

**TOWN OF DALLAS  
MINUTES FOR BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
WORK SESSION MEETING  
AUGUST 27, 2018  
5:00 PM**

The following elected officials were present: Mayor Coleman, Alderwoman Thomas, Alderman Huggins, Alderman Withers, Alderman Cearley, and Alderwoman Morrow.

The following staff members were present: Tom Hunn, Town Attorney; Da'Sha Leach, Town Clerk; Allen Scott, Police Chief; Doug Huffman, Electric Director; Bill Trudnak, Public Works Director; Jonathan Newton, Finance Director; Steve Lambert, Fire Chief; Steven Aloisa, Recreation Director, and Tiffany Faro, Development Services Director. Maria Stroupe, Town Manager were absent.

Mayor Coleman called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. He opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Coleman asked if there are any additions or deletions to the agenda. Alderwoman Thomas made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Alderman Cearley, and carried unanimously.

**New Business:**

**Item 3A** was a presentation from Ms. Duncan, Principal of Carr Elementary School. Ms. Duncan discussed the need for a new playground facility for Carr Elementary School students and their fundraising efforts. She reviewed the plan that was submitted to the Board members. She stated that they had a goal to purchase two playgrounds over the next several years due to the current need and the projected increase in more students attending Carr Elementary School. The Carr Elementary PTO Chairwoman Ms. Evie Grant stated to the Board Members that they had plans to use some existing funds to make repairs to the existing playgrounds. The Board consensus was to bring this item to the Regular Board Meeting on September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 under the Consent Agenda for a \$5000 donation to the fundraiser.

**Item 3B** was a discussion regarding Maintenance needed at the end of Ingle Street. The maintenance issue is on Hill Street, not Ingle Street according to the Public Works Director Bill Trudnak. He gave the Board an overview of the entire area and situation. The maintenance needed is on private property where the Town has a utility right of way. Duke Power also has a right of way on this area in question. In the past, the Town performed some maintenance regarding a similar situation. After much discussion, the Board consensus was to get pricing to solve this issue since it was such a unique situation.

**Item 3C** was a discussion on the TOP TIER Grant Program Applicants. This program was started in October 2013. On March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the Board approved to place a Moratorium on the program to re-structure and work with NC Department of Commerce's NC Main Street and Rural Planning for future planning. There are two applicants ready to utilize the program. The Board would like for the Town Manager to work with the program and re-instate the program so the two applicants: Ms. Charlotte Jenkins and Mr. Dale Blythe can utilize the program for their businesses in Dallas. The Board wants to be sure the program is in good standing and working to improve business in Town under the guidelines of the General Statues.

**Item 3D** was a discussion on Town of Dallas Entrance Signs. The Board Members were given examples of entrance signs from other municipalities that could be utilized in the Town of Dallas. Public Works Director Bill Trudnak explained some details on the sign examples given. One sign example was legal and the other sign was illegal according to the NCDOT requirements. Mr. Trudnak explained the placements of the signage and he projected he would like to have this considered for the upcoming budget year. The Board gave a consensus to get additional information on what can be built for Dallas signage using the Lincolnton example, spending around \$7000 for the exit entrance signs.

**Item 3E** was a discussion on the Open Gym Policy. On March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the Board approved an Open Gym Policy. The policy gave some provisions for adult and children usage on separate days during the off season for the Town's Sport Schedule. The Recreation Director Steven Aloisa reported that the open gym was going well but he noticed only two children has shown up to utilize the gym. He requested the Board to allow a change to the policy to allow the adults to utilize both days since the children were not effectively utilizing the open gym. The Board consensus was to allow the policy change, giving the adults the extra day to utilize the open gym.

**Item 3F** was a discussion on lock boxes for Elderly Citizen Homes. This item was initiated by the Fire Chief Steve Lambert. In Dallas, the emergency personnel have issues assisting elderly people when it comes to emergency situations. When access is needed in an emergency situation, there is damage to the person's property that the Town of Dallas is liable to repair. Chief Lambert presented the Board Members an alternative of a Lock box that could be placed on the property of an elderly person to give access to their home without damage. There will only be two people that have access and the property owner would need to give permission. Chief Lambert asked for approximately 10 lock boxes to get started and update them on how things are going later. Each box will cost the Town \$25-30 dollars. If the program goes well, more boxes can be purchased later. Notification about the program can be placed on Nixel and other Town channels for applicants. The Board gave consensus to start the program.

**Item 3G** was a discussion on a Fundraiser for the Self Family. Ms. Cathy Cloninger and/or Ms. Kim Norwood would like to be placed on the agenda for the September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Regular Board Meeting. They are gathering information to have a fundraiser in Dallas to support the Self Family. The Self Family was involved in a very tragic situation in Bessemer City in May, 2018. The preliminary items that may be requested was discussed by the Board Members. The Holland Street location was determined to be the best location for a street closure to hold a fundraiser according to the Board Members. The Board was unsure on hanging a banner due to the liability it may pose as well as carrying insurance for the event. The Board did recommend a rain date for the event instead of making the Courthouse available. The final presentation of what the fundraiser group is requesting from the Town is expected at the board meeting and a final decision will be made at that time.

**Item 3H** was a discussion on a street closure for a birthday party. Ms. Brown submitted a Special Events request with road closures and other items needed from the Town for a birthday party. The Board, the Police Chief, and the Fire Chief had some concerns about closing a residential street for a private event. They thought this may cause a hardship on the neighbors. The Board consensus was to reserve Jagger's Park so Ms. Brown could have her daughter's birthday party there. Jagger's Park has other amenities that they can utilize for the party like a grill, several trash cans, and a porta-jon. Town Staff will place notification at the park as well as the Police Department will have notice in case they need to ask people to leave. The Board also directed Town Staff to start working on a policy to rent the Town of Dallas park shelter's so people have the option to reserve the them.

As the Board was discussing Jagger's Park, they wanted updates on the Water and the Electrical components to be installed at the park. Electrical Director Doug Huffman asked the Board to clarify specifically what type of electrical items they wanted at the park. Public Works Director Bill Trudnak stated that he has installed the water and it currently has a lock on it. Recommendations were given by the Town Engineer Johnny Denton of Diamond Engineering.

**Manager's Report: NONE**

Alderwoman Morrow made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Alderwoman Thomas, and carried unanimously. (6:13)



Rick Coleman, Mayor



Da'Sha Leach, Town Clerk

