

**TOWN OF HILDEBRAN  
COUNCIL'S CHAMBER  
TOWN HALL**

**MAY 22, 2017  
7:00 PM**

**REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER AND  
INVOCATION**

Mayor Cook called the regular meeting of the Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Wendell Hildebrand led a prayer.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Cole Herrell led the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag.

**COUNCIL PRESENT**

The following members of the Board were present: Mayor Virginia Cook and Council Members Brenda Banks, Theresa Messer and Barbara Lowman. Council Members Lee Lowman and Jody York were absent.

**STAFF PRESENT**

The following staff members were present: Attorney Redmond Dill, Town Administrator Thomas Drum, Town Clerk Alice Sanders, Finance Officer Fredrick Rankins, and Administrative Support Specialist Laurie Brawley.

**CITIZENS & MEDIA  
PRESENT**

See attached sheet.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Cook stated that agenda item 5a. under Old Business, "Consider an Ordinance Amending the Charter to Adopt the Council-Manager Form of Government," will be moved to Other Business due to the lack of Council members in attendance necessary to vote on the ordinance. Council Member B. Lowman made a motion to approve the agenda, as amended. All voted in favor.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Council Member B. Lowman made a motion to approve the April 24, 2017 regular and closed session meeting minutes. All voted in favor.

Council Member B. Lowman made a motion to approve the April 28, 2017 recessed regular meeting and closed session meeting minutes. All voted in favor.

Attorney Dill requested to amend the May 5, 2017 special meeting minutes. On page 2, paragraph 3, first sentence, he requested to change the word "bid" to "contract." Council Member Banks made a motion to approve the minutes, as amended. All voted in favor.

**OLD BUSINESS:  
CONSIDER TOWN LOGO**

Ms. Brawley collected feedback and votes over the past

month regarding three options for a new town logo. Option one received 20 votes, option two received 97 votes and option three received 25 votes. Mr. Drum stated that during the last month, it was discovered that the designer that the Town used to design a logo copied existing logos from other Towns and made slight adjustments to the artwork. If Council affirms that it is in agreement with the option with the highest vote, the Town will submit the artwork to another designer and ask for them to come up with something similar without involving any copyright issues. Council Member B. Lowman made a motion to have option 2, the artwork with the most votes, submitted to another designer to come up with a similar Town logo. All voted in favor. Mr. Drum stated that he could email the new design to the Board and if there are any issues, the Board can discuss it at a meeting.

CONSIDER AWARD OF  
REVISED NETWORK  
EQUIPMENT  
RELOCATION/  
INSTALLATION  
CONTRACT FOR NEW  
TOWN HALL

Mayor Cook stated that this item was tabled from the last meeting in order to get more quotes. A revised quote from B&L Telephone was presented to the Board. Mr. Drum stated that the revised quote was reduced significantly because the new equipment was taken out of the bid since the Town will be using the existing equipment. He was unable to connect with Council Member L. Lowman to get more contractors' names. Mr. Drum stated that the Board can decide to wait until Mr. Lowman is here before voting, if it chooses. Mr. Drum clarified the pricing between the previous quote and the current quote. Council Member Messer made a motion to approve the contract from B&L Telephone Sales and Service to relocate and install the network equipment at the new Town Hall in the amount of \$4,100.61. All voted in favor.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF  
ADDITIONAL CHARGES  
FOR MAIN WATER  
SUPPLY RELOCATION AT  
TOWN HALL

Mayor Cook stated that additional charges to relocate the main water supply at the old Town Hall will be \$1,560. Insurance will cover most, if not all, of these charges. Council Member B. Lowman made a motion to approve the additional charges. All voted in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:  
CONSIDER ALLOCATION  
TO AMERICAL LEGION

Mayor Cook stated that the American Legion will perform a 21-gun salute at the Memorial Day Cruise In. The Board needs to decide if it wants to allocate funds for their service. She stated that she had spoken to other municipalities and the typical amount to allocate is \$200. This amount will cover ammunition and travel expenses. Council Member Messer made a motion to allocate \$200

to the American Legion for its service at the event. All voted in favor.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ALL NECESSARY BUDGET AMENDMENTS RELATED TO OLD TOWN HALL CAPITAL PROJECT

Mr. Drum stated that he had reviewed all of the bids relating to the old Town Hall capital project and has presented four budget amendments. An additional amount of money is being moved from the general fund appropriated fund balance to the capital project. The money was already appropriated and these amendments will include the new Town Hall project. Council Member Banks made a motion to approve the four budget amendments. All voted in favor. The budget amendments are hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes (Attachments A, B, C, and D).

CONSIDER TAX REFUND REQUEST FOR THE PROPERTY AT 3235 PINE STREET

Karen Robinson has requested a tax refund for the property at 3235 Pine Street, Hildebran. The request is due to an incorrect measurement of the house by the Burke County Tax Office. It was originally measured at 1632 square feet and the correct measurement is 1392 square feet. The correction has been made moving forward at the County Tax Office. The County will be providing a refund to Ms. Robinson for the past 5 years of County taxes. Ms. Robinson, who is the Executrix of the Estate of Olie A. Morris, has asked for a refund of the difference for the past 10 years. The statutes only allow a refund for the past 5 years. The amount that is being considered for refund from the Town is \$70.29. Council Member B. Lowman made a motion to approve the tax refund request in the amount of \$70.29. All voted in favor.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH WPCOG FOR TECHNICAL PLANNING ASSISTANCE

The yearly contract between the Town and the WPCOG for Technical Planning Assistance for FY 17-18 was presented to the Board for approval. Council Member Messer made a motion to approve the contract with the WPCOG in the amount of \$21,746. All voted in favor.

CALL PUBLIC HEARING FOR FY 17-18 BUDGET

Council Member Messer made a motion to call a public hearing for the purpose of hearing public comments regarding the FY 17-18 budget on Monday, June 26, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council's Chamber located at 202 S. Center St., Hildebran. All voted in favor.

FACILITES REPORT

Mayor Cook read the facilities report.

APRIL TAX REPORT

Tax Collector Sanders reviewed the April tax report. A copy of the report is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes (Attachment E).

APRIL DEPUTY REPORT

The April deputy report was provided to Council for review.

COMMITTEE REPORTS & UPDATES

Transportation Advisory Committee (COG) – Mayor Cook reported that the meeting had been cancelled.

WPCOG Policy Board – No report.

Burke Economic Development Representative – Mayor Cook stated that the meeting was held in closed session. There is a business looking at property that would bring up to 600 jobs to the County.

Recreation and Tourism Committee – No report.

Water Resource Committee – No report.

VEDIC – Mayor Cook reported that the committee is looking at several new loans. There are two businesses that will be coming to Hildebran. One of them is a florist.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Cook requested to hold a special meeting on June 12, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council’s Chamber located at 202 S. Center St., Hildebran for the purpose of a budget workshop and to consider an ordinance amending the charter to adopt the Council-Manager form of government. Council Member Banks made a motion to hold the special meeting as requested. All voted in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attorney Dill stated that he had spoken to Kevin Greer at the City of Hickory regarding the sewer study and merging our systems. He stated that Hickory is close to having a report sometime next week and the Town should expect to have meetings with them soon.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Stephanie Higdon requested that the proposed FY 17-18 budget be posted on the website.

ADJOURN

All business being concluded, Council Member B. Lowman made a motion to adjourn at 7:36 p.m. All voted in favor.

I attest these are the approved minutes of the Board.

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Alice Sanders, Town Clerk

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Virginia Cook, Mayor