

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE
TOWN OF LAUREL PARK, N.C.
DECEMBER 20, 2011
9:30 A.M.**

The Laurel Park Town Council held its regular meeting in the Laurel Park Town Hall on December 20, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. The following members were present: Mayor Henry T. Johnson, Commissioners Richard P. Cooke, Dona M. Mennella, J. Carey O'Cain, and Robert O. Vickery. Town Manager Jim Ball and Town Attorney Monica Gillette-Stallings were also present.

Mayor Johnson opened the regular meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Johnson asked for any additions and/or deletions to the agenda. Commissioner Cooke moved to approve the Agenda. Mayor Johnson asked for discussion; there was none. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Minutes from the November 15, 2011 Council Regular Meeting
- b) Minutes from the November 15, 2011 Council Special Work Session
- c) Minutes from the December 15, 2011 Council Work Session

Commissioner Vickery moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Mayor Johnson asked for discussion; there was none. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Mayor Johnson welcomed Representative Chuck McGrady to the meeting. Representative McGrady swore into office J. Carey O'Cain as mayor, Richard P. Cooke as Commissioner and Robert O. Vickery as Commissioner.

Former Mayor, Henry Johnson, officially thanked Mr. Ball, Town supervisors and the rest of the Town staff for their work and support over the previous twelve years. He also thanked Council members who he had served with over the previous twelve years. He wished Mayor O'Cain and the Commissioners well.

Mayor O'Cain asked for nominations for Mayor Pro-Tempore. Commissioner Mennella moved that Council elect Commissioner Cooke as Mayor Pro-Tempore. Mayor O'Cain asked for discussion; there was none. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Mayor O'Cain recommended Michael Hodes be appointed to the Laurel Park ABC Board. Commissioner Cooke moved to approve the ABC Board appointment. Mayor O'Cain asked for discussion; there was none. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Mayor O'Cain recommended the following be re-appointed to the Laurel Park Planning Board:

- Paul Hansen – Re-appoint to 12/31/13
- Ron Rosenberger – Re-appoint to 12/31/13
- Tom Davis – Re-appoint to 12/31/13
- Lou Lunardon – Re-appoint to 12/31/13

Commissioner Vickery moved to approve the Planning Board re-appointments. Mayor O'Cain asked for discussion; there was none. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Mayor O'Cain recommended the following be re-appointed to the Laurel Park Board of Adjustment:

- Dick Jones – Re-appoint to 12/31/14
- Nancy Irving – Re-appoint to 12/31/14

Commissioner Mennella moved to approve the Laurel Park Board of Adjustment re-appointments. Mayor O'Cain asked for discussion; there was none. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Mayor O'Cain recommended the following be re-appointed or appointed to the Laurel Park Parks and Greenways Board:

- Don McIntyre – Re-appoint to 12/31/13
- Elizabeth Sager – Appoint to 12/31/13

Commissioner Cooke moved to approve the Laurel Park Parks and Greenways Board appointment and re-appointment. Mayor O'Cain asked for discussion; there was none. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were none.

OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION, BI-WEEKLY PAY PERIOD

Mr. Ball stated that Laurel Park staff had reviewed with Council the proposed changes needed on several Town polices required as the Town transitioned from a weekly to a bi-weekly pay period. He stated the main reasons for the change were to save on banking service charges and the man-hours required to prepare and submit payroll on a weekly basis. He stated that the Town had already modified all Town policies needed to make the payroll change.

Commissioner Cooke moved that the Town transition from a weekly to a bi-weekly pay period effective January 1, 2012. Mayor O'Cain asked for discussion; there was none. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

DISCUSSION, COUNCIL VACANCY

Mayor O'Cain stated that, with two years left on his term as Commissioner, Council needed to appoint a replacement to fill the term. He stated Council had already had some preliminary discussion on the appointment.

Commissioner Vickery nominated Don McIntyre be appointed to fill the Council vacancy. Commissioner Cooke nominated Lou Lunardoni be appointed to fill the Council vacancy. Mayor O'Cain nominated Paul Hansen be appointed to fill the Council vacancy. Each candidate gave a brief description of his background and what he could do for the Town of Laurel Park. Mayor O'Cain asked for each Council member's vote – Commissioner Cooke voted for Lou Lunardoni, Commissioner Vickery voted for Don McIntyre, Commissioner Mennella voted for Paul Hansen. With there being a tie vote, Mayor O'Cain voted for Paul. Mayor O'Cain asked for discussion. Commissioner Mennella commented how pleased she was that there were three well-qualified nominees willing to serve. Council appointed Paul Hansen to fill the Commissioners term vacated by the election of J. Carey O'Cain as Mayor – pending verification that he met all legal requirements for Commissioner.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Chief Fisher gave the following police statistics for the month of November: 3 accidents, 6 arrests, 14 citations, 10 warning citations, 4 alarm activations, 3 incomplete 911 calls, and 1 suspicious person for a total of 2,417 service events for the month.

OTHER ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE TOWN COUNCIL

John C. Crook, of 3290 Laurel Park Highway, suggested Council introduce Attorney Gillette-Stallings since there were so many in attendance. Attorney Gillette-Stallings gave a brief description of her background.

MAYOR AND COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

MAYOR O'CAIN – Mayor O'Cain thanked Representative McGrady for his attendance. Representative McGrady stated the Town was a great model for other communities, said he very much appreciated representing the Town's constituents, and offered his help at any time to Town Council.

COMMISSIONER MENNELLA – Commissioner Mennella had no comments.

COMMISSIONER COOKE – Commissioner Cooke had no comments.

COMMISSIONER VICKERY – Commissioner Vickery had no comments.

There being no further business, Commissioner Cooke moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Mayor O'Cain asked for discussion; there was none. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

J. Carey O'Cain, Mayor

Attest:

Kimberly B. Hensley, CMC
Town Clerk

Date