

Town of Siler City

The Siler City Town Board of Commissioners met in regular session on **Monday, May 19, 2014** in the City Hall Courtroom with Mayor John Grimes Presiding. The invocation was given by Commissioner Lewis Fadely after which the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Cindy Bray, Larry Cheek, Mike Constantino, Lewis Fadely, John Grimes, Bill Haiges, Thomas K "Chip" Price, and Tony Siler.

TOWN STAFF PRESENT: Town Manager, Bryan Thompson, Town Attorney William Morgan, Public Works Director Terry Green, Finance Officer Tammy Speicher, Police Chief Gary Tyson, and Dee Lee Thompkins, Administrative Support Specialist.

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Town Manager stated he had an amendment to add under New Business. *A motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Commissioner Fadely, seconded by Commissioner Haiges and unanimously carried.*

CONSENT AGENDA: Mayor Grimes stated that all items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine, to be enacted on one motion without discussion. If a Board Member or citizen requests discussion of an item, the item, may be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered under New Business.

- **Approval of Minutes**
 - **May 5, 2014**
 - **May 5, 2014 Closed Session**

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Commissioner Cheek, seconded by Commissioner Price and unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Grimes asked if there was any public comment and stated that each speaker is asked to limit comments to three minutes, and the requested total comment period will be 15 minutes.

Roger Person, 405 West Elk Street Siler City, NC 27344

Mr. Person stated he and others know that the board has been working hard to solve the problems related to bringing the Mega Site to our area. He said what he is going to tell the board is a part of making Siler City an attractive part of this effort. This past weekend he and other artist associates were invited to participate in a sculpture exhibit at a beautiful new park in Pittsboro, the Mary Holmes Barber Park. The park director asked what they could do to help them, such as pour concrete pads for their sculptures or what we might require to get us to participate. They are aware of what we can bring to their community. He journeyed to downtown and found all the store fronts occupied and the town full of people shopping and enjoying the food in the many restaurants. Mr. Person said he spends a lot of time in our downtown and many people who come to see what is here ask the same questions. Also at our Coffee Shop is the only place for people to gather. Many of the same subjects are discussed by your local citizens. Why do we have a building in our downtown that looks like something you see on CNN News that looks like Syria or Bagdad? Why do we have piles of old railroad ties left at our intersections to rot? Why have semi and loggings trucks not been routed around our downtown and our downtown made pedestrian friendly? Why do we have what appears to be a junk yard in our down town? Why has the City not asked the owner what they could do to help him with this eye sore? Mr. Person said the Monument Company and Against His Will Gallery have helped to establish a beautiful and productive downtown community garden. To make Siler City attractive a lot more attention needs to be brought to our Historic

downtown area. Your leadership needs to be at the fore front of this much needed movement, if you want to be the city's leaders you must lead with some positive action. More civic involvement is needed of you than to just come to these meetings. He stated he is here to ask all of you to help us from becoming another dying community. When he went to cast his ballot at the last election he was able to see the new soccer field that was meant to bring people and tournaments to our city. The sod on the field was dead. Do we not know how to turn on the water? Mr. Person question if you look at your community? He added that is all he has to say and he hope the board would take what he said seriously.

Ann Bass, 207 South Evergreen Avenue, Siler City, NC 27344

Mrs. Bass said she is the current chair of the founding board of Siler City Development Organization. This organization was formed to help Siler City get ready for a mega site and to address some of the issues that Mr. Person just spoke about. She informed the board of a meeting on June 19th at First United Methodist Church from 6pm to 9pm. They have to two speakers that have participated in site selection. One speaker was involved with the Allstate Insurance Headquarters and the other has help with recruitment for the City of Raleigh. They will be talking about the process they go thru and what they look for and how they make their decision on a site.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Loves Creek Project Ordinance Amendment – Project EB-5004; WBS Element: 45521.1.1

Manager Thompson explained that this amendment to the Love's Creek Greenway Project Ordinance reflects the anticipated local contribution for the completion of the project, which includes easement acquisitions and fees associated with legal services and recordation. The planning and construction phases of this project are fully funded with grant dollars with the exception of the items listed above, which represent the local obligation. *A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Constantino, seconded by Commissioner Price and unanimously carried.*

B. 2013-2014 Budget Amendments – 2014.5

Manager Thompson explained this Budget Ordinance amendment to the General Fund seek to recognize unanticipated revenue from insurance proceeds and the same for the related expenses. *A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Siler, seconded by Commissioner Price and unanimously carried.*

C. 2013-2014 Budget Amendments – 2014.6

Manger Thompson explained this Budget Ordinance amendment to the General Fund reflects the remaining expenses for the Siler City Pedestrian Master Plan project that began in FY 2013, yet was not completed until FY 2014. A portion of these project expenses were realized in the FY 2013 operations, while the remainder of the same were realized in the current year. In order to prevent future dual-year budgeting and accounting, Staff recommends the use of Project Ordinance that do not run with the fiscal year, but rather run with the life of the project. *A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Fadely, seconded by Commissioner Price and unanimously carried.*

D. 2013-2014 Budget Amendments – 2014.7

Manger Thompson explained this Budget Ordinance amendment to the Enterprise Fund seeks to recognize unanticipated expenses associated with the treatment operations of water and wastewater. The expense increases resulted from environmental issues (i.e. harsh winter and excessive rain activity) that have required abnormally high chemical use for treatment operations, as well as the unplanned repair and replacement of aged equipment at the two treatment facilities.

Board members had several questions concerning the increase in the medical insurance, utilities and telephone increased. Commissioner Cheek asked if staff could provide water and sewer fund balance at the May 27th meeting.

A motion to table was made by Commissioner Bray, seconded by Commissioner Haiges and unanimously carried.

E. 2013-2014 Budget Amendments – 2014.8

Manager Thompson explained this Budget Ordinance amendment to the General Fund seeks to recognize additional revenues (by way of the contributions from Chatham County) and associated expenses relating to the Chatham-Randolph Megasite sewer line project.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Price, seconded by Commissioner Fadely and unanimously carried.

F. 2013-2014 Budget Amendments – 2014.9 - REVISED

Manager Thompson explained this instrument seeks to amend the General Fund Budget Ordinance and create a Project Ordinance for the Siler City Work Authorization #1 (Airport Layout Plan and Obstruction Removal). The General Fund by this amendment will shrink in the amount of \$15,000.00 and this amount is transferred to the created Project Ordinance.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Siler, seconded by Commissioner Constantino and unanimously carried.

G. Siler City Parks and Recreation Bray Park Concession with Football and Cheerleading Booster Club

Manager Thompson stated that the memo before them defines the basic ways concession can be handle. The board and staff had talked about them at a previous budget workshop on alternative methods of concession service/rental arrangements. The following alternatives were discussed between staff and the board with the benefits and the drawbacks:

- Maintain practices consistent with current fee schedule
- Contract with private vendor to provide concessions services throughout the year
- Contract with a support organization that partners with the Town to raise money for the Siler City Recreation Programming
- In-house concessions operations

Manager Thompson said that in consideration of the relative benefits and listed drawbacks that are identifiable at this time. Staff believes greater service delivery and other values such as community participation can be realized more effectively if the Town were able to partner with an organization whose sole purpose is to support the efforts of the Department and its programming. The Siler City Football/Cheerleading Boosters Club is an existing organization that presently raised funds to augment Siler City Recreation Programming through various efforts throughout the year. These efforts may be enhanced if the organization could utilize the concession facilities.

Staff said you have a letter in front of you where the Siler City Jets Football Association Booster Club have expressed interest in providing such services for the purpose of raising funds to assist Football and Cheerleading programming. Staff read from the letter that the club requests permission to operate the concession stand, without rental charges, at Bray Park during baseball games, upcoming football practices, and other football related events. We would also ask that we be considered to operate the concession when Bray Park hosts various tournaments and sporting events. All monies raised will be deposit into the Siler City Jets Football

Association Booster Club's account, which directly funds and supports Recreation football and cheerleading activities and needs beyond what the town provides. Staff reviews proposed hours and charges for the items they will provide for sale.

Staff asked Jessica Puckett, Recreation Director to address the board. Puckett stated that the Booster Club approached her about operating the concession stand. Puckett explained that the Booster Club sole mission is to support the town recreation program and she see it has a great benefit having the Booster Club involved. She thinks it would a great partnership and strengthens the parent relationship. Puckett said she is researching with other towns and cities to see what their contract agreements are and she has received 17 so far. She stated that we only have about 3 weeks left of baseball season. Jennifer Gibson, President of the Siler City Jest Football Association Booster Club spoke to the board about the Booster Club supporting the recreations department. She explained about the Club raising money last year to buy two pieces of equipment for the department. The Booster Club is all about raising money to support the kids and they are looking to expand the Club into all sports.

The Commissioners discussed with Recreation Director Puckett and Booster Club President Gibson and made the following motion:

Commissioner Fadely made a motion to allow the Siler City Jets Football Association Booster Club be permitted to operate the concession stand at Bray Park without rental charge till the end of baseball season and to be reviewed at the end of six months as per their proposal letter dated May 12, 2014.

Seconded by Commissioner Price and unanimously carried.

Puckett also informed the board that Paul Braxton Gym was closed on Friday because of some multiple fire codes issues. They will be corrected this week. She added that the soccer field will be closing for a minimum of one month so they can irrigate and fertilizer and give the field some rest.

MANAGER'S REPORT


Manager Thompson reminded the board of Little Casers Grand Opening tomorrow.

Mayor Grimes said the "Run For the Wall" is Wednesday May 21 and the commissioners have been invited for lunch at 11:15 at the Pentecostal Holiness Church.

Commissioner Cheek stated he had been approached by a citizen for Boling Lane Park to be handicap accessible. Manager Thompson stated that he and Public Works Director Green have met on site with a contractor to get some prices but they have not received any quotes.

With no further business the Board of Commissioner adjourned at 8:40


Dee Lee Thompkins, Recording Secretary


John Grimes, Mayor