

AGENDA
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
HOOD ROOM, MATTHEWS TOWN HALL
MARCH 9, 2015 – 6:15 PM

PRESENT: Mayor James Taylor; Mayor Pro-Tem Joe Pata; Commissioners John Higdon; Chris Melton, Jeff Miller, Kress Query and John Ross; Town Attorney Charles Buckley; Town Manager Hazen Blodgett; Town Clerk Lori Canapinno

ALSO PRESENT: Assistant Town Manager Jamie Justice; Communications Director Jen Thompson; Planning Director Kathi Ingrish; Senior Planner Jay Camp; Planning Board members Barbara Dement, Eric Welsh, Mike Ham, Steve Lee, David Pratt, Gary Turner, David Barley

The Board of Commissioners received an update on the Arts and Science Council's Cultural Life Task Force and Cultural Vision Plan recommendations.

AGENDA
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
HOOD ROOM, MATTHEWS TOWN HALL
MARCH 9, 2015 - 7:00 PM

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ALSO PRESENT: Assistant Town Manager Jamie Justice; Communications Director Jen Thompson; Planning Director Kathi Ingrish; Senior Planner Jay Camp; Planning Board members Barbara Dement, Eric Welsh, Mike Ham, Steve Lee, David Pratt, Gary Turner and David Barley

REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

INVOCATION

Mr. Buckley rendered an invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Members of Boy Scout Troop 119 led the audience in the Pledge.

ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO THE AGENDA

None

PRESENTATION – NANCY GLENN SERVICE AWARD

Tina Whitley represented the Matthews Human Services Council and discussed the Nancy Glenn Servant Award. This award is given annually to the person who demonstrates inspiration, dedication and commitment to the Matthews nonprofit community.

Dahn Jenkins, Levine Senior Center Director spoke of this year's recipient, Gail Rothschild. Gail was exceedingly generous of her time and talents and dedicated her energies to so many. She worked at the Levine Senior Center every day for the last two and a half years, teaching classes and serving on the advisory board and Board of Directors. She had a passion for the Town of Matthews and helped anyone with anything. She had a warm, loving spirit and so many people benefitted from her work and they didn't even know it. Gail just lived for the town of Matthews and the people of Matthews. She was a true friend. Gail made a difference with her life. She lived her dash and lived her dash beautifully. Gail would have been so humbled to know that so many people thought of her this way.

Gail's daughter Renee accepted the award on behalf of Gail's family. She said she was not surprised to hear that her mother was getting this award. She would have been humbled but she would want you to know that she was not alone in her work.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS

REPORT FROM PLANNING BOARD

Planning Board Chair Steve Lee gave a report on the Board's activities (Exhibit #1 hereby referenced and made a part of these minutes). He noted that Planner David Nelson did a phenomenal job putting together the bike/ped plan.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ed Dement, 515 Clairview Lane, Matthews addressed the Board regarding the rezoning of MARA ball fields and cell tower height increase. He said he can use his phone at the site with a good signal and no problems with the cell tower as it is. He discussed tower heights and numbers, saying that he is not sure that the cell tower is actually needed as the applicants claim. He asked the Board to carefully consider this request, saying the signal is there already and could be improved even further if they just turned on the existing tower.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve Minutes of the February 9, 2015 Regular Meeting
- B. Accept Zoning Application 2015-627, Matthews Church of God, 517 E John St, from R-12 and I-1 to R/I(CD) and set a public hearing for May 11, 2015; Motion 2015-1, Matthews Composite Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, and set a public hearing for April 13, 2015; Motion 2015-2, Miscellaneous UDO Text Changes, and set a public hearing for April 13, 2015
- C. Approve Disposal of Surplus Property
- D. Approve Changes to Public Works Director Job Description

- E. Approve Police Department Request to Solicit Donations on Behalf of the Special Olympics of North Carolina on Saturday, May 16, 2015**
- F. Approve Tax Refunds**
- G. Approve Budget Ordinance Amendment to Recognize Shared Proceeds Received Through DEA Taskforce in the amount of \$45,286.67**
- H. Approve Budget Adoption Schedule for General, Tourism and CIP Funds for Fiscal Year 2015-16**

Motion by Mr. Higdon to approve consent agenda item A through H. Seconded by Mr. Melton and unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVE CONCRETE REPAIRS TO FIRE STATIONS 1 & 2

Mr. Blodgett explained that the cracking is getting worse. The cost could be over \$100,000 so he wanted to bring this to the Board's attention early. He also noted that the Idlewild station is experiencing similar problems and the Board will be hearing about that station at a future date.

Mr. Query asked if core testing had been authorized. Mr. Blodgett said yes for Idlewild. The money for half of the testing cost – half since this is a shared situation – has been appropriated.

There was some discussion of the concrete, with Mr. Blodgett explaining that the weight of the ladder truck with extended stabilizers is 60,000 pounds. The stabilizers are used to ensure the truck doesn't tip. The concrete is breaking up in spots where it wasn't sufficiently strengthened to handle that much weight. Possible options include embedding rebar or using high stress concrete.

There was some discussion of timing, with Mr. Blodgett explaining that the sooner it can be addressed the better. This will be another pressure on the budget but it will be listed as a required item. He will speak to staff about waiting until budget time to perform the work.

APPROVE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Query to approve the legislative action items and endorse the NCLM's Municipal Advocacy Goals. The motion was seconded by Mr. Miller and unanimously approved.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Taylor noted that Town Hall Day will take place in Raleigh on March 18th. The Board will lobby hard on the legislative agenda.

The downtown Shamrock Crawl is coming up on the 17th. Look on social media for more information on the event.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Buckley reported on House Bill 36, explaining that the Kim Hibbard, the League's General Counsel, is working to incorporate language regarding property owner's approval to try to eliminate court tests that could have rezoning actions thrown out.

Mayor Taylor noted he has had conversations with the sponsor of the current bill and he knows the revision is coming and was amenable to it. That legislator also said he would not support the historic tax credit issue.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Blodgett explained the desire to use an incremental approach to the light at Crestdale Road: it would change from standard use to blinking at night and on weekends and eventually switching to blinking all the time. This would help with expectations before it is relocated.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Query to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ross and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Canapinno
Town Clerk