

September 8, 2003

Mayor Goldsborough called the meeting of the Denton Town Council to order on this date at 7:00 P.M. leading everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Goldsborough asked that the record reflect all members were in attendance.

Scott Getchell provided the opening prayer for this meeting.

Councilman Horsey made a motion to approve the minutes of the Aug. 4, 2003 meeting as presented, seconded by Councilwoman Stockley, passing unanimously, 5-0.

Petitions, remonstrances and communication

Mr. Joe Ross of Shore Health Systems came before the board to provide an overview of the services offered by his agency. Mr. Ross provided some statistics relaying that they presently employ 326 residents from Caroline County; have seen in excess of 12,000 patients in the Denton area; admissions are over 1111; 354 newborns, and 12,000 emergency room visits also from residents of the County. He also relayed that there are plans are to expand the cancer center. This was informational only, no action was needed..

Resolution and Ordinances

Water and Sewer Rate Ordinances - Councilman Branson made a motion to introduced ordinance #427 to increase the sewer rate from \$5.18 per 1,000 gallons of usage to \$5.35, seconded by Councilman Horsey, the motion passed 5-0.

Councilman Branson made a motion to introduce ordinance #428 to increase the water rate from \$1.73 per 1,000 gallons of usage to \$2.00, seconded by Councilman Horsey, the motion passed 5-0.

Zoning Ordinance Amendment - Ms. Shull representing the Planning Commission came before the board seeking consideration to amend the Zoning Ordinance Article 13 Section 13-1.1 to decrease the number of members from 7-5, keeping the council member as a non-voting liaison beyond the 5 member board. Also, requesting an amendment to Article 7 Section 7-10 reducing front yard setback in the SR, TR and MR districts from 30' to 25'.

Councilman Horsey made a motion to introduce Ordinance #429, the zoning amendments, seconded by Councilman Foster, passing unanimously 5-0.

Community Legacy Resolution #637 - A resolution that was included with the Town's Community Legacy Application seeking financial assistance with the Fourth St. redevelopment project was brought before the board for ratification. This was already signed to be submitted before the application deadline.

Councilman Branson made a motion to ratify resolution #637, seconded by Councilwoman Stockley, the motion passed 4-1, with Councilman Horsey abstaining due to membership of the Denton Development Corp.

Caroline County Habitat for Humanity Resolution #636 - A resolution to

support the phase 2, Habitat for Humanity project, to build a two story single family home at 503 Lincoln Street. This is before the board for ratification, previously signed to be submitted before application deadline.

Councilman Branson made a motion to ratify resolution #636, seconded by Councilman Horsey, the motion passed 5-0.

Unfinished Business

The Mayor had previously signed a subordination agreement for Mathews Bros. to refinance their property, placing the Town in a second position, this needs formal ratification from the board.

Councilwoman Stockley made a motion to approve the Mayor's signature of the subordination agreement for Mathews Bros., seconded by Councilman Foster, the motion passed 5-0.

Councilman Foster asked the status of the high fence issue, and was advised that the Chief has scheduled to meet with Mr. Lumas the property owner on Thursday.

Councilman Horsey asked the status of the Market St., Eighth St., and Gay St. projects. Staff advised that the bids came in high, and there is still a gap in the funding. George Miles & Buhr will be meeting with the contractors to see if some items can be adjusted. The Eight St. grant expires in April 2004, and staff has received word that the State is willing to extend the grant deadline if necessary.

Councilman Foster asked the status on the Merchants complaint about the property on North Fourth Street Staff advised that the landlord has made progress in cleaning up the yard. The tenants were prohibited to have dogs, so they are to be removed.

The Chief provided an update on the new police facility at the request of Councilman Horsey. Ms. Fearins advised that the elevation of the building has been adjusted because of the high water table, extra funding has been requested due to the contamination. The lowest bid for the wiring came in under \$5,000, and staff is looking at taking from the contingency fund for the project

New Business

Agenda #1 - Water/Sewer Allocation Request -

A water/sewer allocation request from Real Estate General 9 lot subdivision located off of North Sixth St., was brought before the board for consideration.

Councilman Branson made a motion to approve the allocation request, seconded by Councilman Horsey, passing unanimously 5-0.

Agenda #2 - Mr. Robert Coursey request for discussion

Mr. Coursey was not feeling well this will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

Other New Business

Discussion was held regarding a pilot crossing guard program at High St. and Lockerman. Councilman Horsey made a motion to do the program, seconded by Councilwoman Stockley. Further discussions was held, in which Councilman Branson

asked for confirmation that this person would be a subcontractor and not an employee. Staff advised that IRS determination would need to be obtained regarding employment status. The Mayor called for the vote on the motion on the floor. The motion did not pass 0-5, all members voting in opposition until more research is obtained.

Councilman Horsey asked if the board could give a proclamation to the eleven members of the Temple Lodge for years of service. Councilwoman Stockley made a motion to support a proclamation, seconded by Councilman Branson, the motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Councilman Horsey asked if there was any update on the Walmart rumor, and was advised that no one from staff or the board has received anything official of a Walmart coming to Denton.

Councilman Horsey mentioned that the petition drive was successful. Staff mentioned to the board that they should consider recognition to Mr. Ron Thompson and Mr. Ron Kent for their efforts in and hard work in the petition drive.

The Board and Department Head retreat is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 19, 2003 to be held at the Old Hartford Town Museum.

Councilwoman Stockley advised the board that they were invited to attend the Lawn Party to held from 5:00 - 7:00 PM at the Sophie Kerr House on Sept. 20, 2003 to benefit the Historical Society.

Mayor Goldsborough relayed that there will be a Youth Forum held at NCHS, in which the Lt. Gov. is scheduled to be the keynote speaker. This is scheduled for Sept. 20, 2003.

The Police Dept. will take care of lowering the flags to half staff on Sept. 11, 2003, as a memorial.

Councilman Horsey advised that charging the municipalities a fee for animal control and tax collection is on the agenda for the Caroline County Commissioners meeting tomorrow. Councilman Horsey will be attending.

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Goldsborough adjourned the meeting at 8:11 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*Karen L. Monteith
Clerk-Treasurer*