

January 14, 2008

The Middlesex Governing Body met in regular session on January 14, 2008. Mayor Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and gave the invocation. Commissioners Harold Meacombs, Luke Robinson, Derek Bissette, and J.W. McClenny were present. Commissioner Fred Hough was absent. The guest list is attached and is a part of the meeting minutes.

Mayor Lewis opened a Public Hearing to hear a recommendation from the Planning Board to amend the town's Zoning Ordinance to allow (1) Medical facilities and offices; and (2) Corporate Offices-Professional and Public, in a Light Industrial (LI) Zone by use of Permitted Right. There were no comments or questions from the public and Mayor Lewis closed the hearing at 7:32 pm.

Mayor Lewis opened the floor for the public comment session. There were no comments from the public, but Mayor Lewis thanked Eaton Corporation for their donation of a gazebo to the town's Wellness Park and showed a brass plaque which will be placed at the entrance of the gazebo.

Commissioner Robinson moved to approve the December minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bissette and carried unanimously.

Peggy Bissette requested to delete Items (e) & (f) under New Business, Isaac Lewis's petition to annex property for a Dollar General store and adopt a Resolution directing the clerk to investigate the petition. Bissette stated that the ownership of the property will change within two weeks and the new owner will petition for annexation. The revised agenda was approved in a motion by Commissioner Bissette, seconded by Commissioner Robinson and carried unanimously.

Julia Johnson with USDA Rural Development reviewed the Wellness Park Loan/Grant request. The town will be receiving a \$20,000 grant and an \$80,000 loan. The loan has a twenty year repayment schedule with annual payments and the interest rate being the rate at the time of closing. The current rate is 4.38%. All loan proceeds must be expended before any grant funds will be distributed and a reserve account must be established equal to the annual payment. Ms. Johnson requested that the Board agree to the Letter of Conditions and pass the Resolution giving the Mayor and Clerk authority to sign all the grant and loan documents on behalf of the town. Commissioner Bissette moved to approve the Letter of Conditions for the Wellness Park Grant/Loan and adopt Resolution #R2008-1010 authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to execute all necessary documents. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Reid Campbell, Engineer and Project Manager with Earthtech, gave a presentation on the Water System Improvement Project. Dr. Michael Acquesta advised that the Preliminary Engineering Report was prepared assuming no grant funds and a 3.5% inflation rate. The report included two new wells, a 150,000 gallon elevated water tank, and a new booster pump station. A map was presented indicating proposed sites, potential impact of the project on water rates and project alternatives. For each of the five alternatives, cost projections were outlined. Mr. Campbell advised that if we did nothing, the town could not supply water to any growth on the west side of town because of inadequate water pressure and fire protection.

Dr. Acquesta advised that we could get a refurbished water tank at a substantially lower cost. Commissioner Meacombs moved to approve the Preliminary Engineering Report and authorize Earthtech to submit the report to USDA. Commissioner Bisette seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Commissioner Meacombs moved to accept the December Financial Statements as correct. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and it carried unanimously.

Peggy Bisette advised the Board that at the January 8th trial, the judge gave Ray Cameron until May 29th to remove all junk from his house and get all junk below eye level in the fenced area. All junk must be removed from the Daisy Cameron Heirs lots by September 2008. Bisette stated that Cameron removed some truckloads last week.

After the December Board meeting, Bisette called Bartlett Engineering and advised Mr. Bartlett that the sewer lines to serve DFB Development must be underground with the use of a pumping station. Mr. Bartlett advised that surveying for the location of the lift station would begin in two weeks.

Braswell Construction started digging today on South Nash Street near Mortex trying to find the large water leak, but have only found dry clay. They will resume digging tomorrow and continue until the leak is discovered.

Commissioner Bisette moved to amend the Zoning Ordinance to allow by Permitted Use Right In a Light Industrial (LI) Zone:

- (1) Medical facilities and offices and
- (2) Corporate Offices-Professional and Public

The motion was seconded by Commissioner McClenny and carried unanimously.

Peggy Bissette advised the Board that Larry Keesler's preliminary map for Middlesex Estates shows contours at ten feet, but the town's ordinance requires maps to show two foot contours. After some discussion, Mr. Keesler agreed to do whatever needs to be done to include two foot contours on the final map. Commissioner Robinson moved to approve the final Preliminary Map for Middlesex Estates, with the condition that a design plan be submitted with two foot contours. Commissioner Meacombs seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Commissioner Meacombs moved to approve the transfer of the lift station alarms provided by Ivey's Security from analog to digital at a cost of \$271.50 each. Commissioner McClenny seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Commissioner Bissette moved to release the following taxes:

(1) Linda Crumel Fuller for a total of \$256.60 as follows:

Year	2003	\$64.15
Year	2004	\$64.15
Year	2005	\$64.15
Year	2006	\$64.15

(2) Jimmy Bryant for Year 2007 - \$36.25

Commissioner Meacombs seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mayor Lewis reviewed a new program, "Nash County Citizens Academy", which the county is sponsoring, to create civic interest and educate citizens on county government and its operations. Applications are available at town hall.

After a brief discussion regarding selling the old Ford backhoe, it was decided that the town would keep the backhoe for emergency situations.

Commission Bissette moved to award the bid for the paving project to Williams Paving in the amount of \$80,000. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mayor Lewis granted Larry Keesler's request to speak to the Board since he was absent during the Public Comment Session. Mr. Keesler asked the Board to consider paying him royalty on the pump station for all future taps added to the line due to the fact that the pump station will cost him \$80,000 for the Middlesex Estates Subdivision. Peggy Bissette read an excerpt from the March 20, 2007 Planning Board Minutes where the Board advised Mr. Keesler he

would be responsible for all costs associated with providing water and sewer services from the town's present line terminations to the subdivision. Mayor Lewis told Mr. Keesler his request was duly noted and the Board would discuss at a later date.

Commission Robinson moved to go into Closed Session under G.S.143-318.11(a)(6) to interview Shelly Woodruff for the Administrative/Financial Assistant position. Commission Meacombs seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Back in Open Session, Commissioner Meacombs moved to hire Shelly Woodruff at a salary of \$23,500 per year for the full time position of Administrative/Financial Assistant effective February 1, 2008.

Being no further business, Commissioner Meacombs moved to adjourn.

Jennifer Lambert, Clerk

Mayor Luther H. Lewis, Jr.
Commissioners
Harold Meacombs
Luke Robinson
Derek Bissette
J.W. McClenny