

MINUTES OF MIDWAY TOWN COUNCIL VISION WORKSHOP WAS HELD ON FEBRUARY 18, 2016 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM AT THE FAITH MISSIONARY ALLIANCE CHURCH, 1078 GUMTREE ROAD, MIDWAY, NORTH CAROLINA

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor John Byrum called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present.

Councilors present were: John Byrum, Mike McAlpine, Keith Leonard, Robin Moon, and Todd Nifong

Absent: None

Town Attorney Jim Lanik, Town Clerk Linda Hunt and Administrative Support Specialist Cindy Ramsey were present.

Also in attendance were Planning & Zoning Board Members Jackie Edwards and James W. Smith; and Rick and Brooke Cisnero from Rick Zebra Design.

Each Councilor had been furnished an agenda prior to the meeting.

No members of press were in attendance.

Mayor Byrum advised Council that due to a scheduling conflict, Town Attorney Jim Lank would have to leave the meeting early and, therefore, the Closed Session would need to be held first.

CONVENE FOR CLOSED SESSION

On motion by Councilor Todd Nifong, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine, Council voted unanimously to convene for Closed Session in accordance with N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3) to discuss matters pertaining to attorney-client privilege.

RECONVENE FOR OPEN SESSION

On motion by Todd Nifong, seconded by Keith Leonard, Council voted unanimously to reconvene to Open Session.

VISION FOR THE TOWN OF MIDWAY

After reconvening for open session, Mayor John Byrum introduced Rick Cisneros and his wife, Brooke Cisneros, with Rick Zebra Design. Mr. and Mrs. Cisneros offered a proposal to explain more of what they were working on with Midway's web site, setting up Midway email accounts for all the Town Council members and Mrs. Cisneros explained in some detail the plan to have the town's Facebook account improved and the process for monitoring posting on the Facebook page to help prevent any inappropriate postings, as well as a town Twitter account. The proposal also included monthly analytic reporting and blog management at a cost of \$300 - \$400 a month.

Part of the updates for the web site included a responsive web site with a community bulletin board online, an events calendar and it will be expandable to add or change items shown online. The pricing package includes email setup, core system install, site technical planning, website design, construction of framework, transfer of content (from current website), usability/functionality testing, personnel training, website launch, website maintenance for 1 year and hosting. This pricing package was \$8,505.00.

Councilor Todd Nifong and Jackie Edwards expressed concerns over privacy, who would determine what comments are seen, who would see them or make any changes or deletions. Councilors Robin Moon and Keith Leonard commented they could see the positives and were good with the idea. Mayor Pro Tem

Mike McAlpine replied that he is O.K. with this agreement if the Facebook page and any other social media are monitored closely as explained.

Mayor John Byrum commented that the contract agreement for this will be added to the agenda for the next regular Town Council Meeting.

GOALS

Mayor John Byrum had asked each Councilor to bring a list of 5 things they would like to see for the Town of Midway in the next 4 years.

Mike McAlpine

1. Midway School Road Traffic Pattern & Benchmark
2. Hickory Tree Rd.
3. YMCA – Wooten & Co. Site Engineer
4. Grocery Store / Alcohol Issue
5. Guidelines for New Town Hall
6. Citizen Park Committee

Todd Nifong

1. Grocery Store & Family Style Restaurant
2. Town Park area (Priority – walking trail, picnic shelter)
3. Weapons on property
4. Town Farmers Market
5. Traffic Hickory Tree Rd.

Robin Moon

1. Communication
2. Town Park – Security
3. Clean Town – Litter control
4. Street Lights (Norman Shoaff & Midway School Rd.)
5. Business Development

Keith Leonard

1. New Town Hall
2. Town Manager
3. Grocery / Restaurant
4. Town Park
5. LDO

Jackie Edwards

1. Planning Board / Training
2. Town Park (Walking Trail / Guidelines)
3. New Town Hall (Cleaning, Policy, etc.)

4. Website
5. YMCA
6. Grocery

After going over the items each Councilor had listed, a final list was compiled of the number of each item to determine what stands out as more of a priority.

- 5 – Park
- 5 – Grocery
- 3 – Town Hall
- 2 – Web Site / Communication
- 2 – Traffic
- 2 – YMCA

In reference to the need for a grocery store to replace the loss of Walmart, Mayor John Byrum said Food Depot has been contacted. Food Depot has 5 stores in Virginia and has expressed interest in checking out the site. They have been given Pat Hennigan's contact information. The Mayor stated that Food City is also a second strong possibility.

Mayor Byrum said he is trying to get contract information for IGA, Bi-Rite, Aldi and Piggly Wiggly. He has talked with Publix but they declined.

Town Clerk Linda Hunt commented that it would be nice to have a booklet or directory of the contact information for the Council members, Planning and Zoning Board members and information on any committees and members we may have. Mayor John Byrum agreed that this would be very helpful and asked the Administrative Assistant Cindy Ramsey if she would begin working on that.

Councilor Todd Nifong said the final walk through for the punch list, with the contractor Frank Thomas is scheduled for next week. Mr. Nifong feels that it is very possible to plan on having the Town Council meeting for April scheduled at the new Town Hall.

Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine said tentatively for the March agenda it is scheduled to fence the back part of the Town Hall to prevent people from going onto the back 40 acres of the property.

Mayor Byrum said in regards to an Interim Town Manager, he has been made aware of some individuals with experience in the position as Interim Town Manager that Matt Reese with the COG had recommended. The position will be an hourly paid position and the timeline to have that position filled will be within 60 days. The plan is to have a new Town Manager in place within 6 months to a year. With an Interim Town Manager in place, it will allow the Council to be able to take the time to make sure the right person for the Town of Midway is selected.

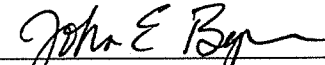
Mayor Byrum commented that he would like to have a Meet & Greet with Midway Business Owners after moving into the new Town Hall. A list of business owners in the town would need to be compiled and this would be an Open House by invite only to all business owners.

Councilor Todd Nifong remarked that the Council also needs to consider an Open House for the community and Mayor Byrum agreed saying it would be best to have that on a Saturday for maybe 2 or 3 hours.

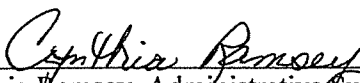
In concluding discussions, Mayor Byrum said he would like to have Vision Workshops such as this one 2 or 3 times a year so the Council can better stay up to date on needs of the town.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss Mayor John Byrum called for a motion for adjournment. On motion by Robin Moon, seconded by Councilor Todd Nifong, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m.



John E. Byrum, Mayor



Cynthia Ramsey, Administrative Support Specialist