



Regular Council - Minutes Monday, August 7, 2017

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Mayor Gordon
Mayor Pro Tem Mulhollem
Council Member Bruton
Council Member Castleberry
Council Member Jackson
Council Member Wilson

STAFF PRESENT:

C.L. Gobble, Administrative Consultant
Chip Hewett, Town Attorney
Kim P. Batten, Finance Manager/Town Clerk

COUNCIL ABSENT:

MEDIA PRESENT:

None

1. WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER:

a) Call to Order & Invocation

Mayor Gordon called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Jeffrey D. Barnes Council Chambers located at 14094 Buffalo Road, Clayton, NC and declared a quorum present. Mayor Pro Tem Matt Mulhollem offered the invocation.

b) Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Gordon led in the pledge of allegiance to the US Flag.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

a) No additions or changes noted.

Moved by: Council Member Wilson
Seconded by: Mayor Pro Tem Mulhollem

Agenda Approved

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

(Maximum of 30 minutes allowed, 3 minutes per person)

a) No Public Comments

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

a) Approval of Minutes:

25 Feb 2017 - Budget Planning Retreat ~ FY 2017/2018

Consent Agenda Approved

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

a) Discussion and Consideration of Adopting a Resolution Requesting Greater Efforts to Avoid Flooding Impacts Within the Lower Neuse Basin (Resolution# AL2017-08-07)

Mayor Gordon opened discussion but no discussion followed.

Resolution# AL2017-08-07 appears as follows:

RESOLUTION# AL2017-08-07

TOWN OF ARCHER LODGE
RESOLUTION REQUESTING GREATER EFFORTS
TO AVOID FLOODING IMPACTS WITHIN THE LOWER NEUSE BASIN

WHEREAS, the Neuse River Basin encompasses 74 municipalities and 19 reservoirs and drains land from 18 of North Carolina's counties covering approximately 6,234 square miles, totaling nearly 4 million acres; and

WHEREAS, roughly one-sixth of the state's population lives within the Neuse River Basin; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. 70 CORRIDOR COMMISSION OF N.C. INC. represents Counties & Towns adjoining the Neuse River and have experienced severe flooding in 1996 due to Hurricane Fran which brought floodwaters exceeding flood stage; and

WHEREAS, in July 1997, the United States Army Corps of Engineers received authorization to conduct a study on flood risk management, environmental protection and restoration, and related purposes for the Neuse River Basin; and

WHEREAS, in September 1999, Hurricane Floyd caused a second round of flooding which devastated portions of eastern North Carolina located along the rivers, particularly the Neuse River and caused an estimated \$3 billion dollars' worth of damage, damaged more than 56,000 homes, and resulted in 1,500 floodwater rescues in eastern North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the state and federal response to this catastrophe was the permanent displacement of homes, families, and businesses through a buy-out program which caused significant harm to the cities, counties, and communities affected where long-time neighbors, often generational, were forced to part ways to start new lives in new neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, the USACE presented findings from the study authorized in 1999 to the Civil Works Review Board and concluded that USACE lacked interest in Flood Risk Reduction at the time, citing steps being taken by the North Carolina Department of Emergency Management (NCDEM) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to reduce flooding losses through floodplain mapping, emergency preparedness and response, risk communication and a flood-prone structure buy-out program; and

WHEREAS, the USACE report suggested the expenditure of more than \$38 million dollars for environmental restoration measures but failed to request any funds to reduce the risk of flooding for those living and working along the Neuse River; and

WHEREAS, in October of 2016, area along the Neuse River were once again devastated as a result of flooding precipitated by Hurricane Matthew; and

WHEREAS, the estimated flood damage from Hurricane Matthew exceeded \$1.5 billion dollars resulting in damage to more than 100,000 homes, destroying entire towns and taking at least 28 lives; and

WHEREAS, the record setting flooding caused by Hurricane Matthew did not occur until several days after the hurricane had passed as accumulated rainfall in the higher elevations of the state made its way toward the coast; and

WHEREAS, the relatively flat terrain of eastern North Carolina slowed the fast moving waters coming from higher elevations causing a significant increase in both the depth and breadth of the Neuse River from Smithfield through Kinston as the river reached record heights and overflowed its banks, inundating a record number of properties with floodwater; and

WHEREAS, the recent impact of Hurricane Matthew to counties, municipalities, businesses, and residents located along the Neuse River indicate that the efforts taken by the NCDEN and FEMA were insufficient to prevent or significantly reduce the amount of damage sustained as a result of Hurricane Matthew; and

WHEREAS, it is now apparent that mapping, emergency preparedness and risk communication did little to prevent the damage incurred by Hurricane Matthew; and

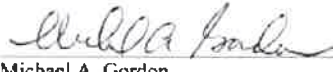
WHEREAS, the use of flood control measures have proven successful as demonstrated by estimates calculated by the USGS such as the study that concluded that the installation of Falls dam reduced the frequency of flooding experienced as a result of Hurricane Fran from once every 10-25 years to once every 50-100 years; and

WHEREAS, the use of flood control measures could have prevented, or significantly reduced the extent of damage caused by Hurricane Matthew.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ARCHER LODGE, do hereby request that the State of NC and the appropriate federal agencies engage, develop and financially support greater efforts to avoid devastating damages to persons and property in the Lower Neuse Basin through the implementation of flood control measures and that specific consideration be given, but not limited, to (1) construction of flood control reservoirs along the Neuse River, (2) identification of alternative water supplies for the City of Raleigh that would allow lowering of Falls Lake during times of anticipated flooding, (3) additional mitigation by NCDOT to address significant storm water impacts from highway construction and (4) active "snag, drag and dredge" operation within the Neuse River and its tributaries to reduce obstructions to flow and removal of materials that would impact the flood level of the River.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be provided to members of the General Assembly representing the Town of Archer Lodge and to the Congressional delegation for the State of North Carolina.

DULY ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE THIS 7th DAY OF AUGUST 2017.


Michael A. Gordon
Mayor

ATTEST:

Kim P. Batten
Town Clerk



Moved by: Council Member Jackson
Seconded by: Mayor Pro Tem Mulhollem

Adopted Resolution# AL2017-08-07.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. **RECOGNITION/PRESENTATION:**

a) **Welcome Joyce Lawhorn, Archer Lodge's new Administrative Support Specialist/Deputy Clerk.**

Mayor Gordon introduced Mrs. Joyce Lawhorn to the Town Council who began her duties on Tuesday, August 1, 2017.

b) **Swearing in of Joyce Lawhorn by Mayor Mike Gordon as new Deputy Clerk for Town of Archer Lodge**

Mrs. Joyce P. Lawhorn was sworn in as the Administrative Support Specialist/Deputy Clerk by Mayor Gordon with husband, Johnny Lawhorn, showing his support.

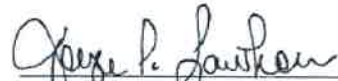
Mrs. Lawhorn's Oath appears as follows:

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF JOHNSTON**

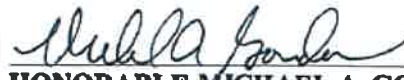
**OATH OF
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SPECIALIST/
DEPUTY CLERK
TOWN OF ARCHER LODGE**

I, **JOYCE P. LAWHORN**, do solemnly affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United States of America; that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of North Carolina and to the Constitutional powers and authorities which are or may be established for the government thereof; and that I will endeavor to support, maintain and defend the Constitution of said State, not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States, to the best of my knowledge and ability; so help me, God.

I, **JOYCE P. LAWHORN**, do affirm that I will well and truly execute the duties of the Office of Administrative Support Specialist/Deputy Clerk for the Town of Archer Lodge, North Carolina according to the best of my skill and ability, according to law; so help me, God.


JOYCE P. LAWHORN

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 7th day of August, 2017.


**HONORABLE MICHAEL A. GORDON
MAYOR
TOWN OF ARCHER LODGE**



7. TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

- a) Town Attorney Chip Hewett welcomed Joyce Lawhorn to the Town of Archer Lodge. In addition, he reminded Council to make clear and concise Yes & No votes during meetings. Also, Mr. Hewett reminded Council that Archer Lodge will have two seats to fill on the Town Council in the November elections.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSULTANT'S REPORT:

- a) Mr. Gobble discussed moving forward with budgeted items such as:
1. Dividing conference room into 2 offices
 2. Archer Lodge Town Banners
 3. MAPS Group - Personnel Policy/Job Descriptions/Pay Plan Classification

9. FINANCIAL/TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:

- a) July 2017 Financials

Ms. Batten shared the financials for month ending July 31, 2017 with very few revenues being received thus far. Auditors, May & Place, PA, are progressing with the Audit for FY 2017. Ms. Batten added that on August 9, 2017, she, along with Mayor Gordon and Joyce, will be attending a Social Media Class at UNC School of Government.

10. PLANNING/ZONING REPORT:

- a) **Due to Mr. Clark's absence, there will not be a report stated Mayor Gordon. Mr. Clark plans to give an update from NCDOT & Buffalo Road at the September meeting.**
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11. VETERAN'S COMMITTEE REPORT:

- a) **Mr. Mike Mulhollem reported the following:**
1. Balance of \$50,229.42 in July 2017
 2. July Biscuit Sale was cancelled
 3. Next Biscuit Sale will be held on Friday, August 18, 2017
 4. Veterans will have a tent to display Artwork at the Clayton Harvest Festival on September 15 - 16, 2017 with proceeds going to the Veteran's Memorial Fund.
 5. Beginning first phase of construction
 6. Appreciation to the Town of Archer Lodge for honoring Veterans by getting a Memorial started
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12. MAYOR'S REPORT:

- a) **Archer Lodge Community Center (ALCC) news**

Mayor Gordon stated that the Archer Lodge Community Center plans to attend the September Town Council meeting and share their recreational needs.

- b) **Fall Planning Session**

Mayor Gordon asked Council to gather ideas for a Fall Planning Session and a date would be announced later.

- c) **Brunch Bill Discussion**

Mayor Gordon opened the discussion for a Brunch Ordinance. Council briefly discussed the benefits in Archer Lodge for possible future economic growth. Mayor Gordon stated a draft ordinance of the Brunch Bill will be on the September 5, 2017 Town Council Meeting Agenda for discussion and possible adoption.

13. COUNCIL MEMBERS' REMARKS:
(non-agenda items)

- a) **Council Member Wilson, Council Member Castleberry, and Council Member Jackson shared some non-town related items.**
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- b) **Mayor Pro Tem Mulhollem stated the Veteran's Memorial Committee**

would continue their biscuit sale in August thanks to the donor of a pig cooker.

c) Teresa Bruton welcomed Ms. Lawhorn to the Town of Archer Lodge.

d) Council Member Castleberry mentioned that he would not be available for the August 21, 2017 Work Session.

e) Ms. Batten reminded Council that the September Town Council Meeting would be held on Tuesday, September 6, 2017, due to Monday being the Labor Day Holiday.

14. ADJOURNMENT:

a) **No Further Business**

Moved by: Council Member Jackson

Seconded by: Mayor Pro Tem Mulhollem

Meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Michael A. Gordon, Mayor



Kim P. Batten, Town Clerk

