

WORKSHOP MEETING
WALKERTOWN TOWN COUNCIL
THURSDAY – FEBRUARY 13, 2020
6:00 P.M. @ TOWN HALL

Present: Mayor Davis, Council members Vernon Brown, Marilyn Martin, Wesley Hutchins and Town Manager Scott Snow and Town Clerk Rusty Sawyer.

Also attending, Dr. Angela P. Hairston, Superintendent of Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools.

Mayor Davis calls the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and opens with a prayer.

**MOTION: TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS WRITTEN WITH ADDITIONS BY
MAYOR DAVIS: #10 FLOODING AT JACKIE LANE / CHRIS DRIVE
& #11 UPCOMING ZONING CASES**

BY: MARILYN MARTIN
SECOND: WESLEY HUTCHINS
VOTE: UNANIMOUS
(BROWN, HUTCHINS, MARTIN)

1. WS/FCS Issues Discussion

Doc welcomes Dr. Hairston, Superintendent of Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools.

Dr. Hairston: Thank you for allowing me to speak with you this evening. I am hoping to gain your support for the ¼ cent Sales Tax increase to supplement teacher pay. The tax rate in Forsyth County is currently 6.75%. The ¼ cent increase will generate \$13 million the first year. That will be \$2K to 3K per teacher. \$14.3 million by 2025

Doc: Let me assure you that we are all in favor of helping teachers. To be blunt, we just don't have faith in our county commissioners. The teachers will receive their supplement the first year. The commissioners will keep it after that.

Dr. Hairston: Why do you say that?

Doc: History. They have done it in the past and they will do it again.

Dr. Hairston: We intend to not let that happen. 42 counties have already adopted the ¼ cent increase. Residents do not want an increase in property tax rate.

We are losing 15% of our teachers each year. Mostly to neighboring counties that pay more.

Doc: We are concerned about teachers and our community schools.

Dr. Hairston: Thanks for making me aware.

Mayor Davis leads a short discussion about other issues with local schools.

- School traffic issues
- Unsupervised students after school and students leaving campus during school hours
- Walkertown High School student parking off campus

2. Fire Services Discussion

Scott leads this discussion and updated the Council on the communications

with Forsyth County.

3. Wickenham Park Usage Discussion

Doc leads the discussion on how to move forward allowing the girls' softball team to share the fields with the Little League.

4. Town Building Signage Update

Scott leads this discussion.

Council agrees to go forward with Town Hall Signage and ask about the warranty on the vinyl lettering.

5. Main Street Study Update

Scott leads this discussion

Draft of the study was presented to Council for review.

6. Future Town Events Discussion

Doc leads this discussion.

Council is considering:

- Spring concert with the WHS Band at Walnut Pavilion
- Christmas with Santa after the Christmas Parade at the Walnut Pavilion
- Try a "Movie Night" at Town Center Park once in June
- Fall Festival
- Food Truck Thursday once a month at Town Center Park

7. Street Name Change

Scott: Clarios is not authorized to use "Power Solutions" Drive. They would now like the name to be changed to Powering Progress Drive.

Council agrees to have Scott request a formal letter from Clarios.

8. Planning Board Vacancy Discussion

Scott: Vernon Brown has been appointed to the Town Council leaving a vacant Planning Board seat.

Council agrees to offer the vacant seat to Planning Board Alternate Gary Mundy.

9. January / February Sheriff Report

Report presented to Council.

10. Street Flooding

Doc: The drainage pipe at the end of Jackie Lane & Chris Drive is inadequate causing flooding.

Council agrees to have Scott contact Mark with Alley & Williams.

11. Upcoming Zoning Cases

Doc leads this discussion explaining the differences between RS 20 & RM8 zoning districts in regard to case WA-061.

RS 20 would have larger lots (1/2 acre), be less dense, less traffic and no Town Homes.

However, all road connections would be required. Also, no funds from Keystone for the Depot Street / Main Street stop light installation and possibly for the street improvements on Sullivantown Road.

RM8 would include Town Homes, be denser and have more traffic. Funds would be available for turn lanes on Sullivantown and stop lights at Depot / Main Street. Neighborhood amenities would be required. The Town Council would make the decision on road connectivity. Construction could be phased in at no more than 26 homes per year.

WA-062

Doc: This is new, coming to the Planning Board in March. We don't have a Staff Report yet. David Heath is the petitioner. Scott has included a sketch in the agenda. As you can see there is a driveway to HWY 66 going thru an existing building and another entrance from Morris Street which is a town street.

Council is in agreement they are concerned that the proposed driveway connection on Old Hollow Rd is blocked by an existing building.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN WORKSHOP MEETING @ 9:15
BY: MARILYN MARTIN
SECOND: VERNON BROWN
VOTE: UNANIMOUS
(BROWN, HUTCHINS, MARTIN)

Submitted by: Rusty Sawyer
Town Clerk