MINUTES

Agenda Meeting of the Southern Pines Town Council January 8, 2014, 7:00 PM, Community Room, Southern Pines Police Department 450 West Pennsylvania Avenue

Present: Mayor McNeill, Mayor Pro Tem Fields, Councilmember Walden, Councilmember VanCamp

Absent: Councilmember Simeon

Call to Order

1. Manager's Comments

2. Consent Agenda

A. Adopt Worksession Meeting Minutes of November 25, 2013, Agenda Meeting Minutes of December 4, 2013 and Regular Business Meeting Minutes of December 10, 2013 as written.

Town Manager Parsons commented modifications to the minutes were made prior to the meeting.

B. Budget Amendments

- Southern Pines Garden Club \$2,000

Police Patrol \$27,000

Councilmember Walden inquired the status of the train replica presented by Mr. McNiff. Town Manager Parsons commented no further updates have been brought forward.

Councilmember VanCamp inquired what the Forfeiture Funds are typically used for. Town Manager Parsons responded by commenting those funds are used to purchase police equipment and for uses similar to the requested budget amendment.

Councilmember Walden inquired if Forfeiture Funds are used for drug testing the police department utilizes. Town Manager Parsons responded by commenting that the funds have not historically been used for drug testing and that generally, the State laboratory is used for drug testing.

Town Manager Parsons continued by commenting if the Town is successful in utilizing private laboratories for police department drug testing, research would need to be done to see if the funds could be used for those purposes.

C. Resolution Adding New Retirement Savings Plan

Town Manager Parsons gave a brief overview of the proposed resolution and commented that adding the proposed retirement plan is at no cost to the Town and is to be added to the Town employee Section 125 menu.

D. Board Appointments

- Library Advisory Board

Town Manager Parsons commented 3 of the 4 available seats to the Library Advisory Board are available due to ineligibility of reappointment. Town Manager Parsons continued by commenting that Dianne Barrett, Alfred Carter, and Dorothy Shankle have served two consecutive, 3-year terms and therefore are ineligible for reappointment and Janice Reagan, whose term expires on December 31, 2014, has submitted a letter of resignation.

Town Manager Parsons commented applications were received for Mary Scott Harrison, Hugh Mensch, Damita Nocton, and Kim Wade to fill the vacancies for the available terms of 1/1/2014 – 12/31/2016 and gave a brief overview of the applicant's backgrounds.

Mayor Pro Tem Fields commented he thinks the applicants are very good candidates and are a good representation of the community.

Town Manager Parsons commented a small group of citizens may be present at the January 14th Regular Business Meeting to discuss recent violence in Town.

Mayor Pro Tem Fields inquired if a representative from the police department would be present to listen to the discussion. Town Manager Parsons commented it could be arranged.

Councilmember VanCamp inquired if the citizens are coming to the meeting to publicly vent regarding Town violence. Town Manager Parsons responded by commenting that was not the impression but the citizens are frustrated that the issues are not yet resolved.

Additional Discussion Items

Mayor McNeill spoke regarding a meeting with the Moore County Schools Facilities Committee and commented a recommendation is almost ready to be presented to the Moore County Board of Education regarding the proposed projects for Moore County Schools and the bond referendum for November 2014.

Discussion ensued regarding existing schools that would be impacted by the bond referendum and new schools to be built.

Mayor McNeill commented that the concept of a specialized high school is being suggested which would be in conjunction with Sandhills Community College as an early college program.

Mayor McNeill continued by commenting that discussion ensued regarding the need to eliminate any imbalances that may have occurred due to district lines.

Town Manager Parsons inquired if the intent is to identify priority sites prior to the bond referendum issuance. Mayor McNeill responded in the affirmative and commented he thinks identifying sites and priorities is imperative and that \$80 Million of the \$127 Million of the bond referendum is for the southern end of Moore County.

Mayor McNeill inquired if there were any public comments regarding the bond referendum discussion.

Mike Haney commented that facilities are critical and that location and demographics are equally important. Mr. Haney continued by commenting he wants to make sure Southern Pines is taken care of and he doesn't want to support a bond referendum the Town doesn't have any control in influencing the outcome.

Discussion ensued regarding the process with the Moore County Board of Education in regards to redistricting and priorities for the bond referendum.

Councilmember VanCamp inquired if Council should present suggestions to the Moore County Board of Education in a preliminary joint meeting. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Pro Tem Fields commented he thinks everyone who has served on Council has concerns regarding schools and their perceptions in Southern Pines and he thinks the new facilities are a step in the right direction but the other issues also need to be addressed.

Councilmember Walden commented the Town has dealt with these issues in the past and now is the time to address them again. Councilmember Walden continued by inquiring if any discussion regarding potential all-boys or all-girls schools took place at the Moore County Facilities Committee meetings.

Mayor McNeill responded by commenting that very little discussion regarding school programming took place except the limited discussions regarding a specialized high school.

Discussion ensued regarding project completion timelines during the bond referendum process and potential uses for existing facilities.

Councilmember VanCamp inquired if the \$57 Million bond referendum was a 3-phase project to include a high school.

Town Manager Parsons commented the \$57 Million bond referendum was for the first phase which did not include a high school.

Town Manager Parsons commented the intent of	of the new bond is to	o fulfill the original 3	3 phases, whi	ch will cover a	a
high school in the original plan.					

As so incorporated to these minutes of January 8, 2014 are exact copies as so recorded in the ordinance and resolution books of the Town of Southern Pines as fully set out in the minutes.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:36p.m.

Phillip Britt	
Town Clerk	