

TOWN OF SILER CITY

The Siler City Board of Commissioners met in Special Session on Thursday, August 24, 2017 at 6:30pm in City Hall Courtroom with Mayor John Grimes presiding. Mayor Grimes gave the invocation with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance following.

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

TOWN STAFF PRESENT: Town Manager Bryan Thompson, and Town Clerk Jenifer Johnson.

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Commissioner Fadely, seconded by Commissioner Haiges and unanimously approved.

CONSENT

none

OLD BUSINESS

Early Voting

Thompson shared information received concerning an early voting site in Siler City for the 2017 Municipal election.

The Board of Commissioners discussed an absentee voting resolution.

Commissioner Haiges made the following statement:

I saw this morning that Randy Voller, former Mayor of Pittsboro, set an email to the Town Manager with the options he feels the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Siler City have as it pertains to an early voting site in Siler City.

I find it interesting that Mr. Voller feels that need to insert himself into the business of the Town of Siler City. Why is that, I wonder? Additionally, I was forwarded an email from Mr. Voller's wife, Lesley Landis, questioning the Americanism of this Board. Was she even in the audience on Monday night?

Frankly, I find both of these actions offensive in the extreme. Obviously Mr. Voller must feel that we, along with the Town Manager and Town Attorney, are such backward children that we must be instructed by such superior individuals as himself by presenting us with our options as he sees them. I have to ask why he feels the need to involve himself in a municipal election in which he isn't even eligible to vote. What ulterior motives does he have here? Which candidates is he choosing to support, and more importantly, why? I'm here to say to him, that we in Siler City do not appreciate your condescending attitude. You continuing to push a wedge between East and West Chatham.

As for the email from Ms. Landis, I have served my country as an officer in the United States Navy on active duty. My son is a cadet at Virginia Military Institute and intends to accept a commission in the US Army upon graduation. I'm active in the American Legion where one of our 4 pillars is Americanism. I sit on the board of Chatham Charter School as well as represent the town on the Board of Delegates of the Triangle J Council of Governments, as organization dedicated to improving the entire region.

Equating a decision, which by the way wasn't even a final decision, but simply a request for more information from the Board of Elections. Using that decision, which has a financial impact to the Town, as a measurement of one's Americanism is equally offensive. Questioning one's loyalty to

*their country because of decisions they make is exactly what is wrong with our society today. It divides rather than unites. It breaks down rather than builds up.
At a minimum, I expect an apology to this Board for her offensive comments and from Mr. Voller for his condescension. It's okay to differ on issues and be willing to discuss that live adults, but to question the Americanism of an elected body responsible for improving the quality of life for the residents of this town is incredibly wrong and offensive.
Thank you.*

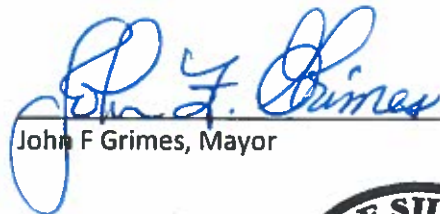
Commissioner Fadely stated that there are other veterans on this board that have served under that nations flag and fault for our freedoms.

A motion for the 2017 election cycle that we do not have early voting in Town of Siler City was made by Commissioner Price, seconded by Commissioner Siler. The Board of Commissioners discussed the motion. The motion passed: For: Bray, Cheek, Constantino, Fadely, Price, Siler, and Against: Haiges.

A motion that the Town look at funding early voting in the next budget cycle working with the other municipalities equally sharing the cost was made by Commissioner Fadely, seconded by Commissioner Haiges and unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business the Board of Commissioners adjourned at 7:09pm.



John F Grimes, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jenifer K Johnson, Town Clerk

