \$1,227,694 with a net change of \$209,818 in the fund balance. Approximately 81.06% of this total amount or \$995,214 is available for spending at the government's discretion (unassigned fund balance).
- At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance for the General Fund was \$995,214 or 201.12% of total general fund expenditures for the fiscal year.

Parks and Recreation Report

There was not a Quorum so the meeting had to be cancelled. The Parks and Recreation Committee will meet in February.

Liberty Fountain Committee Report

Councilwoman Stanley thanked all of the members on the Liberty Fountain for all of their hard work they have been doing. She gave the following announcements pertaining to the Committee.

- Poker Run January 9th, 2016.
- 17 Riders and 21 Volunteers showed up to help
- April 9th, 2016 Next Ride

Councilwoman Stanley stated they raised \$582.69. She stated the Iron Order Motorcycle group started the raffle ticket sales for a long gun. The gun is a Mossberg 270 caliber bolt action long rifle. The drawing will be on April 9th, 2016 and the cost is \$10.00 a piece. She thanked Jason Pritchett for his help with organizing both poker runs and he would like to become a member of the Liberty Fountain. Gerald and Ann Davis went to the Jacksonville Harley Davidson shop to pass out information pertaining to the brick sales and the sponsorship information. Councilwoman Stanley said there were two visitors at their last meeting. One was Ms. Peggy Gentry with Sneads Ferry Community Theater and the Surf City Readers Theater. Their group has offered to put on a comedy show and all of the proceeds go to benefit the Liberty Fountain. She stated this event will be sometime around March 18th, or 19th, 2016. Councilwoman Stanley also stated Lynn Becker was at the meeting and has made a website for the committee. She said the website is www.LibertyFountain.net. She said they are waiting on the fill dirt for the site but due to the weather, they are at a standstill. Councilwoman Stanley said the next meeting is Thursday, February 4th, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bragg stated you will need to capitalize the L and the F in the website's address.

ONWASA Report

Councilman Hines gave the following report:

- Thursday night there will be an Organizational Meeting Thursday, January 14th, 2016 at the Jacksonville City Hall.

Report of Released Tax Refunds for December 2015

The following tax refunds require approval from the Town Council:

- Erik Glenn Rosen in the amount of \$171.47.

A motion was made by **Councilman Lang** and seconded by **Councilwoman Stanley** to release the tax refunds. *All Agreed.*

Public Hearing

Old Business

There were none.

New Business

Possible Use of Online Auction Site to Sell Real Property

Manager Pierce stated there has been no interest in the listed property as of today. He said he would like to put this on GovDeals.com. This is an eBay style website specifically created for surplus property for local governments to sell their excess property. The purpose of this website is to help local governments reduce their surplus. The use of this service can aid in the sale of this property located at 511 Moss Lake Lane. Manager Pierce asked about the cost to list items on this site and was told there would be no cost if the property does not sell. He said however, if the property sells then there is a 7.5% fee of the sale price for the use of the service. The buyer will pay 5% and that goes to GovDeals.

Councilman Lang asked how long we would list the property for. Manger Pierce stated it would be for 14 days. Manager Pierce stated he is asking for 14 days to list with a minimum bid of \$3500.00. Mayor Dinger asked if it could be listed for more than 14 days and Manager Pierce stated it could, but he was not sure what the deadline is as far as the limit. He said he thought this could carry over if there were no bids within the 14 days. Councilwoman Hall asked if we would advertise at all to the citizens of Holly Ridge. Manager Pierce said absolutely. He said it would be on the Town's website and we would advertise in the Town Hall.

A motion was made by **Mayor Pro-Tem Bragg** and seconded by **Councilman Lang** to allow the Town Manager to post the property located at 511 Moss Lake Lane with an opening bid of \$3500.00 on Gov Deals.com. *All Agreed.*

Possible Addition of Staff and Fund Balance Appropriation

Town Manager Pierce stated that Major Bryant has submitted for his retirement after 22 years of service to be effective mid-March. He also thanked Major Bryant for his dedication and his years of service. He said this would be a prime opportunity for us to expand the Police Department. Manager Pierce stated the growth of the police department has not grown in proportion to the expanding population to the Town of Holly Ridge. He stated this deficit has caused a delay in response times suffer as well as general service to the public. He said since the Major's retirement announcement there will be a significant change within the department and this seems to be the prime opportunity to add an officer. He said the difference between the salaries of the officers currently in position and the salaries earmarked as replacements could provide significant amount of the funds needed for the additional officer. A fund balance appropriation in the amount of \$9863.14 will be necessary to fund the remaining balance of the new officer's salary. He said he thought a reserve officer was interested in this position. Manager Pierce stated he is requesting one new officer to be added which will bring the total to ten officers.

A motion was made by *Councilwoman Stanley* and seconded by *Councilwoman Hall* to make a fund appropriation transfer in the amount of \$9863.14 to assist with the hiring of a new policeman. *All Agreed.*

Councilman Hines asked if the Town Council needed to do anything further with the Resolution for GovDeals that was in their packets. He asked if the motion earlier covered the Resolution and wanted to know if there was anything further the Town Council needed to do. Manager Pierce stated not to his knowledge because the Resolution just needs to be signed. Mayor Pro-Tem Bragg suggested adding the Resolution to the motion for the record.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bragg amended her earlier motion to also adopt the Resolution Authorizing Sale of Real Property by Electronic Auction. *Councilman Lang* agreed to the amendment. *All Agreed.*

Police Department Comments

Mayor Dingler thanked Major Bryant for his service and stated it has been a colorful road during his 22 years and he is a staple in our community. Mayor Dingler asked Major Bryant to stand on the corner and wave at us every once in a while.

Councilman Hines said he thought everyone needed to congratulate the officers for their promotions to. He stated Lieutenant Whaley will move to the role of Major and he thought this was well deserved.

Lieutenant Whaley said there will be a Medicine Drop on April 30th, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Police Department.

Fire Department Comments

Chris Gandy stated the Fire Department started their grants for the fire side and they are trying to get some new equipment they will need for the fire truck. He stated beginning in February there should be some fireman painting fire hydrants around the Town.

Town Manager Comments

Manager Pierce stated he wants to set a date to have a Workshop pertaining to the empty building on Sound Road. Mayor Dingler asked all of the Council if they could meet January 28th, 2016 at 5:30 in the Council Chambers. All of the Council agreed on the date, time and location.

Manager Pierce stated the Community Building's rental has increased a lot. He said the first month that there is not a rental is July 2016. Manager Pierce said there is a Board of Adjustment meeting on January 26th, 2016 regarding the roads in the Neighborhoods of Holly Ridge. Manager Pierce stated the developer has been sent a notice of violation and his appeal is on January 26th, 2016 before the Board of Adjustment.

Council Concerns

Councilman Lang thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He also thanked all of the Departments for their hard as well as the staff for their hard work.

Councilwoman Stanley thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. She thanked all of the staff for their help they give. She thanked the Public Works Department for all of their help with the Liberty Fountain events. Councilwoman Stanley asked the Town Manager about the fire hydrant on South Green Street. Manager Pierce stated he called the engineer. He said there needed to be a line tap put on the fire hydrant so there is some dialog between the Town and ONWASA. Councilwoman Stanley asked Manager Pierce if he had checked on the pond on Hudiberg Street. Manager Pierce stated he thought this has been cleared up, but he would get back to Councilwoman Stanley on this matter.

Councilwoman Hall thanked Heather, Tracy, Mayor and Councilwoman Stanley and everyone else who has prepared her for this meeting. She stated this was her first meeting and she wants to encourage everyone to look at the packets and ask questions. She stated if anyone has any questions; please feel free to ask her because this would help her to learn and it will also bring up your ideas of what it going on.

Councilman Hines stated through the efforts of Mr. Pete Brown and his realtor the old Pie Plant property has been sold. He stated that he thought the Town owed Mr. Brown some gratitude for selling the property because now maybe the Town could have a Dollar Store built there. Councilman Hines asked Manager Pierce if he has ever checked into the incentive plan that Fuquay Varina has. Manager Pierce stated he did but has not received a clear answer yet. Councilman Hines stated they have some kind of plan to bring businesses in and he would like for Manager Pierce to continue to check on this. Councilman Hines said he finally made contact with one of the Highway Commissioner Members about the conditions of the gutters along Sound Road and Highway 50. He said he was told that they should be cleaned up sometime this month. He said he also talked to her about the possibility of contracting the Town to keep them maintained. He said it would not be like the grass cutting where the Town gets anything but it might be a contract where they maintain the gutters. Councilman Hines said Ms. Fountain assured him she would be getting back in touch with him regarding all of these issues.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bragg thanked all of the departments for their hard work. She thanked Councilman Hines for his help with her personal water issue. Mayor Pro-Tem Bragg thanked Major Bryant for all of his years of hard work as well as all of the other officers. She stated the young lady that she reached out to join the Parks and Recreation Committee should be getting in contact with someone soon.

Mayor Dinger wished everyone a Happy New Year and she knows there is a lot in store for Holly Ridge. She knows Holly Ridge will be getting bigger and stronger than we were last year and it is going to take everyone working together to make this happen.

Announcements

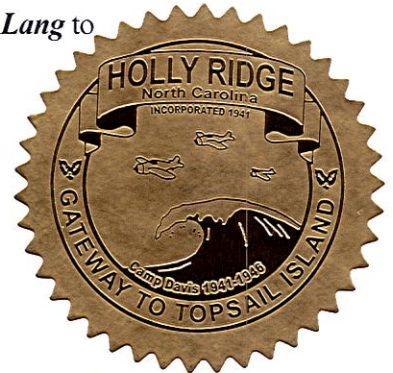
Mayor Dingler gave the following Announcements:

- ONWASA Regular Monthly Meeting-Thursday, January 14th, 2016 beginning at 6:00 p.m.
- Monday, January 18th, 2016-Town Hall Closed in Observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Thursday, January 21st, 2016-Four Town Meeting hosted by Town of Surf City beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Surf City Welcome Center.
- Planning Board Meeting-Tuesday, January 26th, 2016-beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.
- Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting – Thursday, February 4th, 2016 beginning at 3:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.
- Liberty Fountain Committee Meeting – Thursday, February 4th, 2016 in the Community Center beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Adjournment

A motion was made by *Councilwoman Stanley* and seconded by *Councilman Lang* to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. *All Agreed.*

Attest:



Anita Dingler

Anita Dingler, Mayor

Heather Reynolds

Heather Reynolds, CMC, Town Clerk

These minutes were recorded and prepared by Deputy Clerk, Tracy Martin.