

**MINUTES FOR BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING**  
**October 12th, 2010**  
**6:00 PM**

The following elected officials were present: Mayor Coleman, Alderman Friday, Alderman Huggins, Alderman Martin, and Alderman Withers. Alderman Beaty was absent.

The following staff members were present: Ed Munn, Interim Town Manager; Pennie Thrower, Town Attorney; Maria Stroupe, Administrative Services Director; Doug Huffman, Electric Director; Gary Buckner, Police Chief; Bill Trudnak, Public Works Director; Community Development Director, David Kahler; and Steve Lambert, Fire Chief. Anne Martin, Recreation Director, was absent.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

Mayor Coleman opened with the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The Mayor asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. There were no additions or deletions. Mr. Withers made a motion to set the agenda, seconded by Mr. Friday, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Martin made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 14, 2010 regular meeting, and September 28, 2010, special meeting, seconded by Mr. Friday, and carried unanimously.

**Recognition of Citizens:**

Mr. Curtis Wilson, 106 E. Carleton St., wanted to thank all of the Town departments for their help and cooperation during his building process. He feels that all departments went above and beyond to make the process go smoothly. He has heard of difficulties in other municipalities and did not experience that here. He also asked that the manger scene placed on the Court Square during the Christmas season be placed in a more prominent place, such as facing Gaston or Trade Streets. For the last few years it has been placed across from the vacant coin laundry facing Main Street. Mayor Coleman thanked him for his comments.

**Consent Agenda:**

Mr. Martin made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Withers, and carried unanimously.

**Public Hearing:**

Mr. Huggins made a motion to enter into a public hearing concerning proposed changes to the campaign sign ordinance, seconded by Mr. Withers, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Kahler presented copies of the current campaign sign ordinance (Exhibit A) and the proposed campaign sign ordinance recommended by the Planning Board. (Exhibit B) The Planning Board met on September 16, 2010 and voted 6-0 to recommend changes to the campaign sign ordinance. The Town Attorney met with the Planning Board and concluded that the proposed changes to the ordinance were consistent with recent court decisions. Mr. Bob Kendrick, 408 S. Groves St., stated

that though he is not opposed trying to regulate campaign signs, he believes any campaign sign ordinance will be difficult to enforce.

Mr. Friday made a motion to exit the public hearing.

Mr. Martin made a motion to table this discussion until the November 9, 2010 meeting, seconded by Mr. Friday, and carried unanimously.

### **Old Business:**

The first item, Item 8-A, was an update from Mr. Munn on the recent Recreation Committee meeting. The committee met on September 20, 2010 and discussed the recent baseball program, the ongoing soccer program, the upcoming basketball program, and the youth football program that is not operated by the Town. The committee also reviewed the extensive requirements necessary to apply for a NC Parks and Recreation Trust Fund grant (PARTF). These grants require a 50% local match. Funds received from the sale of Town land to Gaston Fence can be used as local matching funds. The proposed project is the development of the Town's land adjoining Carr Elementary School. The grant application deadline is January 31, 2011. Mr. Friday made a motion to proceed with the PARTF grant application process, seconded by Mr. Huggins, and carried unanimously.

The second item, Item 8-B, was a discussion of a proposed ethics policy. A Code of Ethics Policy (Exhibit C) was reviewed by the Board on September 28, 2010, in conjunction with two hours of ethics training required by the State for all elected officials by December 31, 2010. All Town of Dallas Board members have completed the required ethics training. Mr. Withers made a motion to adopt the Code of Ethics Policy as presented, seconded by Mr. Huggins, and carried unanimously.

The third item, Item 8-C, was a discussion of the ongoing enhancement grant program. After a number of years of effort by the Town of Dallas, many of the overhead lines along Trade Street have been eliminated. This effort was funded in part through the NC Department of Transportation Enhancement Grant Program. We are now in the process of removing the old wooden poles that no longer have lines on them. However, some of the poles function as support to the wooden poles directly tied to the traffic signals through guy wires. To remove these poles, new guys will have to be installed. Another option would be to replace the wooden poles that support the traffic signals with metal poles (a total of 8 metal poles – 4 at each of 2 intersections). The cost of each metal pole is estimated to be about \$10,000. These are all NC DOT poles. We are having discussions with the State about their possible financial participation, but the State has not indicated to what degree they will fund new metal poles. These poles would still carry the electrical lines to supply the traffic signals. Stand alone poles with long arms over-reaching the roadways that hide the electrical lines are even more expensive. The installation of metal poles would require that NC DOT design and approve the foundations. The Board agreed to allow Mr. Munn, Mr. Kahler, and Mr. Huffman to continue researching the various options and costs of this situation.

The fourth item, Item 8-D, was a discussion of a community information sign. The Board of Aldermen approved \$15,000 in this year's budget for an electronic community information sign to be installed at the Fire Department. The wiring for the sign is in place. Mr. John Ferguson, Project Manager, has contacted sign companies for prices. One company has submitted a quote, so far. Mr. Withers made a motion proceed with the project after obtaining at least one more quote, seconded by Mr. Martin, and carried unanimously.

**New Business:**

The first item, Item 9-A, was a discussion concerning the upcoming Trick-R-Treat on the Square. The event is to be held on Saturday, October 30, 2010 from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm. Mr. Friday made a motion to allow Chief Buckner to close streets as necessary, at his discretion, for the event, seconded by Mr. Withers, and carried unanimously.

Item 10, was a manager's report from Mr. Ed Munn, Interim Town Manager.

**Closed Session:**

There was no closed session.

Mr. Friday made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Withers, and carried unanimously. (7:03)

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Rick Coleman, Mayor

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Maria Stroupe, Town Clerk