

**TOWN OF HILDEBRAN
TOWN HALL**

**MAY 19, 2014
7:00 p.m.**

**REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Cook called the Regular Meeting of the Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT The following members of the Board were present: Mayor Cook, Council Members Banks, Hildebrand, Hollowell, and B. Lowman. Council Member L. Lowman was absent.

STAFF PRESENT The following staff members were present: Attorney Redmond Dill; Office Manager Fredrick Rankins; Town Clerk Alice Sanders; and Town Planner Jon Pilkenton.

CITIZENS PRESENT See attached list.

MEDIA No one from the media was in attendance.

INVOCATION Mayor Cook called for a moment of silence.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag was led by Joey Burleson, Assistant Fire Chief, from Icard Township Fire Rescue.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA Council Member Hildebrand made a motion to adopt the agenda. All voted in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Council Member Banks recused herself from voting on the approval of the minutes since she was absent at the last meeting date. Council Member Hollowell made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes-April 28, 2014; Closed Session Minutes-April 28, 2014; Recessed Special Meeting/Budget Workshop Minutes-April 28, 2014; and Recessed Special Meeting/Budget Workshop Closed Session Minutes-April 28, 2014. All voted in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT Richard Bell expressed his opinion regarding the value of the Town bicycle and his view of jobs, salaries and vacant stores in the Town.

Brian Martin expressed his displeasure of the Town's instructions regarding the property at 101 1st Avenue NW.

Beverly Martin Nichols expressed her displeasure of the Town's instructions regarding the property at 101 1st Avenue NW.

**OLD BUSINESS:
SEWER
INFILTRATION
PROJECT UPDATE** Office Manager Rankins reported that he had no new information.

NEW BUSINESS:

SIDEWALK
PROJECT

Mayor Cook stated that an engineering firm needs to be chosen to oversee the sidewalk project which would include performing surveys and assisting with acquiring easements. She stated that the Town used McGill Associates to oversee the park project and West Consultants has also been used by the Town in the past. She recommended McGill Associations. Attorney Dill stated that he had worked with both firms and both are experienced. Council Member Hollowell made a motion to approve McGill Associates to act as the engineering firm for the Town to oversee the sidewalk project. All voted in favor.

REPLACE AND
INSTALL TOILETS
IN TOWN HALL
RESTROOMS

Mayor Cook stated that the current toilets in the Town Hall have a flow issue. A quote to replace and install new toilets was reviewed by Council. Council Member Hollowell made a motion to table the request until the June 23, 2014 meeting in order to review a second quote. All voted in favor.

BUDGET
AMENDMENT-
SEWER FUND,
ANNEX
DEMOLITION AND
HHDA FIREWORKS

Office Manager Rankins reported that the budget amendment includes an increase of \$500 for the HHDA fireworks and an increase of \$10,000 to pay for the sewer infiltration testing. In addition, Mayor Cook stated that the quote provided to the Town from D.H. Griffin to demolish the annex building included them salvaging everything in the building. She stated that the Burke County School System removed the boiler from the building prior to selling the building to the Town. She stated that D. H. Griffin's quote was reduced by \$700 because they were going to salvage the boiler. She stated that D.H. Griffin has asked to be compensated in the amount of \$700. Council Member Banks made a motion to approve the budget amendment. All voted in favor. The Ordinance is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes (Attachment A.)

VOTE FOR THREE
PLANNING
BOARD/BOARD OF
ADJUSTMENT
UPCOMING
VACANT
POSITIONS

Mayor Cook stated that there will be three vacant Planning Board/Board of Adjustment positions beginning July 1, 2014 and that Council needs to appoint three applicants to fill these positions. Town Clerk Sanders distributed a written ballot and Council was instructed to vote for three applicants and to sign their name on the ballot. Ms. Sanders tallied the votes and Mayor Cook announced that Council has unanimously appointed April Bolick, Cheyanne Lovelace and Theresa Messer to fill the positions effective July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2017.

APRIL TAX
REPORT

Tax Collector Sanders reported on refunds approved by the Finance Officer for the month of April 2014. She reported that to date, the collection rate for the 2013 tax year is 98.5%. A copy of the April reports are hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes (Attachment B.)

FIRST READING
OF THE 2014-2015
BUDGET

Office Manager Rankins reported that the significant changes from the last budget workshop is that the payroll taxes and state return line items were reduced by \$5000 and that Council's request to increase the digital sign line item was increased. Attorney Dill stated that the tax rate remains the same at \$0.15 per \$100 of valuation.

Council Member B. Lowman stated she did not agree with the employee insurance line item. Council Member Banks asked that when salaries were previously discussed, did Council make an adjustment by providing insurance to employees in order to offset the lower than average salaries they receive and Mayor Cook confirmed.

Council Member B. Lowman made a motion that Town employees pay 20% of their insurance premium costs for FY 2014-2015. Council Member B. Lowman voted in the affirmative. Council Members Banks, Hildebrand and Hollowell opposed the motion. The motion did not carry.

Council Member Hildebrand made a motion to approve the first reading of the 2014-2015 budget, as presented. Council Member Banks, Hildebrand and Hollowell voted in the affirmative. Council Member B. Lowman opposed the motion. The motion carried.

Council Member Hildebrand made a motion to hold a public hearing to approve the final 2014-2015 budget at the June 23, 2014 meeting. Council Member Banks, Hildebrand and Hollowell voted in the affirmative. Council Member B. Lowman opposed the motion. The motion carried.

DEPUTY REPORT
GARY TOWERY

Deputy Towery gave his report for the month of April 2014.

COMMITTEE
REPORTS &
UPDATES

Transportation Advisory Committee (COG) – Mayor Cook reported that there was no meeting this month.

Western Piedmont Council of Governments Policy Board – Council Member Hildebrand stated that he did not attend a meeting.

Burke Economic Development – Mayor Cook reported that that there were two meetings, both held in closed session. She had nothing to report at this time.

Recreation & Tourism Committee (COG) – Council Member B. Lowman reported that there will be a softball tournament in July to be held in the afternoons and evenings.

Water Resource Committee – Planner Pilkenton stated that the next meeting will be held in June.

VEDIC (Valdese) – Mayor Cook stated the next meeting will be in July.

Mayor Cook stated that Ms. Isenhour has a committee signup sheet for improvements to the Town and asked Council members to see her after the meeting to participate.

Council Member Hollowell stated that there is a firefighter's camp to be held in June for children and he will provide the dates.

FACILITIES
UPDATE

Mayor Cook reported that Bridges Crew is close to completion with their work at the park. She stated there is free firewood in the park available to anyone. She stated that the Town will be renting a chipper for the Bridges Crew and they will be using it for a couple of days.

Mayor Cook reported that the annex building has been demolished and all the debris should be removed by the end of the week. She stated she will be contacting paving companies that do state bids who are familiar with state specs and hopes to have bids by June.

Mayor Cook stated that the concession building is owned by the Town and she has spoken with Bert Smith to get volunteers to paint the building. She asked Council to approve the Town to purchase paint and materials to paint the building as well as 200 bottles of water to distribute to the players in the upcoming softball tournament. Council was in agreement.

OTHER BUSINESS None at this time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS Mayor Cook reminded everyone that the Cruise In will be held this Saturday, May 24th and there will be fireworks in honor of Memorial Day. In addition, a special program will be held to honor Zeno Crump.

ADJOURNMENT All business being concluded, Council Member Hildebrand made a motion to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. All voted in favor.

I attest these are the approved minutes of the Board.

Alice Sanders, Town Clerk

Virginia Cook, Mayor