

NAVASSA REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

February 19, 2009

7:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jerry Merrick, Mayor Pro Tem

Michael Ballard, Councilman

Milton Burns, Councilman

Melvin Walker, Councilman

Craig Suggs, Councilman

MEMBERS ABSENT

Eulis A. Willis, Mayor

STAFF PRESENT

Charlena Alston, Town Clerk

Al Beatty, Planning Board Chairman

Claudia Bray, Town Administrator

CITIZENS & VISITORS PRESENT

Mildred Beatty

Barbara Watson

Ernest McIntrye

Ella Beatty

Evandor McLeod

Derrick Williams

Abdul R. Ali

Olivia Dowe

A. Bethel

Debra Williams

Dorsey Jones

Clifton Ballard

Jose & Susan Segura

Herbert Willis

Nehemiah Holliday

Frank Willis

Willie Hall, Jr

Willa Bryant Bessant

Mrs. Woodbury

Mayor Pro Tem Merrick called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

UPON A MOTION BY COUNCILMAN BURNS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN SUGGS THE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 19TH AND MARCH 2ND WAS APPROVED AND ACCEPTED. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

GOVERNANCE

Mayor Pro Tem updated the board and public on the following events:

- Received contract for Davis Creek Park Phase II Grant. Contract ends June 2010.
- The CDBG Rehabilitation and Infrastructure grants are still on track. No updates at this time.

- Brownfield Assessment Grant Phase II is complete. Contract will end September 2009.

CONSENT AGENDA

CDBG Resolutions are to award contracts for the rehabilitation and authorizing individuals to sign requisitions for CDBG funds.

COUNCILMAN SUGGS MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BURNS TO ACCEPT THE CDBG RESOLUTION. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR. **(R-2009-02 LOCATED IN THE RESOLUTION BOOK IS HEREBY INCORPORATED INTO THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING.)**

COUNCILMAN SUGGS MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BURNS TO ACCEPT THE REQUISITION FOR CDBG FUND FORM. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR. **(R-2009-03 LOCATED IN THE RESOLUTION BOOK IS HEREBY INCORPORATED INTO THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING.)**

DENR application is to approve engineering plans and specs for the Phoenix water project.

COUNCILMAN SUGGS MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN WALKER FOR THE MAYOR TO SUBMIT THE DENR APPLICATION FOR PHOENIX WATER. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

Sewer expansion agreement is to increase the town's sewer capacity of 65,000 gallons per day. Total sewer capacity will be 170,000 gallons per day.

COUNCILMAN SUGGS MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BURNS FOR MAYOR TO ENTER INTO SEWER EXPANSION AGREEMENT. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR. **(THIS AGREEMENT LOCATED IN THE AGREEMENT BOOK IS HEREBY INCORPORATED INTO THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING).**

Davis Creek Engineering agreement is needed for Phase II. Agreement amended to add payment schedule for engineer.

COUNCILMAN BALLARD MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN WALKER FOR MAYOR TO ENTER INTO DAVIS CREEK ENGINEERING AGREEMENT. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR. **(THIS AGREEMENT LOCATED IN THE AGREEMENT BOOK IS HEREBY INCORPORATED INTO THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING).**

FOLLOWUP ACTIONS FROM MINUTES

Mayor Pro Tem reported on the following projects:

- The Victoria Lane apron has been placed on the economic stimulus project list. If it doesn't get accepted, then the town will utilize Powell bill funds to complete.
- To improve communications through out the town, the Navassa Rag will be published quarterly. The first issue will be available in March. Copies will be distributed at the local churches, stores, town hall, and placed on website.

PLANNING BOARD REPORT

Al Beatty made the following report:

- The planning board approved the preliminary plat for Cypress Landing which is a major subdivision. Six conditions were placed upon them and conditions were met.
- UDO meeting will be Monday, 23rd at 6:30 p.m.

COUNCILMAN WALKER MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BURNS TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR SUBDIVISION REGULATION MARCH 19, 2009 AT 7:30 P.M. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

OLD BUSINESS

Town Administrator reported the Economic Development Grant for individual to work through Service Corp with Town of Navassa, City of Northwest, and Bolton for two years will coordinate a meeting with the municipalities.

Mayor Pro Tem asks if the board received their financial report.

COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORTS

Councilman Burns request that the next community service worker be assigned trash pick up along Magnolia Drive.

Councilman Ballard reported that he spoke with Allen Pope on Feb 5th regarding the ditches and drainage problems. The engineer would asset the problem also repair the apron on Royster Road. The engineer will look at the tree in the ditch on Cedar Hill Road within a couple of weeks.

CITIZENS

Dorsey Jones asks about the progress of the community bulletin board for the Phoenix area. Reported election was held for the Phoneix/Navassa Concern Citizen Group and the officer are Willa Bryant, Secretary; Ella Beatty, Treasurer; Bun Bethel, Vice President; and Dorsey Jones, President and Abdul Ali, sergeant at arms. Mayor Pro Tem informed the citizens that the bulletin board was being repaired because it was weather worn.

Willa Bessant was concern about sewer tap that was placed in her front yard. Mayor Pro Tem will meet with her after the meeting regarding the problem.

Ella Beatty questioned was the DENR application for the Phoenix area that was without water and what about the area that doesn't have sewer. Mayor Pro Tem respond that the application was for the area without water and the town is trying to obtain grant money to off set the cost to citizens regarding the sewer.

Derrick Williams ask the following because he came through a road check in Navassa city limits where only Northwest Officers were present:

- Clarification about the agreement with Northwest
- How many officers do the Town Of Navassa have at present date
- How long is the interlocal agreement to bring forth aid from other departments good for?

Mayor Pro Tem stated the agreement is between the municipalities contracting service for a Police Chief. Also, an interlocal agreement to bring forth aid from other departments. The Town of Navassa currently has five officers and the interlocal agreement to bring forth aid from other departments is renew yearly.

A citizen wanted to know about the packages that are available for senior citizens about repairing their homes. Mayor Pro Tem informed the citizens that the winterization program is not a town program but a four county program the base station is in Riegelwood and Olivia Waddell is the project coordinator.

Abdul Ali stated he was upset and disappointed how the police chief was introduced to citizens at the last meeting held. He was offended by the police chief action and asks for an apology from the police chief and council. Mayor Pro Tem replied he spoke with the chief after the meeting and found out that he was given instruction. Mayor Pro Tem apologized for anyone that took offense in the absence of the Mayor from the board.

Abdul Ali accepts the apology and stressed that we have to be sensitive of our people and have patience.

Willa Bessant compliments Mayor Pro Tem on the way he was conducting the town meeting.

Councilman Burns commented on the Valentine Dinners that Mayor Pro Tem supplied the seniors with. He thought that was a good gesture and encouraged him to keep up the good work.

Ella Beatty stated that we are a small community and communication is important in order to avoid the situation that they are in now. Councilman Burns replied that the board appreciate her comment and with the new things that they are trying to improve communication within the town.

Evander McLeod commented that the councilman of that district should keep them informed about what's going on in that district and hope no one takes offense to his comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

COUNCILMAN SUGGS MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BURNS TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

COUNCILMAN BALLARD MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN SUGGS TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

COUNCILMAN SUGGS MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BALLARD TO APPROVAL MAYOR WILLIS TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH ATTORNEY WESSELL. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR. **(THIS AGREEMENT LOCATED IN THE AGREEMENT BOOK IS HEREBY INCORPORATED INTO THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING.)**

ADJOURN

COUNCILMAN BALLARD MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN WALKER TO RECESS THE MEETING UNTIL MARCH 2, 2009 AT 5:00 P.M. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

Approval Date: March 19, 2009