

REGULAR MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL

AGENDA

September 18, 2014

RULES FOR PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL

1. Each speaker will identify himself or herself by giving his or her **name and place of residence**.
2. Each speaker will be limited to speaking one time on any topic. When you are finished speaking, please step away from the podium and be seated.
3. Each speaker will be limited to **three (3) minutes** and each group's representative will be limited to a **maximum of ten (10) total minutes**. Each group is encouraged to designate a single spokesperson for their group.
4. Each speaker will confine himself or herself to the general question before the Council and avoid irrelevant comments.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

(6:00 PM)

1. Invocation
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Public Comments
4. Agenda Adoption
5. Approve Consent Agenda (*All matters listed are considered to be routine and non- controversial by Town Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion unless a Council member so requests, in which case the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.*)
 - a. Proclamation for POW/MIA Recognition Day for Sept 19, 2014 (5a)
 - b. Proclamation for Military Suicide Awareness Month (September) (5b)
 - c. Proclamation for Ann Panteleakos, National President of the Ladies VFW Auxiliary (5c)
 - d. Approve August 21, 2014 Regular Council Minutes (5d)
 - e. Approve August 28, 2014 Recessed Meeting Minutes (5e)
6. Public Hearing on Amending the Zoning Ordinance (6)
 - a. Consideration of amending the Zoning Ordinance in regard to temporary signs (6a)
7. Appearance of Otis Livingston to Present to the Town a designation of Columbus as a regional site for the observance of Veteran's Day 2014 (7)
8. Appearance by Robert Williamson to speak about the Tryon International Equestrian Center economic impact (8)
9. Consideration of a resolution approving submitting a technical assistance grant request for certain water system items (9)
10. Appearance of Ernie Kan regarding a street name change (10)
11. Consideration of Awarding a contract to resurface Gibson Street (11)
12. Consideration of the Brush Policy (12)
13. Reports
 - a. Council Members Report (13a)
 - b. Managers Report (13b)
 - c. Public Works Report (13c)
 - d. Police, ABC, and Fire Department reports (13d)
14. Closed Session – Personnel Matter and Attorney/Client Privilege – NCGS §143-318.11(a)(3)(6)
15. Adjourn



Proclamation
POW/MIA Recognition Day – September 19, 2014



WHEREAS, In every conflict in which our Nation has been involved, selfless American service members have sacrificed their lives for the sake of our country and its principles. Too many have never come home, or have endured unthinkable hardship as prisoners of war. During this month and on this day, we echo the creed inscribed on the black and white banners that fly in honor of America's Prisoners of War and Missing in Action, and we renew our promise to our heroes, that "You Are Not Forgotten."; and

WHEREAS, we will never give up the search for those who are held as prisoners of war or have gone missing under our country's flag. We honor their sacrifice, and we must care for their families and pursue the fullest possible accounting for all missing members of our Armed Forces. Together, we must serve our Nation's patriots as well as they have served us by supporting them when they come home, and by carrying on the legacy of those who do not. This is a promise we keep for our fallen, for our veterans past and present, and for all those whose loved ones have not returned from the battlefield; and

WHEREAS, *On September 19, 2014, the stark black and white banner symbolizing America's Missing in Action and Prisoners of War will be flown over the Polk County Court House, in Columbus, NC, the County Seat, the Polk County Veterans Brick Memorial, United States post offices, and other locations across our County. We raise this flag as a solemn reminder of our obligation to always remember the sacrifices made to defend our Nation.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Eric McIntyre, Mayor of the Town of Columbus, do hereby proclaim

"September 19, 2014 as POW/MIA Recognition Day"

and encourage the citizens of Columbus to observe the day in ways appropriate to its importance and significance.

Proclaimed this the 18 day of September, 2014.

Eric McIntyre, Mayor

Devon LaFromboise, Town Clerk



Proclamation Military Suicide Awareness Month – September 2014

WHEREAS, in recent years, military suicides have reached numbers equal to or higher than that of combat deaths; and

WHEREAS, from January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013 there were 289 active duty suicides. That's 65 less than those killed in action during the same period and a decrease of 22% in deaths from last year; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans Administration estimates that a Veteran commits suicide every sixty-six minutes; that's 8030 suicides a year or 20% of all American deaths as a result of suicide; and

WHEREAS, military personnel are reluctant to ask for help when they are depressed; untreated depression is the number one cause of suicide among military personnel; and

WHEREAS, military personnel are encouraged to seek help to restore balance in their lives as well as the lives of their families by engaging in stress relief activities, maintaining a buddy system of support that that *no soldier stands alone*, remembering the importance of self-care by engaging in activities that improve state of mind, asking for help from a professional, being aware that help is available through a variety of sources, including the Veterans Administration and Suicide Prevention hotlines; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Columbus joins the Polk County Memorial VFW Post #9116 and Ladies Auxiliary in urging all active and former military personnel and their families to seek help for behavior health issues:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Eric McIntyre, Mayor of the Town of Columbus, do hereby proclaim

“September 2014 as Military Suicide Awareness Month”

and encourage the citizens of Columbus to observe the day in ways appropriate to its importance and significance.

Proclaimed this the 18 day of September, 2014.

Eric McIntyre, Mayor

Devon LaFromboise, Town Clerk



**Proclamation
Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW National President
Ann Panteleakos**

WHEREAS, The National President of the Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW, Ann Panteleakos will be making her official visit to North Carolina from 21 September to 23 September; and

WHEREAS, her theme for this year is “*Patriotism Begins at Home*”; and

WHEREAS, the “*Patriotism Begins at Home*” involves Americanism, Cancer Aid & Research, Veterans Legislation, Veterans Hospital Support, Veterans Family Support, Scholarships, and Youth Activities; and

WHEREAS, the Polk County Memorial Ladies Auxiliary to VFW Post #9116, also known as the Ladies Auxiliary Columbus Post #9116, is located in Town of Columbus; and

WHEREAS, President Joyce B. Preston, the Officers and Members of the Polk County Memorial Ladies Auxiliary to VFW Post #9116 participates, supports and encourages all the programs in which our National President Ann Panteleakos is an advocate; and

WHEREAS, the Polk County Memorial VFW Post #9116 stands beside the Ladies to welcome the National President to our Great State of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, our State President Janice Holm of the Ladies Auxiliary to VFW Department of North Carolina, whose theme is “*Pride Runs Deep*”, joins in this support and welcome, with our local Auxiliary and Post #9116; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Eric McIntyre, Mayor of the Town of Columbus, do hereby proclaim “September 21, 2014 as ‘Ann Panteleakos Day’” and encourage the citizens of Columbus to observe the day in ways appropriate to its importance and significance.

Proclaimed this the 18th day of September, 2014.

Eric McIntyre, Mayor

Devon LaFromboise, Town Clerk

Town of Columbus
Minutes of Columbus Town Council
August 21, 2014

Mayor McIntyre called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

In attendance were Mayor McIntyre, Councilmen McCallister, Hall, and Denton, Councilwoman Metcalf, Interim Town Manager Timothy Barth, Town Attorney Bailey Nager, Police Chief Chris Beddingfield, Public Works Director Robert Rosseter and Town Clerk Devon LaFromboise.

Regular Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Invocation

Mayor McIntyre led the invocation.

Public Comments

Mayor McIntyre opened the floor for agenda item three, public comments. There were no public comments.

Approve Regular Agenda

Mayor McIntyre asked for any changes to the agenda. Interim Manager Barth asked Council to add item 10a - Commitment Letter to DOT. The letter is in reference to the sidewalk improvements on Peniel Rd.

Councilman McCallister moved to approve the agenda with the addition of item 10a – Commitment Letter to DOT, Councilman Hall seconded, motion carried.

Approve Consent Agenda

Mayor McIntyre asked for any changes to the consent agenda. There were no changes to the consent agenda. Councilwoman Metcalf made a motion to approve the consent agenda as written, Councilman Hall seconded, motion carried.

The consent agenda and following items were unanimously approved.

1. July 10, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes

This concludes the items approved in the consent agenda.

Discover Columbus (Handmade in America) Public Art Revealing

Mayor McIntyre turned the floor over to Interim Town Manager Barth. The Handmade in America Committee has been renamed to Discover Columbus. The members of the Discover Columbus Committee were in attendance.

Ernie Kan spoke about the Polk County Artist and Crafters Guild and the art that is displayed at the Town Hall. The art and prices are displayed in the Council Chambers.

48 The Discover Columbus committee in conjunction with Don Blackwell's Isothermal Community
49 College art class donated a set of wood carving sculptures to the citizens of the Town of
50 Columbus. These pieces were sections cut from the same cedar tree and then individually carved.
51 Ernie Kan then introduced the artists and unveiled the carvings. The art will be rotated around
52 town and visitors will be invited to find the pieces.

53
54 Mrs. Kan then thanked the people, the artists, and businesses that helped support the carvings.

55
56 Mayor McIntyre asked how many hours went into the carvings. The estimate was 15 to 40 hours
57 for the pieces.

58
59 Janelle Wienkie of the Handmade in America Program thanked Council for letting her introduce
60 the Discover Columbus team and spoke in-depth of the purpose of the team. Mrs. Wienkie spoke
61 to Council on the focus on historical and cultural projects for the Town of Columbus. The second
62 project will be the community asset mapping project. Meetings will be held at the Town Hall on
63 Thursday, September 4, 2014, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm; Saturday, September 6, 2014, from
64 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm; and Tuesday, September 9, 2014, from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

65
66 The Discover Columbus committee would like to expand the planter project along Courthouse
67 Street to include E Mills Street. Handmade is willing to fully pay for the landscaping based on an
68 estimate by Thompsons Landscaping through the Small Town program. The committee is asking
69 Council to commit to maintaining the planters after installation. They will be located from
70 Gibson St. to Courthouse Street on the courthouse side of the street.

71
72 Mayor McIntyre asked for clarification of the grant used to install the planters. Mrs. Wienkie
73 confirmed the planters are included in the grant, but the continued maintenance of the plantings
74 will not be covered.

75 76 **Discussion Regarding the 2014 Veteran's Day Parade**

77 Mayor McIntyre turned the floor over to Interim Manager Tim Barth. Interim Manager Barth has
78 spoken to Colonel Otis Livingston and Colonel Livingston would like to speak with Council to
79 receive permission to hold another Veteran's Day parade in 2014.

80
81 Colonel Livingston thanked the Council for their support of last year's parade. Colonel
82 Livingston also thanked Chief Beddingfield and the support of the Columbus Police Department.
83 The parade will begin at the Food Lion parking lot, will route along E Mills Street to South Peak
84 Street and then will turn down Ward Street to end back at the Food Lion parking lot.

85
86 Colonel Livingston invited Council to participate in the parade.

87
88 The starting time for the parade will be 10:00 am on Tuesday, November 11, 2014. The Grand
89 Marshall will be Quincy Collins, retired Air Force Colonel. Colonel Collins has earned several
90 decorations and will give a short speech after the parade.

91
92 Colonel Livingston showed Council the posters made to promote the parade and presented a
93 poster to Interim Manager Barth to display at the Town Hall.

94

95 Councilwoman Metcalf asked Colonel Livingston if there was any way the Town could assist
96 with the parade. Colonel Livingston asked for their continued support for the Veteran's Day
97 parade. Councilwoman Metcalf asked staff to prepare a letter of support to send to Colonel
98 Livingston
99

100 Councilman Denton made a motion that the Town Of Columbus entertains the Veterans Day
101 parade this year on November 11th to start at 10 am and also to give authority to the Chief of
102 Police to close or barricade any and all roads that he deems necessary for the safety of this
103 parade, Councilman Hall seconded, motion carried.
104

105 **Consideration of a Request To Change The Name Of A Street**

106 Mayor McIntyre discussed the issue of Hampton Street being divided by Interstate 74, causing
107 confusion by half the street being named Hampton Street and half named Hampton Court. The
108 request is to consider changing the name of Hampton Street to avoid confusion by emergency
109 personnel.
110

111 Mayor McIntyre suggested naming the different sections by directions such as North or South or
112 East or West. Councilwoman Metcalf suggested allowing the residents of Hampton Street to
113 decide. Ernie Kan of Hampton Street spoke for the residents to change the name of the street.
114

115 Mayor McIntyre asked Mrs. Kan to bring street name suggestions to the September 2014 council
116 meeting.
117

118 **Discussion Regarding the Water and Sewer Billing Policy**

119 Mayor McIntyre opened the discussion for the Water and Sewer billing policy. Mayor McIntyre
120 reviewed the current policy and its effectiveness.
121

122 Mayor McIntyre and Town Clerk Devon LaFromboise discussed the current procedures for late
123 fees and cut-offs. Clerk LaFromboise explained that letters sent to the customers advising them
124 of partial payments or credit card declines include the cut-off date and explains the option to
125 make payment arrangements, if there is sufficient time for the customer to receive and act upon
126 the letter. If time does not permit this, then staff does make an effort to contact the customer by
127 phone and communicates the cut-off date and the option to make a payment agreement.
128

129 Clerk LaFromboise also discussed with Council that staff does utilize the discretion given to staff
130 to waive penalty fees but only for extenuating circumstances. She also explained that staff makes
131 every effort to restore service the same day.
132

133 Mayor McIntyre then discussed allowing third parties to access utility accounts. Clerk
134 LaFromboise explained that authorizations are in writing to have a paper trail and also to allow a
135 customer to remove authorization from their accounts. She also explained that authorizations are
136 available via fax, email, mail and on the website.
137

138 Councilwoman Metcalf explained that these issues have been an ongoing problem and Council
139 decided to levy a hefty fee so that customers will take paying their bill seriously. Councilwoman
140 Metcalf also feels the policy needs to be followed and customers need to get in contact with staff
141 if there is an extenuating circumstance. She feels it is the account owner's responsibility to
142 contact staff if there is a problem.

143 Councilwoman Metcalf asked about the policy for repeat offenders. Clerk LaFromboise
144 explained that there is no written policy addressing repeat offenders.

145
146 Councilman Hall asked if a customer comes in to make a payment, is the water turned back on.
147 Clerk LaFromboise confirmed that if a payment or a payment agreement is made then the
148 customer is turned back on the day the payment or payment agreement is made. The payment
149 agreements are reviewed weekly and if a payment is not made as agreed, then the crew is
150 dispatched to turn the water off until the bill is paid in full.

151
152 Mayor McIntyre asked if there are residents or businesses that come up each month with
153 problems. Clerk LaFromboise confirmed there are residents or businesses that are on the cut-off
154 list each month. Mayor McIntyre suggested raising the fee for each offense.

155
156 Mayor McIntyre stated that businesses and households need to be treated consistently. Business
157 owners and residents have the same option to come in and make a payment agreement to extend
158 the time to pay or to make payments. Staff also provides information for assistance and outreach
159 programs to help customers make their payments.

160
161 Councilman McCallister asked if there were more problems with renters. Clerk LaFromboise
162 confirmed that the issues are split 50/50 between owners and renters, and customers inside the
163 city limits vs. customers outside the city limits. Council briefly discussed the history of Council
164 addressing the issue of property owners paying the utility bills and including the payment in the
165 rent. Overall, property owners did not want the responsibility and Council decided not to enforce
166 that option.

167
168 Mayor McIntyre opened the discussion of reminding customers to make their payments. Clerk
169 LaFromboise explained that staff has attempted to communicate reminders to customers, but the
170 process was not successful; customers took advantage of the courtesy and did not make their
171 payments on time. Mayor McIntyre asked if the issues stem from new customers. Clerk
172 LaFromboise clarified that few new customers are on the list monthly, the majority of the
173 offenders are repeat offenders and are on the list monthly.

174
175 Councilwoman Metcalf feels that staff needs to continue enforcing the existing water billing
176 policy.

177
178 **Discussion Regarding the Brush Policy**

179 Councilwoman Metcalf suggested eliminating item 3 – “Any other refuse not complying with the
180 foregoing conditions will be collected by the Town only under special arrangements made by the
181 owner with the Town Manager”, and asked for clarification of item f – “Removal of spoil from
182 large tree removal, clearing of lots, or other large areas must require advance pickup
183 arrangements at Town Hall..”. Mayor McIntyre clarified item f term “spoil” as the removal of the
184 small branches and the bulk of the tree after it has been cut down. After a lengthy discussion,
185 Council decided to leave item 3 in the policy.

186
187 Councilman Denton asked for clarification of item c – “Leaves are to be placed in bags for pick-
188 up”; Councilman Denton was under the impression that a machine vacuumed the leaves. Public
189 Works Director Rosseter clarified that the vacuum is only utilized from November to January.

190 Councilwoman Metcalf asked if the charge for hauling away the brush was economical. Director
191 Rosseter felt the charge was too low. Council had a brief discussion on the charge for hauling
192 away debris and the manpower of the brush pick up. An option discussed by Council was to
193 allow the Town Manager to set the fee on a case by case basis.

194
195 Councilman Hall felt there were two issues with item f; one issue is the “clearing of lots” needs
196 to be better defined and the other issue is the charge per load. Director Rosseter suggested
197 removing "clearing of lots" and Attorney Nager suggested adding “other large areas will be
198 collected by the Town only under special arrangements made by the owner with the Town
199 Manager.”

200
201 Councilwoman Metcalf asked Staff to revise the wording and bring it to Council for the
202 September meeting.

203

204 **Commitment Letter to DOT**

205 Interim Town Manager Barth gave Council a brief history of the RPO meeting with the
206 Department of Transportation. The Peniel Road sidewalk can be identified in their 10 year plan,
207 if the Town will send a letter of commitment to provide 20% of the cost of the project at the time
208 they bid the project. The project could be bid anytime during the 10 year plan. The estimated
209 cost of the Peniel Road sidewalk project is \$140,000.00. Councilwoman Metcalf was under the
210 impression that the sidewalk project funding was already agreed upon.

211

212 Mayor McIntyre reminded Council that former Manager Kanipe spoke with the county and the
213 state to include the curbing and guttering during the recent paving. Councilwoman Metcalf and
214 Councilman Hall felt the sidewalk was included in the repaving and guttering project.

215

216 Councilwoman Metcalf would like to do some research to see if the sidewalk was included.
217 Mayor McIntyre directed Interim Manager Barth and staff to review the meetings and find any
218 indication or any commitment that the sidewalk was included in the project.

219

220 The letter of commitment has to be submitted to the Isothermal Planning Commission RPO
221 coordinator by August 29, 2014. After a detailed discussion with Attorney Nager, Council
222 decided to refrain from signing the commitment letter at this time and to recess the meeting until
223 next Thursday, August 28, 2014 at 6:00 pm. This would allow Interim Manager Barth and staff
224 to research the history and funding of the Peniel Road Sidewalk Project.

225

226 **Council Reports**

227 Councilwoman Metcalf asked to discuss the Temporary Sign Ordinance. Councilwoman Metcalf
228 would like the temporary signs to be per business and only allowed for 30 days to avoid
229 constantly having temporary signs on the property. Mayor McIntyre suggested changing the
230 wording to “promotional sign”. Interim Manager Barth will present revised wording at the
231 September 18, 2014 council meeting.

232

233 Mayor McIntyre wants to have a meeting and due process for the applications for the position of
234 Town Manager. Mayor McIntyre feels Council owes it to the citizens of Columbus to look at the
235 applications within the next couple of months and make a final decision. Mayor McIntyre would
236 like Council to come together to discuss the top 5 applicants that were submitted to Manager

237 Kanipe. Mayor McIntyre directed Interim Manager Barth to gather the resumes and submit them
238 to Council. Council will then review the resumes over the next few months and make a decision.
239

240 **Manager's Report**

241 Interim Manager Barth presented his report on the following topics:

- 242 • Interim Manager Barth informed council the waste water treatment plant project is slowly
243 coming to a close. All of the major construction projects are now complete. There are still
244 some punch list items to complete. W.K. Dickson has completed oversight of the project;
245 their last day onsite was Thursday, August 21, 2014, but they will be back onsite for the
246 startup for the rehab clarifier and the generator. Councilman McCallister inquired if there
247 is a payment requirement for them to be at startup. Interim Manager Barth will emphasize
248 with W.K. Dickson that payment was included and the Town of Columbus will not make
249 an additional payment for these startup site visits.
- 250 • September 1, 2014 will be the start of the semi-annual hydrant flushing. The CodeRED
251 system will be utilized to inform citizens of the flushing.
- 252 • The Discover Columbus group will be having three asset mapping meetings at the
253 Columbus Town Hall. Council is encouraged to attend at least one asset mapping
254 meeting.
- 255 • There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for the newly opened Openroad Coffee
256 coffeehouse on Wednesday, August 27, 2014 at 5:15 pm.

257 **Public Works Report**

258 The punch list for the WWTP should be complete by Friday, August 22, 2014. The startup
259 requires the manufacturer representative on site and has been scheduled. Director Rosseter
260 assured Council that all the electrical and construction projects have been completed.
261

262 **Police Department Report**

263 The Police Department Report was noted.

- 264 • The Columbus Police Department and St. Luke's Hospital progress meeting went well.
265 Communication issues will continue to be resolved and improved. St. Luke's Hospital
266 still wants a patrol car on the campus. Chief Beddingfield is working with Biltmore
267 Forrest Town Manager Jonathan Kanipe to secure a used patrol vehicle. The Town of
268 Biltmore Forrest has a used vehicle for sale. Currently, St. Luke's Hospital is paying to
269 have a patrol car on the hospital campus. The Columbus Police Department still needs to
270 have a 4-wheel drive vehicle for inclement weather and to be used for pulling the
271 enclosed trailer, so the Ford Explorer cannot be used strictly for hospital patrol.
272 Councilman Denton asked Chief Beddingfield if it was feasible to buy a used car versus
273 buying a new car. Chief Beddingfield answered the challenge is that resale values for
274 used patrol cars are remaining close to the cost of a new vehicle, but he is looking into
275 possible loans and payment options for a new vehicle.
- 276 • The Town of Tryon has purchased a device that clocks the speed of cars and estimates of
277 the number of vehicles traveling on the road. The Columbus Police Department used this
278 device to complete a traffic study in Columbus. The study focused on the number and
279 speed of vehicles traveling on Mill Street and Holly Hill Drive.
- 280 • The Columbus Police Department was invited to the Charlotte "Booze it and Lose it"
281 celebration. Participation was by invitation only.
282
283

284 **ABC Board Report**
285 The ABC Report was noted.

286
287 **Fire Department Report**
288 The Fire Department Report was noted.

289
290 There being no further business, Councilman McCallister made a motion to recess the meeting
291 until next Thursday, August 28, 2014 at 6:00 pm, Councilman Denton seconded, motion carried.
292 The meeting was recessed at 8:30 p.m.

293
294
295 _____
296 Mayor

297
298 _____
Town Clerk

Town of Columbus
Minutes of Columbus Town Council
August 28, 2014

Mayor McIntyre called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

In attendance were Mayor McIntyre, Councilmen McCallister, Hall, and Denton, Councilwoman Metcalf, Interim Town Manager Timothy Barth, Town Attorney Bailey Nager, and Town Clerk Devon LaFromboise.

Regular Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Sidewalk Letter to DOT

Mayor McIntyre resumed the August 21, 2014 Regular Town Council Meeting.

Interim Manager Barth discussed the research findings regarding the Peniel Road Sidewalk project. There was no documentation found addressing the project as a whole. The Department of Transportation completed the curbing and guttering but did not have the funding to pour the sidewalk at the completion of the project. At the time of construction there was funding for the sidewalk; however, the funding was lost as of June 2013. The funding was rolled into the SPOT process and the funds no longer available for the sidewalk project. Manager Kanipe submitted the project through the SPOT process because of this loss of funds.

Interim Manager Barth was able to get into contact with Steve Cannon from D.O.T. and was able to get an estimate to complete the sidewalk. The cost to complete the project from Walker Street to Wheeler Street is estimated at \$35,000.00. A 20% match is required. If the sidewalk is constructed to Holly Hill Drive the cost estimate is \$59,094 and the 20% match would be \$11,819.00. The Town would be allowed to use Powell Bill funds for the match.

Councilwoman Metcalf asked how far back Staff researched looking for documentation regarding the sidewalk. Clerk LaFromboise began searching for this in 2010 and Interim Manager Barth went back further. Councilman McCallister asked for clarification of the \$144,000.00 original cost. Interim Manager Barth clarified the cost contained the curbing, guttering and additional improvements.

Council discussed the necessity of having the sidewalk. Interim Manager Barth asked Council to consider the 80% funding from D.O.T. Even if the project is funded through the SPOT program, there is no guarantee of the current pricing. Interim Manager Barth reminded Council that the commitment letter will allow the project to be considered - it doesn't guarantee funding.

Councilman Hall feels this has been a topic of discussion for many years, he expressed the desire of citizens to have the sidewalks, and he feels the project should go forward.

Councilwoman Metcalf wants to ensure the safety of pedestrian traffic along the route and is willing to move forward with the sidewalk project if it will improve pedestrian safety. Mayor McIntyre suggested contacting D.O.T. to request street lighting to improve pedestrian safety. Council had an in depth discussion on possible projects for safety enhancements such as signage and rumble strips. Council directed Interim Manager Barth to speak to D.O.T. about pedestrian safety additions in the project area.

50 Interim Manager Barth stressed to Council that the current prices are only estimates and the Town
51 could refuse the project at a later time if the price increase is unacceptable. Interim Manager Barth
52 spoke with Joel Setzer and quoted Mr. Setzer “The Town isn’t on the hook until the project is bid
53 and the Town commits.” Councilwoman Metcalf asked what would be the consequences of the
54 Town refusing to adhere to the commitment. Interim Manager Barth was only able to conjecture
55 that refusing to adhere to the commitment could possibly knock the Town out of procuring future
56 projects.

57

58 Councilman McCallister made a motion for the Town of Columbus to pay the 20% share on the
59 statement of commitment to provide local funding for bike and pedestrian growth projects and
60 toward the Peniel Road Sidewalk project, Councilman Hall seconded, motion carried.

61

62 Mayor McIntyre directed Interim Manager Barth to provide the names of the seven resume choices
63 for the Town Manager position to the Council members.

64

65 There being no further business, Councilman McCallister made a motion to adjourn, Councilman
66 Denton seconded, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm

67

68

69

Mayor

70

71

72

Town Clerk



MEMORANDUM FOR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

To: Mayor & Town Council
From: Timothy J. Barth, Interim Town Manager
Re: Public Hearing on Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Item 6)
Date: September 18, 2014

Background

At the August 21, 2014 Town Board meeting the Town Council requested that the Planning Board meet to consider amending the Zoning Ordinance in regard to temporary signs.

Before an amendment can be made to the Town's Zoning Ordinance a public hearing must be held. The public hearing was advertised on Monday September 8 and Monday September 15. The public is encouraged to comment on further restricting temporary signs to only be allowed 30 days in a calendar year.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

TO: Tryon Daily Bulletin
FROM: Timothy J. Barth, Interim Town Manager
DATE: September 3, 2014
SUBJ: Public Hearing Notice

Please publish below the line in legal ads on:

Monday September 8, 2014 and Monday September 15, 2014

Send bill and affidavit to:

Town of Columbus
PO Box 146
Columbus, NC 28722

NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING

The Columbus Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on September 18, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Columbus Town Hall, 95 Walker Street.

The purpose of this hearing is to consider public comments regarding amending the zoning ordinance to allow temporary promotional signs to be placed at a business location for no more than 30 days in any calendar year.

The public is invited to attend.



MEMORANDUM FOR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

To: Mayor & Town Council
From: Timothy J. Barth, Interim Town Manager
Re: Consideration of amending the zoning ordinance in regard to temporary signs (Item 6a)
Date: September 18, 2014

Background

At the August 21 Town Council meeting the Town Council asked the Planning Board to consider further restricting temporary signs for promotional purposes.

In Chapter 154 .112K(3) of the Town Code it states, "Signs for promotional purposes by an individual business may be displayed on the premises and for a period not to exceed 30 days in a calendar year." The only problem is that if the business changes the temporary sign then that sign has an additional 30 days. So whenever a sign reaches its 30 day limit, a new one can replace it for another 30 days. The Town Council asked the Planning Board to consider whether the wording should be changed to limiting temporary sign to 30 days in a calendar year regardless of the wording. If changed, the ordinance would limit a business to putting temporary signs out for only 30 days per calendar year.

The amended wording for Chapter 154.112(K)(3) would be "Signs for promotional purposes by an individual for profit business may be displayed on their premises and for a period not to exceed 30 days in a calendar year. Replacing one temporary sign with a different temporary sign is allowed but will not restart the 30 day count." The amendment that would need to be adopted to make the change is attached. The Planning Board recommended this amendment.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

ORDINANCE AMENDING ZONING ORDINANCE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF COLUMBUS that the Town's Zoning Ordinance is amended in the following particulars:

Add a sentence to Section 154.112(K)(3) that would state:

Signs for promotional purposes by an individual for profit business may be displayed on their premises and for a period not to exceed 30 days in a calendar year. Replacing one temporary sign with a different temporary sign is allowed, but it will not restart the 30 day count.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the Town Council finds that the foregoing amendments are consistent with the plans and policies of the Town of Columbus.

Adopted this ___ day of _____, 2014

Eric McIntyre, Mayor

ATTEST:

Devon LaFromboise, Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

A. Bailey Nager, Town Attorney



MEMORANDUM FOR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

To: Mayor & Town Council
From: Timothy J. Barth, Interim Town Manager
Re: Appearance of Otis Livingston to present the Town designation as a Regional Site for the observance of Veteran's Day 2014 (Item 7)
Date: September 18, 2014

Background

Otis Livingston, with the Veteran's Day Committee has requested to appear before the Town Council to present this designation.

The designation comes from the Department of Veterans Affairs and states that the Veterans Day National Committee hereby designates Columbus as a Regional Site for the observance of Veterans Day 2014. This is quite a designation and the Town should be proud to have this honor. A copy of the Designation is attached, as well as the letter that came with the designation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
PUBLIC AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON DC 20420

Mr. Otis W. Livingston
The Patriots Salute to Veterans Association
P.O. Box 453
Columbus, NC 28722

Dear Mr. Livingston:

On behalf of the Veterans Day National Committee, I am pleased to announce that Polk County, North Carolina, has been selected as a Regional Site for the celebration of Veterans Day 2014.

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert McDonald will notify your Governor of your selection and encourage support for your Veterans Day activities. We will also ask the Department of Defense to provide military liaison officers, where available, to help support your event.

As you finalize plans for your Veterans Day ceremony, we welcome the opportunity to provide a message from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for inclusion in your event program. Please contact Mr. Micheal Migliara at (202) 461-5386 or by email at Micheal.Migliara@va.gov by September 15, 2014, to request a Veterans Day message. We are also finalizing the 2014 Veterans Day poster and will send you a supply as soon as they are available.

Congratulations again on your selection and best wishes for a successful event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Galloucis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mike Galloucis
Executive Director
Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs

Enclosure

Department of Veterans Affairs



The Veterans Day National Committee

hereby designates

City of Columbus, North Carolina

as a Regional Site for the Observance of

Veterans Day 2014



Robert A. McDonald

Robert A. McDonald

Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Chairman, Veterans Day National Committee



MEMORANDUM FOR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

To: Mayor & Town Council
From: Timothy J. Barth, Interim Town Manager
Re: Appearance by Robert Williamson to speak about the Tryon International Equestrian Center Economic Impact (Item 8)
Date: September 18, 2014

Background

Robert Williamson, who is the Interim Economic Development Director for Polk County, has spoken to a few different groups regarding the economic impact of the Tryon International Equestrian Center. He has agreed to come speak to the Town Council.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.



MEMORANDUM FOR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

To: Mayor & Town Council
From: Timothy J. Barth, Interim Town Manager
Re: Consideration of a resolution approving submitting a technical assistance grant request
For certain water system items (Item 9)
Date: September 18, 2014

Background

Robert Rosseter and I have met with McGill and Associates regarding some water issues that are not imminent problems, but that will need to be addressed sometime in the next few years. After meeting with them, McGill and Associates identified a technical assistance grant that the Town could apply for that would help with some of these issues. The grant is a 100% grant that requires no matching funds from the Town.

The scope of work that McGill would perform if the Town gets the grant is as follows:

1. Address the Town's need for a second water storage reservoir to allow the current reservoir to be drained for inspection, rehabilitation and maintenance. The Town currently only has one 500,000 gallon concrete water storage reservoir. This reservoir is antiquated and may need rehabilitation to extend its useful life. Because the Town has only a single reservoir, the Town's ability to perform maintenance on this concrete tank is extremely limited.
2. Perform inspections and testing of the existing Skyuka Road Well to determine the cause of the decreased well output capacity and other pumping issues that have recently been experienced.
3. Evaluate methods to monitor water table elevations at the Town's existing four (4) groundwater wells, and make recommendations for integrating the water table data into a Drought Management Plan.

4. Identify the future service area and estimate future water demands for the 20-year planning period. Compare future water demands to current available water source capacity of the four (4) existing groundwater wells to determine if additional water source capacity is needed.
5. Determine the recommended size, location and elevation for a second water storage reservoir, taking into consideration current and future water service area and demands, and associated hydraulic needs.
6. Review the water source availability and the hydraulics associated with the existing emergency water system interconnections with Tryon and Polk County, and determine their impacts to the Town's future service area and water source needs.
7. Make recommendations and prepare preliminary cost estimates for water system improvements, prepare a 20-year Capital Improvements Plan, update the existing water system map and provide a map showing the proposed water system improvements needed to meet the needs for the 20-year planning period. The 20-year Capital Improvements Plan will include recommended priority projects and proposed years for implementation based on needs, a review of the Town's current water rates and rate structure, and potential funding options for proposed capital projects.

The Public Works Director and I recommend that the resolution be adopted, since this will not cost the Town any money. A copy of the resolution is attached. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

A RESOLUTION
TO APPLY FOR A TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT

WHEREAS, The Federal Clean Water Act Amendments of 1987 and the North Carolina the Water Infrastructure Act of 2005 (NCGS 159G) have authorized the making of loans and grants to aid eligible units of government in financing the cost of a study that pertains to the Town's drinking water distribution system; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Columbus has need for and intends perform a study to evaluate the Town's drinking water distribution system, including the water supply sources, water storage facilities, and water distribution lines; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Columbus intends to request state grant assistance for the project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Columbus, North Carolina does hereby resolve that Town of Columbus, the **Applicant**, will arrange financing for all remaining costs of the project, if approved for a State grant award.

That the **Applicant** will adopt and place into effect on or before completion of the project a schedule of fees and charges and other available funds which will provide adequate funds for proper operation, maintenance, and administration of the system and the repayment of all principal and interest on any current or future debt.

That the **Applicant** will provide for efficient operation and maintenance of the project on completion of construction thereof.

That Timothy Barth, the **Authorized Official**, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of the **Applicant** with the State of North Carolina for a grant to aid in the study described above.

That the **Authorized Official**, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the appropriate State agency may request in connection with such application or the project: to make the assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required in connection with the application.

That the **Applicant** has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances applicable to the project and to Federal and State grants and loans pertaining thereto.

Adopted the 18th day of September, 2014.

Town Clerk

Mayor



MEMORANDUM FOR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

To: Mayor & Town Council
From: Timothy J. Barth, Interim Town Manager
Re: Appearance of Ernie Kan regarding a street name change (Item 10)
Date: September 18, 2014

Background

When the issue came up about the confusion for emergency personnel regarding the two different sections of Hampton Street/Court, Ernie Kan asked to consult with her neighbors about changing the name of the section that is south of Hwy. 74 (closest to the courthouse).

She will have a report on what she has done.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.



MEMORANDUM FOR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

To: Mayor & Town Council
From: Timothy J. Barth, Interim Town Manager
Re: Consideration of awarding a contract to resurface Gibson Street (Item 11)
Date: September 18, 2014

Background

Gibson Street has been one of the street's in Town that needs resurfacing as bad as any street. The Town has patched the street as best it can, but now a complete resurfacing is needed. This was identified during the budget process as one of the streets that needed to be resurfaced. Funds are included in the budget for the project.

Robert Rosseter, the Public Works Director, is in the process of acquiring prices from three different companies to do the work. The three companies are:

Stott Paving

Prince Paving

Hipp Paving

As of the date of this memo he did not have the quotes back. By the time of the meeting he will have the quotes.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.



MEMORANDUM FOR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

To: Mayor & Town Council
From: Timothy J. Barth, Interim Town Manager
Re: Consideration of the Brush Policy (Item 12)
Date: September 18, 2014

Background

At the August 21 meeting the Town Council discussed the brush policy at length. After some discussion it was agreed to let the staff recommend some changes.

The changes recommended are included in the attached revised draft of the policy.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.



Town of Columbus

PO BOX 146 · Columbus, NC 28722

Brush Policy

- 1) No tree limbs, shrubbery, cuttings, leaves, and other similar matter will be collected unless such matter can meet the following guidelines:
 - a) All grass clippings and yard debris to be placed in bags or water resistant containers that can be loaded by one person. Must not include trash (plastic, glass, etc.)
 - b) Large limbs must be cut so that one person can load them. No trees, stumps, lumber, metal, shingles, appliances, bedding, furniture, homeowner construction material, etc. will be picked up.
 - c) Leaves are to be placed in bags for pick-up.
 - d) No brush will be picked up by the Town in which the cutting has been hired out. It is the contracted person or property owner's responsibility to dispose of these cuttings.
 - e) No brush will be picked up that has been hauled in from other locations.
 - f) Clearing of lots, or other large areas must require advance pickup arrangements at Town Hall. The Town Manager will approve the arrangement and may set a reasonable fee to cover the Town's disposal expenses.

- 2) Any other brush collection requests not complying with the foregoing conditions will be collected by the Town only under special arrangements made by the owner with the Town Manager. The Town Manager will approve the arrangements and may set a reasonable fee to cover the Town's disposal expenses.

- 3) Yearly leaf pick-up via the leaf vacuum will begin on the third Monday of November and will end on the second Friday of January of the next year.

September 18, 2014 Town Manager's Report
Prepared for Columbus Town Council
Tuesday September 9, 2014

- 1) **Mediation for Regional Water System Case:** On Thursday September 11 mediation was held for the Town of Tryon, Town of Saluda and Town of Columbus vs. Joel E. Wood and Associates. This is the case that the three towns are bringing against the engineer who designed the regional water interconnection system that connects the three town's respective water systems.

- 2) **NCLM Annual Conference:** The NCLM (North Carolina League of Municipalities) annual conference will be in Greensboro this year. It will begin on Sunday October 12 and run through Tuesday October 14. If you are interested in going please let me know no later than Monday October 22.

- 3) **No Decision on Tryon Estates:** We continue to wait on the Judge's ruling on the Tryon Estates case. Please be aware that no matter what the ruling there is a high likelihood that the verdict may be appealed.

- 4) **WWTP Complete:** While the plant is complete there is still going to have to be a meeting between the Town, the Engineer, and the Contractor to try to figure out the final change order amounts and the extra days that the Town allows for the work that was done. That will have to be a separate called meeting, where that is the only item on the agenda.

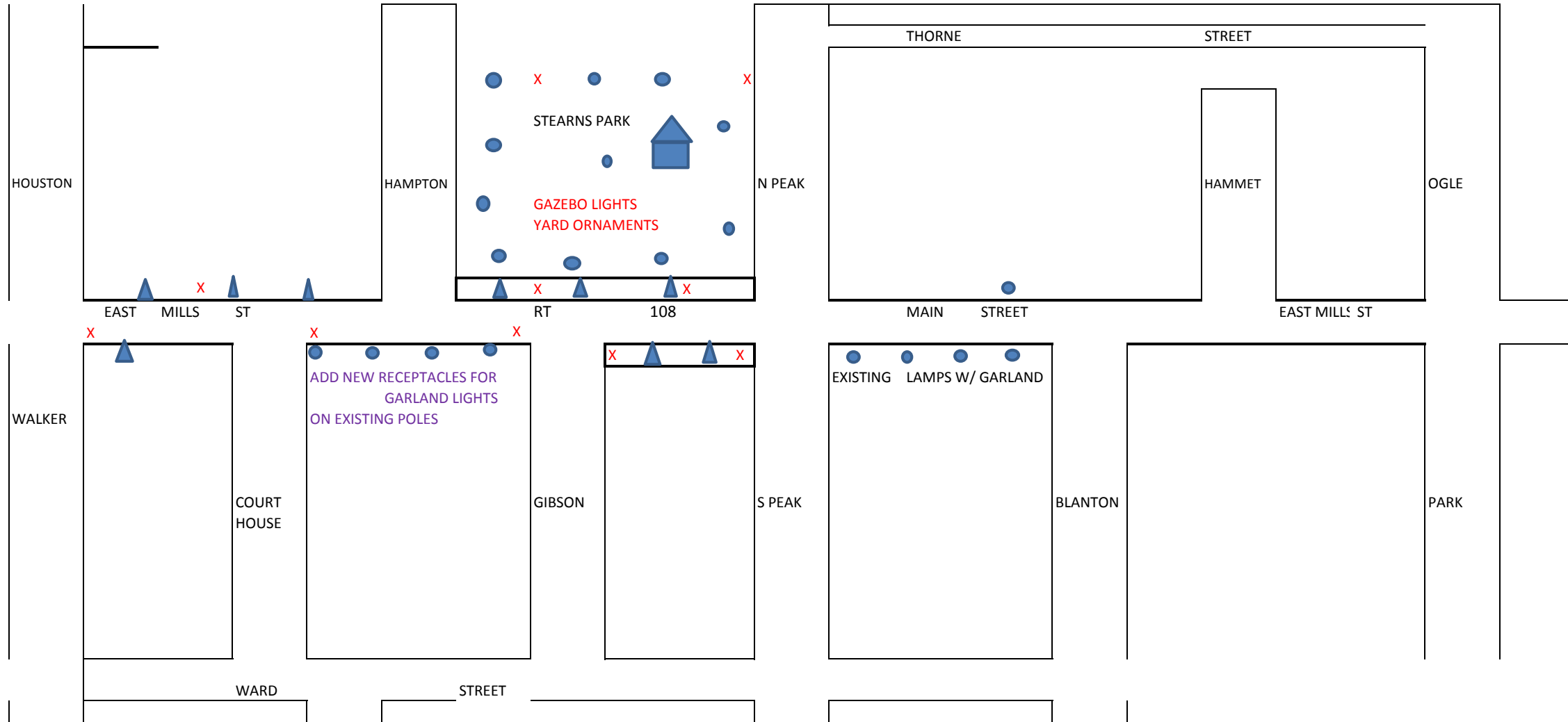
PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

TOWN OF COLUMBUS

AUG/SEPT 2014

- UPDATE ON THE WWTP: ALL NEW EQUIPMENT INSTALLED IS UP AND RUNNING. THE LAST TWO PIECES OF EQUIPMENT TO GO THRU START UP WAS THE GENERATOR AND OLD CLARIFIER. BOTH ARE WORKING FINE. THERE WILL BE ONE LAST MEETING WITH THE ENGINEERS AND CONTRACTOR TO TIE UP ANY LOOSE ENDS. THIS MEETING HAS YET TO BE SCHEDULED.
- THERE WERE TWO WATER LEAKS THIS PAST MONTH. ONE ON OGLE AND ONE ON PARK ST. BOTH WERE MINOR. BOTH WERE TWO INCH LINES.
- A SMALL SINK HOLE OPENED UP ON THE EASTSIDE OF RT 26 ON THE TRAFFIC CIRCLE. IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT IT IS NOT COMING FROM OR BEING CAUSED BY THE TOWNS WATER LINE. THE THOUGHT IS THAT MAYBE A CULVERT PIPE IS FAILING. D.O.T. WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR.
- THE 4 INCH RAIN WE HAD ON MONDAY, 9/8, CAUSED SEVERAL DITCHES AND CULVERT PIPES AROUND TOWN TO CLOG. ALL HAVE BEEN CLEARED WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ONE ON WEST BEECHWOOD DRIVE. IN ORDER TO CLEAR THIS ONE, SOME TREES WILL HAVE TO BE CUT AND UTILITIES LOCATED BEFORE DIGGING.
- THE 4 INCH RAIN EVENT ALSO AFFECTED THE WWTP. FLOW THRU THE PLANT WAS AS HIGH AS 1.6 MILLION GALLONS. (AVERAGE IS ABOUT 250,000) CAUSING WEEKLY SAMPLES TO BE DELAYED UNTIL THURSDAY.
- I HAVE INCLUDED A XMAS LIGHTING LAYOUT FOR DISCUSSION.

TOWN OF COLUMBUS
CHRISTMAS LIGHTING LAYOUT



● = EXISTING LAMPS

X EXISTING POWER SUPPLY BECAUSE POWER SUPPLY IS ALREADY IN PLACE, THIS WOULD MAKE A GOOD STARTING POINT.

▲ - PURCHASE 4' TREES ALONG MAN ST AND USE EXISTING POWER SUPPLY- X- TO LIGHT TREES.

WELCOME TO COLUMBUS SIGN		
AT 108 & 74 RAMP		

LIGHTS

The Columbus Police Report was not available at the time of agenda packet assembly.

TOWN OF COLUMBUS

ABC BOARD

Monday August 11, 2014

The ABC Board met at the Columbus Hardware store. Present were Pat Feagan chair, Secretary Devin Williams, Store Manager George Miller and Board Member Marshall Watkins were in attendance.

Chair Pat Feagan called the meeting to order (5:15 pm). Devin makes a motion to approve minutes, Chair seconds. Chair makes a motion to approve the agenda, Devin seconds. Secretary Devin Williams reads the Ethics and Conflict of Interest statement.

In accordance with GS 18B-201, it is the duty of every board member to avoid both conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts. Does any member have any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before the board today?

No says all.

OLD BUSINESS

1) No old business to discuss

NEW BUSINESS

1) Board moves to share profit of \$500.00 to Town.

2) Board discussed 2015 budget.

NCAC 02R.1706(b) states "If a local board has a price discrepancy between the price on the shelf or bottle is lower, the local board shall sell the item at the shelf or bottle price and correct the shelf or bottle price to match the Commissions published uniform price."

THIS IS OFFICIAL BOARD POLICY

With no further business Pat motions to adjourn at 5:48pm, Devin seconds.

The next meeting will be held Monday September 8 , 2014 at Columbus Hardware Store.



Type of Incident	Number of Calls	Firefighter Hours Utilized
Emergency Medical Calls	65	73:33:00
Tree Down Blocking Road	3	15:25:00
Fire Alarm Activation/No fire/AA/I	4	1:30:00
MVA/With or Without PI	6	22:57:36
Stranded Motorist/Lock Out	15	13:50:00
Smoke Detector/No Fire/AA	1	1:04:00
EMS Calls/MA/AA/D&C	1	0:16:00
Traffic Hazard	3	5:22:00
MVA/AA/PI/NO PI	1	17:46:00
EMS Call/D&C En Route	1	0:04:00
Aircraft Standby	3	12:47:00
Public Service	6	4:53:00
Vehicle Fire	1	3:16:00
Smoke Investigation	3	2:50:00
Fire Alarm Activation-No Fire	2	2:40:00
Aircraft Standny/Mutual Aid	1	1:24:00
Structure Fire/AA	3	30:25:00
Structure Fire/AA/D&C	2	1:35:00
No Incident Found	2	3:04:00
Assist Law Enforcement	1	0:48:00
Total	124	215:29:36
training Hours for August 2014		399:00:00
Total Firefighter Hour Calls and Training		614:29:36