

**TOWN OF CHARLOTTE COURT HOUSE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
Monday March 20, 2018 7:00pm**

A regular meeting of the Charlotte Court House Town Council was held on Monday, March 20, 2018, at 7:00 pm. Vice-Mayor Watkins called the meeting to order. Council Members Andrews, Haskins, Watkins, Jones, Kurdt & Walker were present. Mayor Walker arrived during agenda item "G". Council Member Andrews motioned to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays. Council Member Kurdt motioned to approve the February 20, 2018 public hearing and regular council meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote: 6 ayes and 0 nays. Council Member Kurdt motioned to approve the financial statement as presented. The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote: 6 ayes and 0 nays.

**Citizen Comments** Terry Ramsey voiced concern that the Council took action on the U.S. Cellular lease at the previous meeting. He stated that it is a bad financial deal for the Town and listed several provisions written in the lease agreement that he felt were not acceptable. Terry concluded by requesting that the Town start the process anew, seek advice from people experienced in the field, and negotiate a fair deal.

**Planning Commission Report** Planning Commission Chair Terry Ramsey reported that the Commission is meeting several times per month with a goal of having a Zoning Ordinance draft ready by June. He stated that drafts of the zoning district use matrix, the zoning map and the Historic District have been completed, and that they have started working on the Subdivision Ordinance. Terry stated the need for a TV monitor or screen projector and advised that the Town arrange for legal review of the final documents.

**Committee Reports** Building, Grounds, Streets & Lights Committee – Council Member Andrews reported that four bids were received for the grass contract: Brian Nichols \$700; Chris McCarty, \$850; Fred Kenner, \$1000; and Chase Parsons, \$1075. Council Member Jones motioned to accept Brian Nichol's bid of \$700 per cutting, provided that he has the required insurance and uses his own equipment. The motion was seconded by Council Member Kurdt and carried by voice vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays. Council Member Andrews requested that Building & Grounds be a separate committee from the Grounds, Streets & Lights. She requested that enforcement of ordinances be addressed and asked that the annual newsletter be sent with the next water billing to remind residents that the weed ordinance is in effect. Building & Grounds Committee – Mayor Walker reported that he was contacted by someone requesting to rent the VFD space in the back of the building to store produce from local farmers. The floor was yielded to Cornell Goldman to further expound on the subject. Mr. Goldman stated that a "Growers Association" was started in January with the purpose of giving big produce companies some competition. He stated that the space in the back of the municipal building is big enough to hold several truckloads of produce which would be dropped off by local farmers and picked up once per day. He stated that large coolers would be constructed to store the produce. Mayor Walker stated that a separate meter could be installed for electric service and that a twelve-month agreement would need to be signed. He stated that the VFD would need to remove the remainder of their belongings. Mayor Walker asked for volunteers to serve on an ad hoc committee to oversee the details of the proposed arrangement with the Grower's Association. Council Members Kurdt, Walker and Watkins agreed to serve.

**Water / Maintenance Report** No Report.

**Clerk's Report** Karen Price reported that in order to keep costs down and stay within the budget of the sidewalk project, the engineer has suggested that the Town facilitate the removal of some vegetation overgrowth and certain other obstacles within the utility easement, with the hope that the expenses could be used as matching funds. Karen reported that approximately 85% of taxes due have been received. She stated that a couple of individuals have expressed interest in purchasing the old town truck. Mayor Walker

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instructed the Clerk to advertise for sealed bids for the truck. Karen reported that she is preparing the new budget and that a Finance Committee meeting would be scheduled ahead of the April Council meeting.

**Council Comments** Council Member Andrews inquired about the status of the old school buildings. Council Member Jones stated that the Charlotte Court House Methodist Church will be celebrating 200 years of service. He also stated that there will hopefully be a grand opening scheduled for the garage at 130 Thomas Jefferson. Council Member Walker asked if the Town had a copy of the Drakes Branch Gun Ordinance and reiterated the need to address the concern of people firing guns in residential areas. Council Member Jones stated that the Town will be targeted with a lawsuit if guns are restricted. Mayor Walker stated that the Town should look into setting parameters with regard to guns.

With no further business, Council Member Walker motioned that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote: 6 ayes and 0 nays.

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Stephan D. Walker, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Karen K. Price, Clerk of Council