

**MINUTES OF MIDWAY TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON JUNE 2, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE MIDWAY FIRE AND RESCUE BUILDING, 228 MIDWAY SCHOOL ROAD, IN MIDWAY, NORTH CAROLINA**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Norman Wilkes called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present.

Councilor Todd Nifong gave the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance prior to the opening gavel.

Councilors present were: Mike McAlpine, John Byrum, Keith Leonard, Robin Moon and Todd Nifong. Absent: None. Town Manager Ryan Ross, Town Attorney Jim Lanik, and Town Clerk Linda Hunt were present.

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

No members of press were in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion by Councilor John Byrum, seconded by Councilor Robin Moon, Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2014 Town Council Regular meeting as presented.

**PUBLIC ADDRESS**

There were none.

**ADOPT AGENDA**

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Under **VIII. REGULAR BUSINESS, ADD**  
Item 2. Audit Contract – Eddie Carrick, CPA;  
Item 3. Town Property  
Item 4. Contract with Benchmark CMR, Inc.

On motion by Councilor Nifong seconded by Councilor Byrum, Council voted unanimously to adopt the agenda as amended.

**OPENING REMARKS BY MAYOR**

There were none.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

At the May 5, 2014 Town Council regular meeting, Town Manager Ryan Ross presented the proposed budget for the Town of Midway for Fiscal Year 2014-2015. Following the presentation, Town Council called for a public hearing to receive citizen input on the proposed budget to be held on Monday, June 2, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the meeting room at the Midway Fire and Rescue Building, 228 Midway School Road in Midway, North Carolina.

Notice of the public hearing was published in *The Dispatch* on May 27, 2014 as required by law.

Mayor Wilkes opened the public hearing.

Mr. Dan Wishnietsky of 300 Bent Oak Drive in Midway questioned the following items and/or budgeted amounts for those items:

- ❑ The low amount budgeted for remodeling of the house for use as Town Hall at \$75,000. Mr. Wishnietsky said he had asked if the additional \$80,000 was carried over from last year's budget and he was told it was not. He expressed his concern about the discrepancy between the amount that was originally proposed in the preliminary draft budget and the final amount allocated in proposed budget for fiscal year 2014-15.
- ❑ The large amount budgeted for roundabouts.
- ❑ Funding for Economic Development. Mr. Wishnietsky noted that \$10,000 was allocated in the 2012-13 budget for economic development; however, economic development funding was not included in the budget for 2013-14 and is not included in the current proposed budget.

Town Manager Ryan Ross responded as follows:

- ❑ The cost of remodeling the house was broken down by line items. The original amount was \$154,859.
- ❑ The funds budgeted for the roundabouts and break in access studies are for the Highway 52 and Hickory Tree Road interchange (Exit 100 ramps) and the Core Commercial District. Mr. Ross pointed out that the planned closing of a portion of I-40 by the North Carolina Department of Transportation will create a significant increase in the traffic along that interchange and will have a substantial impact on the Town.
- ❑ Funding for Economic Development was included in last year's proposed budget; however, Council removed the funding prior to adoption of the budget.

There being no other speakers, Mayor Wilkes closed the public hearing.

Mayor Wilkes urged Council to reconsider their position regarding economic development and to add \$10,000 to the proposed budget for economic development. Mayor Wilkes polled the Council for their thoughts on Economic Development funding. Councilors Byrum and Leonard would support funding the EDC. Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine and Councilors Moon and Nifong would not support funding.

Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine suggested amending the line items under Administration pertaining to the house and property on Gumtree Road as follows:

General Fund – Administration Appropriations:

<b>Delete Items:</b>	Remodeling Town Hall – House	\$ 75,000
	Remodeling Town Hall – Landscaping	\$ 20,000
	Remodeling Town Hall – Fencing	\$ 20,000
	Remodeling Town Hall – Parking lot	\$ 75,000
	Remodeling Town Hall – Site preparation	\$ 75,000
	Landscaping Town Hall	<u>\$ 30,000</u>

Total \$260,000

<b>Replace With:</b>	Remodeling Town Hall	\$200,000
	Site preparation	<u>\$ 60,000</u>

Total \$260,000

While this modification does not change the total amount under Administration Appropriations and does not alter the total amount of the budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015, Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine is of

the opinion it paints a more accurate picture of the costs of remodeling the house and site preparation of the property.

On motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine, seconded by Council Nifong, the Council approved the proposed budget as amended and adopted the Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 by a 4-1 split vote. Voting in favor: Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine and Councilors Keith Leonard, Robin Moon and Todd Nifong. Voting against: Councilor John Byrum.

TOWN OF MIDWAY  
BUDGET ORDINANCE  
FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015

Be it ordained by the Town Council of the Town of Midway, North Carolina at a regular meeting the 2nd day of June, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. that the following departmental expenditures and anticipated fund revenues, together with certain restrictions, are adopted.

Section I

General Fund Appropriations

The following amounts are hereby appropriated in General Fund for operation of the Town Government and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2015.

Approved General Fund Expenditures

Governing Board	\$	36,900
Administration		639,200
Public Safety		80,000
Public Works		615,850
Planning & Zoning		74,300
Cultural, Economic, Recreation		10,000
Sewer Extension		50,000
Debt Service		<u>177,000</u>
Total General Fund Appropriations	\$	<u>1,683,250</u>

Section II

Anticipated General Fund Revenues

The following revenues are estimated to be available in the General Fund for the fiscal year beginning July, 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2015.

Ad Valorem, Current Year	\$	165,000
Ad Valorem, RMV		0,000
Ad Valorem, Prior Year		3,800
Penalties and Interest		800
Refunds/Discounts		(1,600)
Sales Tax		760,000
Solid Waste Tax		2,000
Utility/Franchise Taxes		190,000
Investment Earnings		8,000
Planning Permits		500
Fund Balance Appropriated		<u>553,250</u>

Total General Fund Revenues \$ 1,683,250

Section III

Ad Valorem Taxes

It is estimated that the total valuation of property for the purpose of taxation is \$348,687,434 and the estimated collection rate is 96.02%. There is hereby levied a tax at the rate of five (.05) cents per one hundred dollars (\$100) valuation of property listed for taxes as of January 1, 2014 for the purpose of raising revenues listed as "Ad Valorem Tax, Current Year" in Section II, General Fund Revenues of this Ordinance.

Section IV

Finance Officer Transfer Authority

The Finance Officer is hereby authorized to transfer appropriations within a fund as contained herein under the following conditions:

- a. May transfer amounts up to \$4,500 between objects of expenditure within a department or between departments of the same fund with a report being submitted at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Town Council.
- b. May not transfer any amount between fund accounts nor from contingency

appropriations without prior approval of the Town Council.

- c. That the Town Council shall receive written request for authorization of funds to other agencies.
- d. That the Finance Officer provides a monthly report of expenditures and revenues.

#### Section V

#### Budget Ordinance Copies

Copies of the Budget Ordinance shall be furnished to the Finance Officer, the Budget Officer and the Tax Supervisor of this Town for their direction in the carrying out of their duties.

Adopted this 2nd day of June, 2014

A complete copy of the Town of Midway Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 is on file at Town Hall.

#### **REGULAR BUSINESS**

##### **SECRETARIAL POSITION (DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION)**

Funding for a part-time secretarial position was included in the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 budget which has been approved.

Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine asked the Council members asked if he could get a consensus of Council to begin the process and move forward with hiring a part-time secretary. It was the consensus of Council to proceed with the necessary course of action to hire the part-time secretary.

##### **CONTRACT WITH EDDIE CARRICK, CPA – 2013-2014 AUDIT**

This item was added to the agenda.

Laws of the State of North Carolina, along with policies and procedures of the North Carolina Local Government Commission, require that all local governments in the State publish a complete set of financial statements annually. The financial statements must be presented in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) and audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America by a firm of licensed certified public accountants.

Town Manager Ryan Ross reported that Accountant Eddie Carrick of Eddie Carrick CPA PC located at 151 Young Drive in Lexington, North Carolina, has submitted a proposal for the audit contract the Town of Midway for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 at a total cost of \$5,500 (\$4,000 for the audit and \$1,200 for preparation of the audit report).

On motion by Councilor Byrum, seconded by Councilor Nifong, Council voted unanimously to approve the audit contract with Eddie Carrick CPA PC in the amount of \$5,500 and to authorize execution of the same.

##### **TOWN PROPERTY – GUMTREE ROAD**

This item was added to the agenda.

Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine told Council he would like to move forward with getting site preparation bids, pointing out that there are some trees that need to be removed.

Discussion only. No action taken.

**CONTRACT WITH BENCHMARK CMR, INC. FOR PLANNING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT SERVICES**

Town Manager Ryan Ross told Council he had been recently advised by Benchmark CMR, Inc. Partner Richard Smith that Benchmark wishes to make staffing changes under their contract with the Town of Midway for planning and zoning and code enforcement services. Instead of the current schedule of staffing Town Hall a full day on Tuesday, the schedule would be changed to two half-days in the afternoons on Tuesday and Thursday from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. Current planner/zoning administrator Andy Goodall will be replaced by Ms. Erin Burris who currently serves in that same capacity at the Town of Bermuda Run on a part-time basis also. The point for the need to change the personnel assigned to Midway is that the Town of Mount Airy needs a substantial increase in hours from Mr. Goodall for assistance with some of its major upcoming projects.

Councilors Byrum, Leonard, Moon and Nifong were in agreement with the change to the two half-days as proposed; however, Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine said he preferred the full day.

For information only.

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORTS**

**TOWN HALL TO BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY, JULY 4, 2014 IN OBSERVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY**

Town Manager Ryan Ross reminded Council that the office at Town Hall will be closed on Friday, July 4, 2014 in observance of the Independence Day holiday.

Reminder only.

**NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY, JULY 21, 2014**

In accordance with the 2014 Town Council meeting schedule adopted by Council, the next regular Town Council meeting is scheduled to be held on Monday July 21, 2014 in the meeting room at the Fire and Rescue Building, 228 Midway School Road in Midway, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Reminder only.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine, seconded Councilor Keith Leonard, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

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Norman L. Wilkes, Mayor

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Linda A. Hunt, Town Clerk