

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

**DECEMBER 19, 2016
7:00 P.M.**

**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. Willie Messer led a prayer.

PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE

Attorney Dill 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, Barbara Lowman, Lee Lowman, Theresa Messer and Jody York.

STAFF PRESENT

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

CITIZENS & MEDIA
PRESENT

See attached sheet.

ADOPTION OF
AGENDA

Council Member Messer made a motion to approve the agenda. All voted in favor.

APPROVAL OF
MINUTES

Council Member Banks made a motion to approve the November 28, 2016 regular meeting minutes. All voted in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:
CONSIDER 2017
HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The holiday schedule for 2017 was presented to Council for approval. Council Member B. Lowman made a motion to approve. All voted in favor. A copy of the schedule is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes (Attachment A).

CONSIDER 2017
REGULAR MEETING
SCHEDULE

The resolution determining the regular meetings of the Town Council for 2017 was presented to Council for approval. All meetings are held on the 4th Monday with the exception of December, which will be moved to the 3rd Monday due to Christmas. Council Member B. Lowman made a motion to approve resolution # 12-19-16. All voted in favor. A copy of this resolution is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes (Attachment B).

CONSIDER RENTAL
RATES FOR THE TOWN
HALL BASEMENT

Mayor Cook requested that Council set a rental rate for the basement area of Town Hall. Based on a survey of hourly rates for surrounding area meeting rooms, conducted in April/May

(PREVIOUSLY THE
SENIOR CENTER AREA)

2016, it is recommended that the Town Hall basement be rented at an hourly rate of \$20 with the minimum rental period being established at five hours. A refundable security and cleaning deposit is recommended to be \$150.

Mr. Drum stated that the room is comparable to all facilities that were reviewed in the spring. He stated that this rate would be a starting point and could be adjusted in the future. The room is 6,826 square feet and has a kitchen and bathroom.

Council Member York made a motion to approve the rate as recommended. All voted in favor. A copy of the revised facility rental fees is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes (Attachment C).

CONSIDER
DELINQUENT SEWER
BILL

Mayor Cook reported that the property at 327 US Highway 70 East is a trailer park that has the ability to hold 10 trailers. There is one water meter at a private well for all trailers; water is not supplied by Icard Water so services cannot be disconnected at the water meter for nonpayment. The contract holder, Paul Aulbach, continues to allow the sewer bill to go unpaid. As a reminder, it was the consensus of Council to release \$4,039.44 in April 2015 after Mr. Aulbach argued that he was being charged too much due to a broken water meter. He replaced the water meter and paid the remaining balance of \$4,083. The last time that the balance on this account was almost paid in full was March 21, 2016. The balance was \$34.55 at that time. No payments have been made since then. The current balance is \$2,438.05. Estimates to install cutoffs on the sewer lines were researched.

Mr. Rankins stated that there are three separate sewer lines that run into the property. After discussions with the City of Hickory, there could be an alternate method of plugging the sewer lines, after Council approval. Two of the lines could be sealed with a \$200 plug, which would be done by the City of Hickory. There is another house that is not on the property that is serviced by the third line which would require the third line to be dug up and plugged. If the lines are plugged, the Health Department will be contacted and the trailers will be deemed unlivable. The third line would be more expensive to plug. The house that is beyond the trailers will still have access to sewer.

Mr. Drum stated that the Board has already adopted a policy and there is no action that the Board needs to take at this point other than following the policy. The policy requires a notification letter of past due payment before any action is taken.

Attorney Dill stated that the property owner and tenants will also be notified of the past due bill and notified that they will lose service due to Mr. Aulbach's refusal to pay the bill.

REVIEW FY 16-17
BUDGET SUMMARY

The monthly financial statements were presented to Council showing year-to-date totals compared to the budget numbers.

FACILITIES REPORT

Mayor Cook reviewed the November facilities report.

NOVEMBER TAX
REPORT

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

NOVEMBER DEPUTY
REPORT

Deputy Towery reviewed the November Deputy report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS
& UPDATES

Transportation Advisory Committee (COG) – Mayor Cook reported that there will be changes to the Board due to the recent election. There are major projects to the County interstate exchanges that will not allow two-way traffic on ramps and the ramp at exit 118 will be affected.

WPCOG Policy Board – Council Member B. Lowman stated that the next meeting will be held next month.

Burke Economic Development Representative – Mayor Cook did not have a report.

Recreation and Tourism Committee – Council Member York reported that basketball is in full swing, with 16 teams. The leak was fixed at the pool and Mr. Limbo has received personal donations of \$160. He hopes to receive larger donations in the future. The pool will be painted soon. He thanked Ms. Sanders and Mr. Bivens for finding issues at the gym that need to be fixed.

Water Resource Committee – Ms. Schotte was not in attendance.

VEDIC – Mayor Cook reported that there was one foreclosure, the only foreclosure in VEDIC's history.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Cook requested that an open house be scheduled for the current Town Hall so that the community can see the repairs that occurred as a result of the water damage from the fire. Council was in agreement and the event will be held on January 21 and January 22, 2017 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mayor Cook

stated that she would be there and asked for Council members to attend, if possible, to help answer questions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Cook announced that the Christmas parade was a huge success and she thanked the Fire Department and the Ladies Auxiliary for organizing and planning the parade in the past, which made it easy for the Town to take over the event.

PUBLIC COMMENT

David Howard requested a reduction in the gym hourly rental rates. He stated that he and a group of men have played in the gym since 1988 on Sunday afternoons and they cannot afford to pay \$40 an hour.

Richard Bell discussed road repairs that occurred on the 14th. He also opined that REACT volunteers did not do a good job directing traffic during the parade.

Mayor Cook thanked the Council, staff and Attorney Dill for all of their work the past six months.

ADJOURNMENT

All business being concluded, Council Member York made a motion to adjourn at 7:30 p.m. All voted in favor.

I attest these are the approved minutes of the Board.

Alice Sanders, Town Clerk

Virginia Cook, Mayor