

August 05, 2014

7:00 PM

A regular meeting of the Randleman Board of Aldermen was held on the above date with the following members present:

Bucky Jernigan	) Mayor
Melissa Blalock	) Alderwoman
Ray Hudson, Jr.	) Aldermen
Mike Dawkins	)
Eric Ward	)
Cliff Bowman	)
Nick Holcomb	) Interim City Manager
Ron Niland	) Consultant
Bob Wilhoit	) Attorney

### **Meeting Called to Order**

The Mayor called the meeting to order.

### **Approval of Minutes of June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014, June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014, Investments and Department Reports.**

A motion was made by Alderwoman Blalock, seconded by Alderman Hudson, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes, investments and department reports.

## **Public Comment**

The Mayor stated that he would appreciate everyone wishing to speak to adhere to the 3 minute time limit.

Ms. Gloria King of 434 High Point Street addressed the board and explained the need for an Animal Sanctuary. The society would be helping all animals, not just cats. The group uses 2 veterinaries for the low cost spay/neuter clinics that the society holds. All members use their homes as rescue venues and no longer can accommodate the over population.

The Mayor read the definition of sanctuary. He asked Ms. King to give her definition of sanctuary. She advised the board that she might have used the wrong terminology when speaking about the matter and had not fully explored the meaning of the word sanctuary.

Ms. Kathy Ivie of 611 North Main Street spoke concerning the Animal shelter. She advised the board that all their homes were full and could no longer house abandoned animals. She also told the board that this would be a **No Kill Sanctuary**.

Ms. Dawn Ingram of 5 Bradsher Court voiced her concerns regarding funding and state mandated regulations. She asked about grants, the business plan and private donations. She would like to see an operating budget and management details. She does not want any more of her tax dollars used to finance this project.

Ms. Ingram stated that she did not feel that Alderman Dawkins should be allowed to vote because his spouse (Leigh) was the TAAS founder.

Ms. Mary Byerly of 5592 Howard Court, Trinity spoke in opposition stating that **No Kill Shelters** do not exist. She said that feral cats live wonderful lives in their wild colonies and that the group would never secure enough funding to build or maintain daily operations. She stated that very expensive exhaust fans would need to be installed and other highly expensive items would be needed as well.

Mr. Raymond Wall of 741 Holly Grove Road spoke in opposition questioning funding for maintenance and supplies. He did not feel that city funds should be used for this minority group. He also stated that the organization should find their

own building and funds to man the facility. He posed the question of how many other organizations received city dollars. He does not want tax payers to fund this project.

Ms. Renee' Bryant of 417 South Stout Road also spoke in opposition voicing her concerns. She is not against helping animals, however, she advised the board how hard it is to receive grants, and donations. She would prefer her tax dollars be spent more wisely.

With no one else wishing to speak the Mayor closed the Public Comment session.

### **Eagle Scout Project – Wesley Coakley – Nature Trail**

Alderman Ray Hudson Scout Master of Troup 532 introduced Wesley and described his nature trail project using visual aids. He talked about his many years of knowing Wesley and how devoted he was to his scouting. Ray commended Wesley for his strong leadership skills. He noted that several more Eagle Scout projects are in the works and will continue to enhance our nature trail for our patrons.

### **Recognition of Lt. Gene Henderson**

Chief Steve Leonard spoke of the 22 years of service that Gene had with the city, explaining that Gene was the only detective the city has, and he is on duty 24/7. He also commended Gene on his great training and dedication to our City.

Gene expressed his love for his job and the other employees, pointing out how well all the departments worked together to make our city better. He thanked the board for affording him the opportunity to continue to serve.

### **Purchase of Police Vehicles**

The Purchasing Policy that the city recently adopted requires all purchases above \$15,000.00 to be brought before the board for approval. The 2 vehicles are budgeted items and will cost \$22,785.00 each. This is satisfying the policy. The vehicles are being purchased on state contract.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Blalock, seconded by Alderman Ward and unanimously carried to approve the purchases.

### **Open Public Hearing - Minority Business Outreach Plan and Resolution**

A motion was made by Alderwoman Blalock, seconded by Alderman Hudson and unanimously carried to open the Public Hearing.

The city is using State Revolving Funds to finance projects on Fox Street, and New Salem Road and this is a necessary requirement to obtain the state funds.

Engineer Charlie McGougan, MBD Consulting will be handling this component along with the bidding process.

This will involve reaching out to minority businesses that are registered on the state's Historically Underutilized Business List.

### **Close Public Hearing**

A motion was made by Alderwoman Blalock, seconded by Alderman Hudson and unanimously carried to close the Public Hearing.

After some discussion a motion was made by Alderwoman Blalock to approve the Minority Business Plan, seconded by Alderman Ward, and unanimously carried to approve the plan and resolution.

**Insert:**

### **Open Public Hearing Capital Project Ordinance – Animal Shelter**

A motion was made by Alderwoman Blalock, seconded by Alderman Ward, and unanimously carried to open the public hearing.

A desire has been expressed for the City to provide an animal shelter or sanctuary that will better serve our community's animal over population. A capital project

adoption will allow the city the authority to begin the planning and construction phases of an animal shelter.

The Animal Awareness Society would take responsibility for the shelter including state compliance laws, insurance and utility payments.

Ron Niland city consultant, commented that this was the first step being made to approve the adoption of the Capital Project Ordinance to seek funding of \$75,000.00. The Society would provide a business plan and budget if funding were secured.

The Mayor stated that he would like the public to know that he opposed the city's involvement with this project.

Alderwoman Blalock spoke, explaining that this was a grass roots endeavor and that our citizens seem to be in favor of the organizations efforts. She added that the group provided a good service to our community, and they continue to raise money to finance the organization.

Alderman Ray Hudson stated that the city would pay \$8,500 per year to Randolph County for animal assistance, and the city would recoup the initial investment in 8 ½ years.

Alderman Ward and Alderman Dawkins spoke in favor of the Capital Project going forward and expressed the need for detailed numbers.

Alderman Bowman had no comment.

### **Close Public Hearing**

A motion was made by Alderman Blalock, seconded by Alderman Hudson and unanimously carried to close the public hearing.

After the public comment period questions were raised concerning voting privileges. Attorney Wilhoit read from **NCGS §160A-75 Voting**, explaining that all members should vote, no consideration of member's own interest was evident.

A motion to approve the ordinance was made by Alderwoman Blalock, seconded by Alderman Ward and unanimously carried to approve the motion.

**Insert:**

### **Amendment Capital Project Ordinance – Park**

The original Stout Street Park Improvement Project Ordinance was adopted last year to begin the initial design and planning phase (\$80,000.00). The actual figures from the park's construction cost came to \$1.2 million dollars, therefore, the capital project ordinance must be amended.

Nick Holcomb, Interim Manager, addressed the board stating that The Wooten Company had cushions in the figures and the plan could be easily modified. He also expressed his desire to have citizen involvement in the decision making process.

Alderman Hudson said the renovation was well over due and our children and community need better facilities.

A motion to amend the Capital Project Ordinance was made by Alderwoman Blalock, seconded by Alderman Hudson and unanimously carried to approve.

**Insert:**

### **Resolution to Seek State Financing Water and Wastewater Projects**

The funding will help to eliminate ongoing problems in our Water and Wastewater systems. Most importantly this will end 90% our need for Asheboro water. The interest rate for state financing is 2%.

This resolution gives the city authorization to pursue state financing and grants to proceed forward with several projects.

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Alderman Hudson, seconded by Alderwoman Blalock, and unanimously carried to approve the motion.

**Insert:**

**Manager's Report**

1. The Board of Aldermen held the first meeting in our newly renovated council chambers. Our in house contractor John Dunlap helped to expedite the process.
2. FEMA funding was finally received in the amount of \$57,000.00 dollars
3. Morgan Dunlap, Intern, was introduced and gave an overview of our Farmers' Market. The hours of operation will be Thursdays and Saturdays from 8:00 AM until 1:00 PM thru October.
4. Donna Toomes was commended for her outstanding efforts with the bidding process for our new library. The bid opening will be August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 2:00PM at the library. The library will be closed January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 thru January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015 and reopen on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015.
5. The gym floor is being resurfaced and will be closed thru August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

**Adjourn**

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Alderman Hudson, seconded by Alderwoman Blalock, and unanimously carried to adjourn.

**Clarence R. Jernigan, Mayor**

**Melody R. Hancock, CMC-NCCMC**

**Deputy City Clerk**

