

# TOWN OF PRINCEVILLE

## Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting

December 16, 2019 7:00PM

3003 North Main Street, Tarboro, NC 27886

### Minutes

**Board Member Present:** Mayor Bobbie Jones, Commissioner Linda Joyner, Commissioner Joe Roam Myrick, Mayor Pro Tem Kenneth Sanders, Commissioner Milton Bullock, Commissioner Alvin Jones, Commissioner William Johnson

**Board Members Absent:** 0

**Staff Present:** Attorney Dana Jones, Town Manager Glenda Knight, Town Clerk Natasha Barrett, Mashade Lockamy (Attorney Jones Office)

- I. **Call to Order and Roll Call** Mayor Bobbie Jones
- II. **Invocation rendered by** Commissioner Linda Joyner
- III. **Pledge of Allegiance** Recited by all
- IV. **Public Comments:** (Limited to 2 minutes. Please state name and address)
  - a) Mr. Ed Bridgers-402 Otis Avenue- addressed the new Commissioners and asked that they work on getting a police department as well as working on the Town's water system. He said that the water bills are too high compared to surrounding areas. Mr. Bridgers suggested that the Town get rid of the mobile museum because it didn't seem to have a purpose but instead use the funding to get a building for the museum. He addresses the Mayor and asked that he get a committee together to speak with the Governor about 20 million dollars that the Town may receive. Mr. Bridgers addressed the Sheriff's department about the speeding in the town. He said that the 35mph sign is just there, people are driving well above the speed limit. Mr. Bridgers also addressed the Public Works department about a deer that has been on the road for a long time. He said that it needs to be removed.
  - b) Calvin Sherrod-1298 Greenwood Avenue- Mr. Sherrod complimented the Public Works department for doing a good job. He asked the Board to go to the county and speak with them about the water bill issue. He shared he is running for County Commissioner and will also address the water

bill. He said " If they wants to keep high bills vote for Viola but if they wanted their bills lower, vote for him.

## **V. Announcement**

1. Mayor Bobbie Jones presented a plaque to Mayor Pro Tem Kenneth Sanders and thanked him for his year of service in the position. Mayor Pro Tem Kenneth Sanders expressed how he enjoyed the time he had with the Town of Princeville. He encouraged the citizens to get out and vote as well as participating in the census because it is important to public policy. Mayor Pro Tem Sanders said that he will have his office open for anyone that want to use computers to complete the Census. He said that he will continue to be around in the community.
2. Mayor Bobbie Jones presented Commissioner Milton Bullock with a plaque and thanked him for his service. Commissioner Milton Bullock said that he only has one thing briefly to say, he said "We need to realize who we are. We can get anything we need if we unite". Commissioner Bullock said that we need to be the voice for the Town. Commissioner Bullock ended his speech by singing a segment of one of his songs and ask the Mayor to sing his part; the citizens joined in as well.
3. Edgecombe Entrepreneur Organization- is having their 30<sup>th</sup> Martin Luther King Jr. Citizenship Award to honor an individual or organization in Edgecombe County whose work and community service activities have enhanced the dream, philosophy, and principles of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
4. Thank you card from Chamber of Commerce was read by Mayor Bobbie Jones.
5. Monthly meeting date change with a suggestion by the Mayor to be held on January 13, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 7:00pm. Approved by the Board. (4-0)
6. Birthdays announcement by the Mayor: Commissioner elect Alvin Jones - 12/6; Commissioner Kenneth Sanders-12/9; Town Clerk Natasha Barrett-12/17

7. Calling post sign-up- Town Clerk announced that any citizen that would like to be notified of activities or emergencies pertaining to Princeville can sign up to be added to the call list. She announces that the sign-up sheet will be at the Town Hall meetings or the citizens can call the Town Hall number to sign up.
8. African American Cultural Celebration- The North Carolina Museum of History is having a free event to commemorate African American History on January 25, 2020 in Raleigh, NC.
9. Winners of the yard decorating competition- Commissioner Linda Joyner announced the winners of the Christmas tree decorating competition. The winners were Regina Cobb (Ward 1), Deena Robinson (Ward 2), Ernest Harrell (Ward 3), Dorthea Sharpe (Ward 4). Commissioner Joyner asked that the citizens make sure that their address can be visibly seen because it makes it hard to locate their residence especially at night. Commissioner Joyner thanked everyone for their participation and would like for more citizen to participate next year.

**VI. Adjustment to Agenda-** no adjustment made

**VII. Presentations** (Limited 5-10 minutes)

- c) 1) Dr Lisa Nelson - Came before the board and the citizens about bringing opportunity to Princeville by having a Princeville Homecoming. The homecoming will consist of bounce houses, vendors, and entrepreneurs from surrounding areas. Dr. Lisa Nelson said that this event will bring economic opportunity to the Town of Princeville. The Princeville homecoming will also help vendors, farmers and veterans connect with organization such as ThePeoplesFoundation.org to receive help with funding from grants. Dr. Nelson said that Princeville citizens who wish to be a vendor does not have to pay a fee. The event will take place on August 1<sup>st</sup> 2020.

**VIII. Approval of the Agenda (Approved 4-0)**

**A. Consent Agenda**

- 1) Minutes – November 18 Regular Meeting and November 18 Executive Session Mtg. **Approve (4-0)**

## **B. Department Reports**

- 2) Senior Center – Ms. Linda Worsley said the Senior Center is doing well. They had 2 new members to join. She thanked the citizen and everyone that participated in the parade.
- 3) Edgecombe County Sheriff's Office gave insight on some of the questions about the monthly Sheriff report. Michael Catagnus, Communications Director explained the report is set up to filter the calls that they receive for Princeville only. For last month, Princeville received 215 calls. Commissioner Linda Joyner asked what should the citizen do if they hear shots fired. The Sheriff's office suggested that they call so that they can investigate where the shots are coming from.
- 4) Princeville Volunteer Fire Department reported that they will be getting sirens. If citizens here it, it is just a notification. The Mayor asked when will they have their inspection. The volunteer fire department will have their inspection on January 8<sup>th</sup> 2020.
- 5) Public Works- Commissioner Linda Joyner asked if the public works department can clean up around Princeville Elementary School because the students are returning soon. The Town Manager responded that the plan is to make sure that the Public Works Department cleans Walston street and make sure that the area is polished before the school opening in January 2020.
- 6) Edgecombe County Disaster Recovery
- 7) Finance Reports (Expenditure & Profit vs Actual)

## **IX. Town Managers Report:**

- 1) Feasibility- Town Manager Glenda Knight reported that since the last meeting, there has been 4 firms that submitted for feasibility. The study will check to see if the structures are sound for elevation. Interviews are scheduled for Tuesday with two of the four firms.

- 2) Update of Sheriff agreement- Town Manager Glenda Knight reported that the Board voted last month to increase off duty deputy days to four days a week and 10 hours coverage. The contract will be updated and resent.

#### **X. Old Business**

#### **XI. New Business**

- 1) Voting of the Mayor Pro Tem- The Mayor asked for a vote on Mayor Pro Tem, Commissioner Joe Roam Myrick nominated himself and Commissioner Linda Joyner nominated herself. The vote was (2-2). The Mayor broke the tie for Commissioner Linda Joyner to be the new Mayor Pro Tem.
- 2) Adding an additional bank signer- Town Manager suggested to the Board to add an additional check signer to ensure that checks are signed in a reasonable timeframe. She gave an example of the Sheriff department not getting paid until Friday when they should have been paid on Wednesday. The Board voted Commissioner Linda Joyner to be the 3<sup>rd</sup> check signer. **Approved (4-0)**
- 3) Citizenship Award- Town Manager discussed the 2020 Town Citizenship Award and reflected on last February citizen Mr. Roger Southerland, that was honored at the Town's 134 Founders Day celebration. She said that the purpose of the award is to acknowledge an individual who is exceeding the call of being a resident towards the Town to be bigger and better. The Town manager informed citizens that the application for nominees can be picked up at the Town Hall and on the Town's website.

**XII: Executive Session:** Motion to go into executive session by Commissioner JoeRoam Myrick, seconded by Commissioner Linda Joyner, **Approved (4-0)**

- N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1)(6) To prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of this State or of United States, or not considered a public record within the meaning of the Chapter 132 of the General Statutes.

A. Properties review and eligibility for services of new program  
(CDBG-Mit)

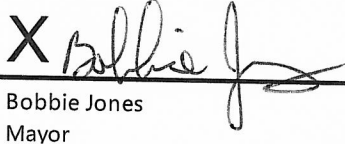
B. Community Parcels- The Board voted on purchasing all parcels  
associated with Heritage Park, 88 acres, 53 acres and Southern  
Terrace. **(Approved 4-0)**

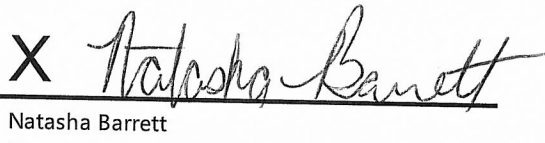
C. Personnel Matters- The Board voted to approved a Christmas bonus  
for the Town Manager in the amount \$250.

The Board voted on reimbursement of Town Manager's mileage for  
traveling to an event in August that the Town and Mr. Bridgers were  
being acknowledged. **Approved (4-0)**

**XIII: Board Comments**

**XIV: Adjournment** Commissioner Linda Joyner voted to adjourn. Commissioner Alvin  
Jones seconded. **Approved at 10:15pm (4-0)**

X   
Bobbie Jones  
Mayor

X   
Natasha Barrett  
Town Clerk