

# TOWN OF PRINCEVILLE

**Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting**

**December 17, 2018**

**7:00PM**

**3003 North Main Street, Tarboro, NC 27886**

## MINUTES

**Board Members Present:** *Mayor Pro Tem Glenda Knight, Commissioner Linda Joyner, Commissioner Bullock, Commissioner JoeRoam Myrick*

**Board Members Absent:** *Mayor Bobbie Jones*

**Staff Present:** *Town Clerk Tabatha Powell*

**I. Board of Commissioners Call to Order and Roll Call**

**II. Invocation was rendered by Brooks Wadsworth**

**III. Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.**

**IV. Announcements:**

- Town Hall will be closed December 24-26 in observation of the Christmas Holiday and January 1, 2019 in observation of the New Year

**V. Adjustments to the Agenda: None**

**VI. Public Comments:**

1. **Ed Bridgers, 500 Otis Ave:** Had questions and concerns about Extending the Dike; Police Department; Announced that all shops are open at Bridgers Place; Speeding throughout the Town; Personnel matters; Budget concerns.

**VII. Approval of the Agenda:**

Commissioner Myrick made a motion to approve the agenda; Motion seconded by Commissioner Joyner; Motion passed. **(4-0)**

## **VIII. Presentations:**

### **2) Seth Saeugling, Rural Opportunity Institute (ROI): Supporting Connection and Healing:**

Reconnect for Resilience Champions are “passionate advocates”, who seek to embody resiliency tools and use them on their own watch- in their homes with their families, in their workplace with the people they serve, and in meetings with their colleagues. Champions are not trainers of the Reconnect for Resilience curriculum but are rather people who are embodying the skills themselves, as living examples to help create a culture of resiliency in their contexts. We are asking Champions to agree to use resiliency tools for themselves with intention, both at work and beyond work practicing the tools for themselves, operationalizing them in their own lives and work.

After the initial one-day training, the Champions RFR trainer will meet with the group of champions from a given county on a monthly basis throughout the school year, either in person or by zoom call. During those meetings the trainer will check in with the Champions about how their “safe to fail” experiments to promote a culture of resilience are going and will troubleshoot with them to create more effective initiatives. The trainer will seek to create a safe container where Champions can become a strong community of support and innovation for one another.

In addition to attending the initial two day Reconnect for Resilience training, and the follow up one-day Champions training, with monthly one-hour follow-up coaching sessions, Champions will be asked to commit to practicing a tool for themselves 5 minutes a day. After that, they are the people who will be looking to embed resiliency in their particular contexts by modeling it and bringing the concepts and tools in simple, short and accessible ways to their colleagues and students/clients.

R4R will be returning to Edgecombe for another 2-day Reconnect training on Feb 6-7.

**IX. Old Business:**

**3) Princeville Cemetery:** Per Attorney Morphis, The Town will need to formally take over the cemetery if it wishes to continue to give funds to the Cemetery Commission; Public Hearing needed.

No Action Taken

**4) Amendment to the Personnel Policy:**

No action taken

**X. New Business:**

**5) Yearly Bonus for Employees:**

Commissioner Joyner made a motion to give employees with over a year of service a \$250.00 bonus; Motion seconded by Commissioner Myrick; Motion passed. **(4-0)**

**XI. Executive Session:**

- Commissioner Myrick made a motion to enter executive session; Motion seconded by Commissioner Bullock; Motion passed. **(4-0)**
- Commissioner Myrick made a motion to return to open session; Motion seconded by Commissioner Bullock; Motion passed. **(4-0)**
- Mayor Pro Tem Knight announced that she will need to be excused from voting on the next item.
- Commissioner Joyner stated that if interested the board would like to appoint Dr. Glenda Knight as the Interim Town Manager.
- Mayor Pro Tem Knight asked the board to accept her resignation as Mayor Pro Tem/Commissioner of Ward 4.
- Commissioner Joyner made a motion to accept Mayor Pro Tem Knight's resignation as a member of the Princeville Board of Commissioners; Motion seconded by Commissioner Myrick; Motion Passed. **(3-0)**
- Commissioner Joyner made a motion to appoint Dr. Glenda Knight as the Interim Town Manager; Motion seconded by Commissioner Bullock; Motion passed. **(3-0)**

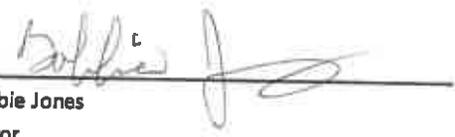
**XII. General Concerns and Comments of the Board: None**

**XIII. Adjournment:**

Commissioner Myrick made a motion to adjourn; Motion seconded by  
Commissioner Bullock; Motion passed. (4-0)

**Meeting Adjourned**

X

  
Bobbie Jones  
Mayor

X

  
Tabatha Powell  
Town Clerk

# TOWN OF PRINCEVILLE

**Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting  
January 22, 2019 at 7:00PM  
3003 North Main Street, Tarboro, NC 27886**

## Minutes

**Board Members Present:** Mayor Bobbie Jones, Commissioner Linda Joyner, Commissioner Bullock, Commissioner Joe Roam Myrick

**Board Members Absent:** Commissioner Ward 4

**Staff Present:** Interim Town Manager Glenda Knight and Town Clerk Tabatha Powell

**I. Board of Commissioners Call to Order and Roll Call @ 7pm.**

**II. Invocation rendered by Minister Jason DeVall.**

**III. Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.**

**IV. Announcements:**

- Planning & Adjustment/Parks & Recreation Board Meeting – February 14, 2018 @ 6pm
- Board of Commissioner Monthly Meeting – February 18<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm
- Black Communities Conference – September 9<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup>

**V. Adjustments to the Agenda: None**

**VI. Public Comments:**

- 1. Ed. Bridgers, Otis Ave, Princeville:** Had questions and concerns about the dike repairs and extension; Approval of Mitigation Funds; Adding a stop light at the intersection of Walston and Main Streets; Adding safe crosswalk for elementary school; Congratulated the Town on the decision made for Town Manager.
- 2. Jason DeVall, Regional Director for the Heritage District, of the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church:** The United Methodist has been providing assistance to the town since 2016; we are expecting a 100-man crew to come in on March 18, with the goal of building 4 brand new homes; 2 homes on Newton Ave, Princeville and 2 homes in Edgecombe County (*Ridgewood Road*); the homes will be available to Hurricane Matthew Flood victims and some requirements.

3. **Carlton Jones, Realtor:** Had questions and concerns about the HMGP Program; Environmental Impact Study; An update from FEMA about the decision to state if the levee would be able to keep Princeville out of the 100- or 500-year floodplain.
4. **Sue Freeman, Tarboro-Edgecombe Chamber of Commerce:** Extended the chambers resources; Wished Dr. Knight much success in her role as Interim Town Manager, hopeful that it will become permanent.
5. **Calvin Sherrod, 909 King Ave:** Congratulated the Public Works Department on keeping active throughout the town; keeping the town clean and beginning to fix pot holes in Southern Terrace; Asked the town to support the citizens that are trying to return to Princeville. Thanked Mrs. Sue Freeman for supporting the town.
6. **Commissioner Bullock** suggested to all board members to become familiar with the status and state of homes within their wards.

**VII. Approval of the Agenda and Consent Agenda:**

- Commissioner Myrick made a motion to approve the Agenda; Motion seconded by Commissioner Bullock; Motion passed. (3-0)
- Commissioner Myrick made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda; Motion seconded by Commissioner Joyner; Motion passed. (3-0)

**VIII. Other Reports:**

**IX. Gala Update:** Commissioner Joyner provided a financial update: Total income \$24,858.74; Total Expenses \$14,342.69; **Presentations: None**

- 1) 516.05; Donation from Skanska \$5,000.00; Balance is now \$15,516.05. Funds will be used to support the development of the Princeville Historic District. Funds are located at the NC Community Foundation. Kelly Lee is the Program Officer for our region. Please contact Jamilla Hawkins for more information.
- 2) **Planning & Zoning/Parks & Recreation Board:** Calvin Adkins reported previous task that have been resolved. Citizen #1 wanted to add a porch to home and did not meet the zoning requirements. After additional research Citizen #1 could add the porch because of the resolution that allow homes to come back as they were pre-flood.; Citizen #2 was unable to place a mobile home on first street, according to the zoning requirements the mobile home was too large for the lot. PART-F Grant has begun and is in the early stages. Representation from Ward 3 is still needed for the Planning & Zoning/Parks & Recreation Board.

**X. Town Managers Report:**

- Interim Town Manager Glenda Knight gave an update on the following:
  - 1) **HMGP Update:** County Manager has signed the agreement; Anyone who has been approved for acquisitions should expect to receive a call to start the appraisal process; Citizens need to be reminded that there will not be a duplication of benefits.
  - 2) **53 -Acres and 80 Acres Update:** RFQ for the environmental study on the 53-acres are being advertised; the town can not move forward with the 80-acres until the study is completed.
  - 3) **Town Hall Building and Senior Center Building:** RFQ will be sent out to vendors on the county's list. James H. Jatko, PE, LEED-AP, FEMA Integration Team – Recovery is working with the town and offered three options: 1. Demolish the entire structure, move back and rebuild, 2. Demolish the top and rebuild where it is, 3. Demolish the entire structure and move the facility to another site.
    - Commissioner Joyner made a motion to destroy the existing senior citizens building, move building back and rebuild the structure on the same property; Motion seconded by Commissioner Bullock; Motion passed. (3-0)
  - 4) **NC State Signage Project:** Different organizations met on Freedom Hill and discussed the usage of the \$15,000 donated by NC Community Foundation. Discussion needed with property owners to acquire land near Freedom Hill; Board members were asked to identify other location in the community.
  - 5) **Flood Gate Repairs:** Edgecombe County applied for funding that will repair four flood gates; locations are Hwy 64, Ridgewood Road, Hwy 258 and Hwy 111. Town Manager has concerns about the overgrowth to get to the flood gates; asked if the county could have the areas cut down so they will be easier to maintain.
  - 6) **Allocated Funds Update to remove Construction Manager:**
    - Commissioner Myrick made a motion to amend the agreement with the Office of State Budget and Management to remove the construction manager and replace with other needed positions; Motion seconded by Commissioner Bullock; Motion passed. (3-0)

## **XI. Old Business:**

- 2) **Princeville Cemetery:**
  - Commissioner Joyner made a motion authorizing staff to advertise for a public hearing on February 18, 2019 @ 7pm for the purpose of discussing who will operate and maintain the cemetery located on Greenwood Blvd; Motion seconded by Commissioner Bullock; Motion passed. (3-0)

**3) Amendment to the Personnel Policy:**

- Commissioner Joyner made a motion to approve the resolution amending the Town's Personnel Policy to allow for nonbinding recommendations from the Board of Commissioners with regard to personnel matters; Motion seconded by Commissioner Myrick; Motion passed. (3-0)

**4) Princeville Children's Book Agreement:**

- Commissioner Myrick made a motion to table the Princeville Children's Book Agreement; Motion seconded by Commissioner Bullock; Motion passed. (3-0)

**XII. New Business:**

**5) Selection of Mayor Pro Tem**

No action taken.

**6) Request for additional check signer**

No action taken.

**7) Prince Court Redevelopment Agreement:**

- Commissioner Myrick made a motion to approve the first amendment to the Prince Court Redevelopment Agreement; Motion seconded by Commissioner Joyner; Motion passed. (3-0)

**XIII. Executive Session:**

- Personnel Issues: Pursuant to *G.S. 143-318.11(a1) and (a6)*
- Commissioner Myrick made a motion to enter executive session pursuant to *G.S. 143-318.11(a1) and (a6)*; Motion seconded by Commissioner Bullock; Motion passed. (3-0)
- Commissioner Myrick made a motion to return into open session; Motion seconded by Commissioner Bullock; Motion passed. (3-0)
- Commissioner Bullock made a motion to accept the two properties off Hwy 258 from Edgecombe County; Motion seconded by Commissioner Myrick; Motion passed. (3-0)
- Commissioner Myrick made a motion to allow World Renew and NCCUMC (Methodist Church) to build homes on Newton Avenue, Princeville; Motion seconded by Commissioner Myrick; Motion passed. (3-0)
- Commissioner Myrick made a motion to hire Dr. Glenda L. Knight as the permanent Town Manager; Motion seconded by Commissioner Bullock; Motion passed. (3-0)

- Commissioner Myrick made a motion to authorizing the Town Manager to advertise for the Board of Commissioners Ward 4 vacancy; Motion seconded by Commissioner Bullock; Motion passed. (3-0)

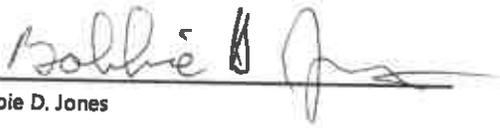
**XIV. Comments of the Board:**

None

**XV. Adjournment:**

- Commissioner Myrick made a motion to adjourn; Motion seconded by Commissioner Bullock; Motion passed. (3-0)
- **Meeting Adjourned at 10.56 p.m.**

X



Bobbie D. Jones  
Mayor

X



Glenda Knight  
Town Manager



**TOWN OF PRINCEVILLE  
Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting  
February 18, 2019 at 7:00PM  
3003 North Main Street, Tarboro, NC 27886**

**Minutes**

***Board Members Present: Mayor Bobbie Jones, Commissioner Linda Joyner, Commissioner Bullock, Commissioner JoeRoam Myrick***

***Board Members Absent: Commissioner Ward 4 (Vacant)***

***Staff Present: Town Manager Glenda Knight and Town Clerk Tabatha Powell***

**I. Board of Commissioners Call to Order and Roll Call @ 7pm.**

**II. Invocation rendered by Mr. Carlton Jones**

**III. Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.**

**IV. Announcements:**

- PORTRAITS OF Humanity Exhibit at the office of Intercultural engagement at ECU student suite 062 and UNCG.
- 134<sup>th</sup> Founder's celebration Gateway to Heaven in Princeville 2-23-19 5pm-7 pm
- Panel discussion at ECU student activity center 3-30-19 @ 9:30am-3: 00 pm  
Fighter for Freedom doing a presentation Marquita Dickens is a part of the presentation.
- Black Communities Conference – September 9<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> in Chapel Hill.
- Planning & Adjustment/Parks & Recreation Board Meeting –  
March 14, 2018 @ 6pm.
- Board of Commissioner Monthly Meeting – March 18<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm.
- Introduction for Mr. Rydedrick Porter as Public Works Supervisor.

**V. Presentation from Ward 4 Candidates:**

- Mayor Bobbie Jones read letter from the State of North Carolina about voter's registration fraud.
- **First presentation by Minister Alvin Jones** who shared his service to the community and the fire department. He served as the Chaplin, EMS, and

Coordinator of the fire department. He was employed by Edgecombe County rescue squad. Minister Jones discussed his reason from wanting to serve as commissioner for Ward 4. He stated his interest is the interest of the people.

- Answered questions about short-term, mid-term, and long-term goals for the town of Princeville from The Mayor (1) short-term is to have a conversation with the citizen regarding where they are as far as returning to the town. (2) long-term goal is to find out what we can do collectively to bring more businesses to Princeville to increase tax and give the citizens more outlets to things within the town without having to leave the town and go elsewhere.

Other questions and answered included: What do you feel the main job of the commissioner is? To serve with integrity and keep in mind that it is not about the commissioner but about the people who we serve; Have you had the opportunity to leave Princeville any time in your life and come back and visit? (1) lived in Virginia but has been back in Princeville for 5 years. Are you familiar with the history of Princeville? (1) yes, very familiar. Are you related to anyone serving on the board or working in Princeville with the name Jones? (1) No

- **Second Presentation by Mr. Kenneth Sanders:** States he would love to serve as commissioner for Ward 4. Stated that as a citizen of Princeville we all need to be civilly engaged and move forward by holding the Board Commissioners and the citizens accountable, the state and the governor accountable, in efforts to move Princeville forward. We need to come together as a whole in order to make things move in the county and town as a collective body to get something done. We need to come with the problems and solutions. He would love to be a part of this hard-working body. Mr. Sanders offered his time and expertise. Some may consider him new to the city, but he has been here back and forth for 30 year. He has worked at CRA for 22 years and was gone most of his adult life while in the Marines. He retired and came back to the area because of family and memories. He believes in getting things done and that one person is not able to do it. Want to say to the Governor, let's get the funds that are needed for this town. People should be able to move back to the Town Hall and not be governed in exile. The people of Princeville need action and we need things done in housing and schools because without, they do not have stabilization. Must have recreation (something for the kids to do) to have a quality of life. Sidewalks and parks, facilities for the seniors. Come together as a civil engagement to move the town forward. (1) short term is the need to get our government back in order, which will give the citizens a level of hope, and to see the town working to help them. The entitlement of the service to the citizens. (1) mid-term goal is to see the town move so that we could bring some industry businesses here for tax base, create jobs. (3) long-term goal is to get something done with the 53 acres of parcel.
- **Third Presentation: Mr. Calvin Sherrod** gave his name, address, and phone number. Submitted a letter to the town to serve Ward 4. Told everyone that he has

served as commissioner in the Ward before and would be willing to go above and beyond to get things done. (1) short-term goal is to get the town of Princeville back on this side of the bridge, cut cost, and get Town of Princeville back where it belongs. (2) mid-term goals would like the people of Princeville to return. (3) long-term goal would be to get business in Town of Princeville.

**Board Voted for Mr. Kenneth Sanders:**

1 for Minister Alvin Jones

2 for Kenneth Sanders

- It was shared that Mr. Kenneth Sanders would be sworn in, in March

**VI. Adjustment to the Agenda: None**

**VII. Public Comments:**

1. **Rita Dancy**, Had questions and concerns about Prince Ct. What is the request for proposal for the property? Will it be torn down or remodeled?
2. **Calvin Sherrod**, Questions about the 40-45 lots and what could be done about them. Someone in estate would like to purchase it. Suggested to get the property in somebody hands that can do something with it.
3. **Ed. Bridgers, Otis Ave, Princeville**: Had questions and concerns about the dike repairs and extension; Questions about updates from US Army of Core Engineers and DOT and where the county measures stopped. Questions about raising the dike, gave name of Karen Christine and Ronald Keeter for assistance with constructing the dike, offered maps and other document for the cemetery, suggested ideas about entrapment, had questions about Shelia Battle, buyout, elevation, and reconstruction. Asked the board to prioritize (5) things. Senior Citizens need for a bus, talked about (2) police cars ice cream polar, and senior citizen building. Questions about Doristeen Wiggins and Linda Wormsley's mitigation process.

**VIII. Public Hearing**

- **Reading of the public notice by the Town Clerk**
- It was motioned by Commissioner Myrick to open public hearing and second by Commissioner Joyner; Attorney Morphis provided background information: He stated that the town has never gone through the steps to operate the cemetery. There was documentation that in 1998 the town went through the process by creating a map that showed the cemetery, listed at the registered of deeds that had lots of small family cemeteries that are located there. The town was going to take it over, but it was never completed. Want to see who is maintaining the cemetery. The Public Hearing is to offer everyone who wants to, to provide input. He stated that this Public Hearing is not required by law but thanked the board for having a hearing on such sensitive topic.

- Mr. Bridgers discussed ways to have someone maintain the cemetery, asked about charging it to the taxes to maintain. Noted that the Town does not own the cemetery and is trying to assist with getting help to maintain it. Requested that the town apply for history funds to leave the individual plots alone and apply for funds to hire to maintain the cemetery. Town can take over the cemetery but not individual plots or they can take over the cemetery and the plots but make sure the ownership of the plots are respected. In order to take over it, the board must declare it abandoned and pay for the maintenance. In the 90's they did a title search to find the rightful owners. There aren't any individual titles. Questions about having an exemption, but they haven't gotten that far yet, but the board should come up with individual titles. The Town hasn't gotten to the step to find out who had deeds to the cemetery. If the person is not living, who will be charged.
- Mr. Adkins talked about the markings of the cemetery and plotting. He also talked about a blue mailbox that use to be there but was loss in 1999.
- Mr. Carlton Jones expressed how he felt. The town should take over ownership of the cemetery. He stated that a few people including himself have been maintaining the cemetery with their funds. He said the Town would be crazy not to take responsibility of the cemetery.
- Town Manager, Glenda Knight reminded the board that the Town does not have funds to maintain the cemetery but could explore in the next fiscal year considering its budget time.
- Commissioner JoeRoam Myrick: Question: Why we can't visit other towns cemeteries and ask those people how they are maintaining theirs and copycat what they are doing. Discussed Senator Bob Martin donation of \$45,000 and that the money was used to maintain until it was exhausted.
- Questions around if the town takes over and the owners don't maintain their plot, do the town charge them? The town has maintained it with volunteers, no more private citizen maintenance required. Attorney Morphis responded that the town could do a code enforcement action if not maintained. Commissioner Bullock requested to find out how much it would cost the town verses a contractor to maintain. Mayor Jones shared that a contractor will do it for what the bid is and the Town could get multiply bids and take the lowest bid.
- The board discussed code enforcement with the attorney to find out who the ownerships are, if the town take over the other plots and land, and still must enforce it with the others that own the plots. Ways to be realistic about maintaining. Attorney Morphis suggested that the Board discuss how to regulate the cemetery if the desire is to assume the responsibility.
- Motion to Adjourn the public hearing. Commissioner Joyner motioned
- that the Town of Princeville take possession of the cemetery so that we can maintain it. Second by Commissioner Myrick. Attorney Morphis wanted to be clear of Commissioner Joyner's motion, was it for maintenance or ownership. Commissioner Joyner confirmed it was for all the cemetery, ownership. Attorney

Morphis reminded the board that they would need to come up with how they would operate, and he would be willing to help with generating the operation of the cemetery. Motion carried.

**IX. Presentation:**

Andy Fox: Professor of NC State University: Mr. Fox project secured a \$15,000 grant for NC Community foundation to explore signage and unification of Princeville. He stated that he wanted the approval of the board to immediately install street trees and signage for the town. He stated that the initial thought was from the bridge and a little pass Dancy Street but, due to the Right of Way and pending conversations with DOT, he wanted to look at other areas in the community. Discussed the area and the timing of the grant and that they would likely get started in the Spring. He stated that the work would be between Mutual and Dancy Street, and toward the Town Hall. Time line for installation is late April or May. He also shared that once their work is completed that their work could be used as a pilot stud for future beautification. Will provide a design proposal for next meeting in March. The pleasure of the board was to approve the work on NC Signage Program. All votes in favor (3-0)

**X. Approval of the Agenda**

**A) Consent Agenda (Approved 3-0)**

**B) Department Reports**

1. Finance report and questions from the board: Question about Amendment 4 is it for the approval of the board: Town Manager Glenda Knight responded, it's for a FYI. Requires no approval.

2. Senior Citizens report: (no questions)

3. Sheriff Report: Mayor: Did they find out who did the drive byes? Madam Clerk responded that she reached out to the detectives, there has not been a returned call. she will follow up and provide board with results once she receives the feedback.

4. Fire Department Report: Chief, Antwon Brown shared that there has been an increase in calls to the fire department for emergencies. Reminder to call 911 directly for emergencies. He also reminded citizens to check fire alarms as a preventive measure.

5. Public Works: Shared that the representative from Wooten Company went out in the community to look at the street where the proposed Drainage project would be working. Shared that they will provide a proposal in a few weeks and that the project could be reimbursed by FEMA.

**XI Other Reports:**

1. Pioneer Ct: (Mayor Jones) They are in the process of doing an environment study on the 53 acres trying to work out an agreement with Pioneer Ct. to reestablish where it is, in addition to having another apartment complex on the 53 acres. The Mayor spoke about jobs coming to Edgecombe county and the shortage in housing. He stated the Town wants to be in the position to provide affordable housing for those who want to come in for the jobs. He stated that the assessment will tell how much of the 53 acres are buildable. No questions from the board.

## **XI. Town Manager's Report:**

- 1) **HMGP Update:** Sill waiting on the appraisal's status. No report currently.
- 2) **53 Acres:** Deadline for the bids is 2/25/19.
- 3) **Town Hall, Museum and Senior Citizen Building:** Waiting to hear back from FEMA about the amended cost made to the project worksheet but with the Government shutdown and everyone playing catch up, it may take a few more weeks to get an updated status.
- 4) **Community Service Work Program:** Met with probation lead person to utilize some of their people for community service to help in the community and to utilize them in the cemetery. Questions from Commissioner Joyner: Ho do we handle supervisors/supervision? Answer: We would provide the supervision along with the regular staff. Public Works Supervisor added, we must make sure that they are safe, treated with respect, and dignity. Also, he shared that we must report back to their probation officer so that they are able to keep up with hours. Question by Commissioner Joyner: Who covers the insurance? Public Works Supervisor: The Probation Department does, and it's included in the agreement.
- 5) **Allocated funds:** Currently advertising for positions: (1) Admin Asst II (2), Maintained worker (2) Clerk/Fiscal Officer (3). custodian and will start interviewing next week.
- 6) **FYI:** As of 1/31/19 there are 505 customers that have utilities in the community per the listing print off.
- 7) **Deeds for United Methodist:** Properties on Newton Road will not be needed as there was difficulties in locating survivors who had the funds being request up front.
- 8) **Drainage with The Wooten Company:** Will submit a proposal to do some work in our community. They are currently working with the county on a project. We should have proposal back in the next few weeks.

## **XII. Old Business:**

- 1) **Edgecombe Hurricane's Contract Renewal:**
  - Edgecombe hurricane contract renewal: Asked the Board to include in the contract that if volunteers are used that they sign a liability waiver; and that they send us an updated insurance certification immediately following the expiration date of 7/10/19. Board approve (3-0)

- Public Works Supervisor reported that there had been a break in with both bathrooms, that the doors were kicked in and some vinyl siding is off. He stated that a police report had been made. He asked if the Edgecombe Hurricanes could keep their property in their possession during off season so that there would not be a liability for the town. He shared that they have a lot of their property in the kitchen. Commissioner Myrick said that he would take care of it. The Board had no further questions.

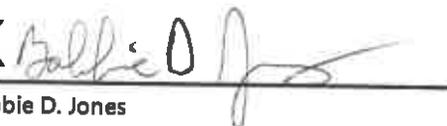
- 2) **Selection of May Pro Tem:** Board opted to wait until the swearing in of New Commissioner before voting to fill this position.
- 3) **Request for additional check signer:** Board voted (3-0) for Commissioner Myrick to be the second check signer on the Town's account.

**XIV. New Business: None**

**XV. Executive Session:** Commissioner Myrick motioned to go into Executive Session: It was second by Commissioner Bullock. Motion carried pursuant N.C.G.S. 143-318, 11(a)(1).

**XVI. Comments of the Board: (None)**

**XVII. Adjournment:** Commissioner Joyner motioned to go adjourn. Commissioner Myrick seconded. Motion carried.

X   
Bobbie D. Jones  
Mayor

X   
Glenda Knight  
Town Manager



# TOWN OF PRINCEVILLE

**Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting**

**March 18, 2019 at 7:00PM**

**3003 North Main Street, Tarboro, NC 27886**

## Minutes

**Board Members Present:** Mayor Bobbie Jones, Commissioner Linda Joyner, Commissioner Milton Bullock, Commissioner JoeRoam Myrick, Commissioner Kenneth Sanders

**Board Members Absent:** N/A

**Staff Present:** Town Manager Glenda Knight, Attorney Dana Jones, Finance Consultant, Bernita Demery, and Administrative Assistant II, Valerie Ivey-Lyons

- I. Board of Commissioners Call to Order and Roll Call @ 7pm.**
- II. Invocation rendered by Commissioner Linda Joyner**
- III. Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Board of Commissioners, Staff and Public.**
- IV. Adjustments to the Agenda:** Commissioner JoeRoam Myrick made a motion to approve the Agenda; Motion second by Commissioner Linda Joyner; Motion passed (4-0).
- V. Public Comments:**
  - 1. Ms. Lee Bolton, Dail's Transmisslon:** Had questions and concerns about the buyout and where she could get information. Mayor Bobbie Jones stated it would be discussed in the manager's report. Ms. Bolton was given Ms. Richardson as the contact person by the Town Manager.
  - 2. Art Jackson, Downtown Economic Specialist:** Reported that Princeville has been selected to be apart of the Downtown Strong Initiative. He works temporarily/part-time for the North Carolina Mainstream Rural Development which is a part of the North Carolina Commerce. The mission is to work with

towns that has not been a part of the states mainstream programs that want to work on their community's downtown area. There are four approaches to the program: strategic planning, technical assistance, educational and training. He has reviewed the visioning plans and would like to schedule two working sessions with the Board. Initially he will be meeting with Dr. Knight to develop proposed plans and list all the short-term self-help projects and things that the town would like to work on because there is no funding for this initiative. He also plans to work with Mr. Bruce Naelegen who has been assigned to the town to review the visioning final document so that work will not be duplicated. Thereafter, he will come back with ideas of how to organize and find resources. The program is in the budget for next year. He stated he was proud to be here.

3. **Ed Bridgers**, Congratulated Town Manager for getting things done as well as how he sat with the Governor and the town leaders discussing Princeville. He stated that the Governor has accepted Princeville personally and want to see the Town recover. Mr. Bridgers also discussed his understanding that there is money available, but it isn't moving to Princeville but the surrounding areas that are receiving funding. He stated he will be meeting with the Town Manager and police department about the Town Hall with suggestions of building it to be a two-story building like other area town halls that will safe all documents, equipment, etc.
4. **Calvin Adkins**. Discussed his time as an employee for the town under the North Carolina Emergency Management. Discussed the ending of his contract and things that occurred prior to the end of his contract in a conversation with Town Manager Dr. Glenda Knight. He said she explains him walking away from his position before being fired by her. Mr. Adkins read a part of an email from Mr. Sprayberry in reference to the position being cut. Mr. Adkins stated that the decision was not made by the board and they should have been notified. Mr. Adkins made several statements about his contact ending, his feeling towards the reasons for his position being cut, and the things he felt broke protocol before the hiring of Dr. Knight. He stated that references had not been done, the Town Manager position had not been advertised and background checks had not been done. He stated that he said he was not going to say anything if he thought that he was fired fairly but he changed his mind and that the board was aware of all the incidents. Attorney Dana Jones replied to Mr. Adkins statements in that his comments have been noted.
5. **Marquetta Dickens, Free & Fighters for Freedom Hill Non-Profit Organizations**: Native of Princeville, now resident in Philadelphia, expressed the ideas of what the younger generation would like to do in the town of

Princeville and specific events they would like to bring into the town. Discussed the percentage of families in poverty, the school systems failing, and the inability to come back to Princeville to raise a family. Discussed the development of two non-profit organization, Free & Fighters from Freedom Hill, that are reaching outside sources to assist with the restoring of the town. Stated she feel that the people of Princeville should be included in the designs. Their mission is to reserve the history of the town, focus on economic development globally, channel funds through 501-C to help restore. They are asking the town to provide insight and allow them to serve on committees. Stated they are here to help with the rebuilding to our community. Discussed event coming up on March 30, 2019 which they have partnered with a grant from East Carolina University. Stated the organization would like to come together with the board to make sure that the goal and missions are the same. Stated Princeville was the first historically and people should know. Discuss their connection to the Governor through a friend that work for the Governor as well as the resources they have.

#### **VI. Presentations:**

**1. Mr. Andrew Fox, NC State Signage Project:** Provided updates from last regular scheduled meeting about work being conducted through NC State and the NC Foundation. Reflected on the packet given with discussion on moving forward with the beautification work and town hall's renovation. Stated he will be working with Mr. Porter Public Works Supervisor in the next few weeks to work on goals of the maintenance rescheme of the town to be sure that there is a right fit of work. Discussed the money through the NC Community Foundation that includes money for signage and the descriptions in the packets for signage. Discussed the presentation to DOT and the concerns they may have with utilizing the back of the roundabout sign and the ability to use some of \$15,000.00 NC community foundation funds to provide an entry marker on the backside of the sign into the community. State that it is being reviewed, but a determination has not been made at this time. Stated he will be meeting with Mr. Jackson to get an understanding of the work with the community through the visioning sessions to be sure they incorporated what the community wants in terms of the beautification project. Discussed the cemetery in reference to Mr. Prince Turner grave marker not being known and the potential to purchase a white oak tree as a memorial as well as other maker or signage to the entrance of the cemetery as well as landscape of the project. States they have a great team working towards these issues. Mr. Fox took questions and recommendations.

- Commissioner Bullock asked questions about the two stop lights in Princeville, the debris before and after the bridge, the area that is swamp land. Requested that these areas be put in the visionary process to get rid

of the dead wood from the trees that are falling. Mr. Fox explained, they will not have the capacity to move the dead trees but explained on March 27, 2019, the idea of bringing students down to Princeville to engage with the residence on the improvement process.

- Commissioner Bullock inquired if Mr. Fox knew of a company that provide developmental landscaping. Mr. Fox elaborated on understanding what the town and county owns or what property is outside of the right of way and privately owned will help because they can't work on private properties and the ownership of those parcel.
  - Commissioner Joyner inquired about the possibility of having the Princeville flag put on the signage. Mr. Fox stated it is very possible according to the standards of DOT.
  - Commissioner Myrick explained that Mr. Jackson has a very good idea of the marking for Prince Turner and will coordinated with the town manager and Mr. Fox to see how to put the memorial together. Mr. Fox stated that Mr. Kofi Boone has a lot of ideas about a pop-up memorial that may be able to work in front of the museum until the museum is renovated that will allow people to come and still gain access to the history of the community. The goal is to prioritize the spending of the funds to ensure to get the right things done first that will influence the next item to be completed with the funding for beautification according to the rule.
  - Mayor Jones elaborated on option B of the packet that was given and the difference between option A & B. Mr. Fox confirmed that presenting the options was the goal to allow the Board to decide upon the best look for the Town Hall.
  - Other questions were about donations from Greenleaf Nursery & Lowes.
- 2. Ms. LeeCee Jones, Update on Princeville Travelling exhibit:** Ms. Jones explained the establishment of the Princeville Travelling exhibit and the partnership projects. States she is a volunteer and the close ties her mother has to Princeville and her efforts to see the rebuilding of Princeville and communities. Explained her background in outreach and the honor to help with the traveling exhibit, along with any partnerships. Ms. Jones stated that the exhibit should make the history of Princeville well known and will give exposure and raise awareness of Princeville. The exhibit is a digital showcasing across the nation, colleges, and universities where people can access an iPad that will show the history of Princeville. Commission Joyner expounded upon the importance of our history known across the nation. She shared about her trip to the Black Museum in Washington, D.C. stating that she visited the area where they were showcasing black towns and Princeville was not listed. She stated that she made great efforts to have Princeville listed thereafter, but Eatonville Florida was cited as the oldest town chartered by freed slaves. She stated that she reminded

them that Princeville is the oldest town chartered by freed slaves and the exposure is needed.

**3. Dr. Lisa Nelson, Major Taylor Cycling Club:** Dr. Nelson is a surgeon at Boice Willis Clinic in Rocky Mount, Board of Conetoe Family Life Center, Board of Triangle Bike Works, that take youth of color on cycling tours around the country and stop at historical sites along the way. Discussed the area that they cycle and the change she sees in the youth. Discuss doing a farm tour around Eastern, North Carolina. Discussed ways to bring attraction to Princeville that will generate funds. She mentioned that this is the 400<sup>th</sup> year of enslaved Africans. Stated Princeville should be a tourist site rebuilt as Black Wall Street. Presented Freedom Hill, Bikers, BBQ, & Blues presentation and packet to the board and community that suggested ways to generate funds. Dr. Nelson discussed the 139<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and it being on YouTube and the reasons to bring attention to Princeville.

- Mayor Jones asked what was needed from the town. Dr. Nelson suggested a buy in from the town for the bike ride and making Princeville a historic destination.
- Commissioner Joyner asked the date for the Bike Ride. Dr. Nelson stated that by May, a proposal, grant, buy in from Princeville, support to approach Edgecombe for the grant money, everything should be ready by August. She would like to meet with teachers to identify the kids that are interested in Kids Shark Tank.
- Comment by Commissioner Bullock, board need to become familiar with and support what Dr. Nelson and Marquetta Dickens presented.
- Question from Commissioner Myrick if Dr. Nelson had spoken to Town Manager. Dr. Nelson stated that she only spoke to Mayor Jones and Pervious Town Manger, but she will coordinate a time to meet with Dr. Knight.

**VII. Consent to Agenda: (Approved 3-0)**

1. Minutes – March 18, 2019 Regular Town Meeting
2. Senior Center- no questions
3. Edgecombe County Sheriff – no questions
4. Princeville Volunteer Fire department - no questions
5. Public Works

- Comment and request from Commissioner Sanders to have Public Works Report on a weekly basis rather a monthly basis.

- Town Manager responded, Public Work has a work plan that they are guided by and reports weekly and that report can be attached to the monthly report.
- Commissioner Bullock discuss the gutters at the Fire Department and suggest it be put on the Agenda once more.
- Mayor Jones suggested it be put under unmet needs.
- Board of Commissioners agreed.

#### **VIII. Town Managers Report:**

**1. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Update:** 8 appraisals have been completed as of 3/18/19. 5 sales and consultation has transpired and are awaiting attorney consultation with acquisition process, (8 out of 22).

- Mayor Jones asked if there were questions.
- Ms. Lee Bolton want to clarify that only 8 appraisals had been completed.
- Dr. Knight directed Ms. Bolton to Disaster Director Ms. LaShanya Richardson.

**2. Status of environmental assessment firm selection for the 53 Acres of Land:** Dr. Knight meet with environment assessment committee on 3/14/19 at town hall and 10:00 am and out of 12 firms that submitted applications packets, it was narrowed down to 4 firms and has been turned over to the county manager and we are waiting to hear back from the county manager so that interviews can be scheduled an move the process along pretty quickly to get assessment done.

- Question from Mayor Jones if there is a timeframe as to when the process will begin.
- Dr. Knight elaborated that she spoke to Town Manager on 3/14/19 and she will reach back out to the County Manager on Friday 3/22/19 to see where he is with the process and we are waiting for him to respond.

**3. Town Hall, Museum and Senior Citizens building construction:** The RFP has been completed. We are adjusting some dates as the county will promote and market that for us to go live as they did with the 53 acres. Because 12 firms submitted packets and we are hoping that it will be an easy process in selecting the work to be done for the town hall. The Senior Citizen building, and the museum is still pending and waiting for FEMA to approve the cost adjustments.

- Mayor Jones questions the time frame for the town hall.

- Dr. Knight elaborates hoping to get the RFP out next week and that the county will promote that.
- Mayor Jones asked Dr. Knight to explain what RFP means.
- Dr. Knight gave the meaning of (RFP) Request for Proposal to complete the project.
- Commissioner asked the timeframe to make a resolution.
- Dr. Knight explained that they are adjusting the dates on the RFP.
- Commissioner Myrick asked what the timeframe was after the dates are adjusted.
- Dr. Knight stated it was hard to say at this time.
- Commissioner Joyner questioned if the completion of the town hall could be done while waiting on the Senior Citizens building and museum.
- Dr. Knight states no cost adjustments were made for the town hall because the Board elected to demolish the Senior Citizens where it is, move it back, to beat the 50/50 rule and we are waiting for it to be approved.
- Mayor Jones states that originally, they wanted all three building together as a package, but questions, are we moving forward with the town hall without the other two buildings.
- Dr. Knight states we are moving forward with the Town hall because of the timeframe and if the RFP is complete, we are ready to move forward waiting for FEMA to approve the cost amendment that was done by Mr. **Jacko**

**4. Downtown Strong Initiative:** Dr. Knight stated that Mr. Jackson did a great job at describing the Downtown Strong Initiative. He was in the community today with the Public Works Supervisor working together collaborating with the other key stakeholders to see this project through. Dr. Knight stated that we will be scheduling some upcoming work sessions with the Board so that we can have a clear vision of how that project will look for the revitalization of our downtown area.

- Mayor Jones stated it is very appreciated, but his question becomes how is this different from what has been done before the strategy session with the citizens.
- Mr. Jackson stated that because there have been a lot of things done in the past, they will work with the two meetings that they have scheduled to identify a specific project to focus on because they don't want to repeat what's already been done.
- Commissioner Joyner asked questions related to other Downtown Strong that Mr. Jackson had been involved with.
- Mr. Jackson stated that Princeville is new. There are only two towns and Princeville is the first he had been to. He stated this is a new concept going into the small rural towns to see what they can do.
- Dr. Knight states it will be a collaborative effort and we appreciate what they are doing, and it may open some more opportunities as the town moves forward.
- Mr. Jackson stated he thinks the best thing out of it is he can connect with some people in Raleigh that aren't aware of us more aware of us because we have a lot of things to work on and this will make them aware because a lot of people would like to help but don't know what is needed so they want to make it easy for them moving forward.

**5. North Carolina Department of Transportation's (I-95/ Future 1-87 Rural Corridor, resiliency, and Innovation Technology Project:** Dr. Knight submitted a letter of support of the NC DOT for their project that is up and coming that they submitted an application for through the North Carolina Department of Transportation Infra Program where they will strategically coordinate the improvement of Corridor performance for bright mobility and infrastructure and the resiliency and that will happen from Zebulon into Williamston and there will also be an opportunity to improve some flood mitigation for the town of Princeville. That was submitted on last week and the letter is attached.

- Mayor Jones commented that this is going to be huge not only for Edgecombe County but for Eastern North Carolina. They have been talking about making that an interstate for a while and that's why we must focus in on the 53 acres right off 64 which will be the interstate to draw people in to the town of Princeville. That will increase the tax revenue so we can do more things for our people.
- Marquetta Dickens commented this is the part where they step in as a non-profit organization where they have already identified through the federal government loophole to get money into Princeville so that we can develop the 53 acres. In the way the new tax breaks are laid out, they have what is called opportunity zones and Princeville is a part of those zones as well as Tarboro, so by identifying things where we can get money in to help with the rebuilding, knowing that the highway is going to be right there that will generate a lot of traffic that would allow more opportunity for developers who want to come in like community developer who understand our needs and not just people that want to come in for the money sake. This is what's most important to help identify when the time is right.
- Commissioner Joyner commented on Freedom Hill and expressed that we hear you and want to work close with you. Stated she knows that Marquetta has some ideas, energy, where with all, and knowledge of it and the Board really want to work with them to bring them in more closely understanding that she lives out of state but is willing to come back. Commissioner Joyner stated to the Board that this is an opportunity that they can't turn a deaf ear to. Stated that they are not just the future, they are the now.

**IX. New Business: Request for Auditing Service contract for the Fiscal FY2013, FY2014, and FY2015 (Recommendations: To award auditing service contract to Nunn, Bashear, & Uzzell PA):** Mayor Jones asked if everyone had the opportunity to review the contracts.

- Dr. Knight introduced Mrs. Bernita Demery, Financial Consultant.
- Bernita elaborated on the Fiscal FY2013, FY2014, and FY2015 Audit Contracts. Bernita stated that these contracts has been review and approved by the auditing firm and has been approved by the State Treasury Office. States that this would move us forward to the end of 2015 and the recommendations that all three not to exceed the amount of \$16,500.00. Recommendation is that the Board approve these three contracts and we are hoping that working with the auditors that with a base of 2012 that we will be able to speed up and get these completed with in a good timeframe over the next few months.
- Mayor Jones asked if there were any questions.
- Mayor Jones made a motion to approve.
- Commissioner Joyner so moved for approval
- Commissioner Myrick seconded the motion to approval
- Mayor Jones properly moved and seconded the motion to approval the auditing service contracts for the FY2013, FY2014 and FY2015 to Nunn, Brashear, & Uzzell. Passed (4-0).

**X. Announcements:**

- Mayor Jones asked that if anyone is available on Saturday, March 30, 2019 at 8:30 to please come and participate in Princeville's past, present, and future headed by our young people, (The Millennials and Fighter's for Freedom) at the Joyner Library at ECU, second floor.

**XI. Executive Session:**

- Mayor Jones made motion to go into Executive Session.
- Mayor Jones read N.C. G. S. 143-318.11 (a)(1). & N.C.G.S. 143.318.11 (a)(4).
- Commissioner Myrick seconded the motion. Motion carried out.

**XII. Old Business:**

**XIII. Board Comments:**

**XIV. Adjournment:**

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 p.m.**

X *Bobbie D. Jones*

Bobbie D. Jones  
Mayor

X *Glenda Knight*

Glenda Knight  
Town Manager