

TOWN OF SILER CITY

The Siler City Town Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, December 20, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Courtroom with Mayor Charles Johnson presiding. The recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance was followed by the invocation given by Commissioner Buckner. Commissioner Buckner asked for a correction to the minutes for December 6, 2010 regarding changing the name of First Citizens Bank to Capital Bank for those who have supported the NC Arts Incubator. A motion to approve the minutes with the correction was made by Commissioner Siler, seconded by Commissioner Adams and unanimously approved.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Sam Adams, Cindy Bray, Helen Buckner, Larry Cheek, John Grimes, and Tony Siler.

ABSENT: Pat Perry.

TOWN STAFF PRESENT: Town Manager Joel Brower, Town Attorney William Morgan, Planning Director Jack Meadows, Public Works Director Terry Green, Police Chief Gary Tyson, and Town Clerk Karen Alman.

PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION:

Roger Person, 405 W. Elk St., Siler City, NC 23744: Mr. Person stated his house was broken into several weeks ago. He called the Police Department and within minutes they arrived at his residence and performed an investigation. Two investigators as well as Chief Tyson and Major Harman also came to the residence and investigated the entire neighborhood. Person advised that each officer was extremely courteous and very professional. His insurance investigator stated that the report he received from the Siler City Police Department was one of the best he has seen. The criminal was apprehended the day after the break-in. He felt that because of the National Night Out program, everyone was aware of what happened to him and the necessity to be aware and cautious. Mayor Johnson asked Chief Tyson to pass this thank-you on to the officers. *(Schedule 16-A)*

PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE REALITY CHECK PRINCIPLES FOR QUALITY GROWTH, CHARLES HAYES, PRESIDENT & CEO, RESEARCH TRIANGLE REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP: Mr. Hayes informed Board members that Reality Check was developed jointly by the Urban Land Institute, Triangle Chapter and Triangle Tomorrow. The Institute is an organization whose mission is to provide leadership in responsible use of land and creating sustained green space communities worldwide. Triangle Tomorrow is a program of Research Triangle Regional Partnership which looks at quality of life issues (clean air, sufficient water, etc.). He noted that in the year 2030 there will be 500,000 new households, 700,000 new jobs and 1.2 million new people. The groups wanted to involve the public and private sector which is made up of a 15-county region. They are asking towns and counties to adopt the Guiding Principles for Quality Growth and to consider these principles in three areas when growth occurs: Transit, Vibrant Center and sustained Green Space. He stated they are not trying to tell towns and counties how they should grow, but when they do to consider these guiding principles. Commissioner Buckner made a motion to approve the Resolution Endorsing the Reality Check Principles for Quality Growth and unanimously carried upon a second by Commissioner Siler. *(Schedule 16-B)*

CHATHAM TRANSIT NETWORK PRESENTATION, AMBER WAGNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Ms. Wagner advised the Chatham Transit Network (a non-profit corporation) is one of 83 public community transportation systems recognized by the state. They are governed by a Board of Directors made up of appointees from Chatham County, other human service agencies and the general public. Chatham Transit has 18 vehicles and provided more than 45,000 rides to residents with about 160 to 200 trips per day. They provide subscription services to human service agencies, general public transportation and contracted transportation services. The Transit Network is funded through federal and state grants, contracting agencies, Chatham County/United Way and targeted federal grants. They have recently been funded for a Siler City to Sanford route, Pittsboro to Sanford and Moncure to Siler City. Wagner explained that 54-percent of Chatham Transit's rides originate in Siler City with employment transportation as the top trip purpose, then medical trips followed by significant stops such as Wal-Mart, CCCC, etc. She mentioned that Transit Network serves everyone in the general public and also some organizations located in Siler City. There are currently 2 vehicles originating from Town Hall in Siler City running in opposite directions that make all 25 stops with a \$1.00 fare each time someone boards the vehicle. Commissioner Cheek asked Wagner to explain the ADA service as there has been some citizen concern regarding curb-to-curb pick-up. She stated that a vehicle would pick-up someone at their house if they have a doctor's note explaining a person is not able to access the fixed route services due to a health reason. Information regarding the Siler City shuttle map and schedule is on the Chatham Transit Network website. They are adding some new services beginning in 2011 and with that there will be the challenge of funding; however, they are hoping to find some sustainable revenue sources. Commissioner Buckner asked if a feasibility study was performed to determine if these routes were the ones that would be used? Wagner replied a study was performed but they will continue to look at the routes and commuter patterns. Buckner inquired as to how many people the vehicles accommodated? Wagner responded that the vans hold 11 to 15 people and the buses accommodate between 20 and 24 people. Mayor Johnson asked if there would be stops in the County's smaller communities? Wagner responded that a stop is scheduled in Goldston. Commissioner Siler asked how the vehicles were maintained with Wagner stating they have preventative maintenance and also software that will keep up with specific details. *(Schedule 16-C)*

CHATHAM COMMUNITY FOR ALCOHOL AND DRUG FREE YOUTH, GEORGE GREGOR-HOLT & SUSAN POWELL: Mr. Gregor-Holt explained this group has been active since 1986 in different programs such as Project Graduation, other school based programs and developed the first alcohol and drug policy for school systems in North Carolina which is now the model for the state. He noted that this new program has different resources which the committee has not had in the past that will allow them to work with youth in Chatham County on alcohol and drug prevention. Ms. Powell advised Chatham County was the only coalition in North Carolina to receive a five year grant. In previous years, this program has been mostly school based, but because of this grant will now be more of a community effort. Social service agencies, schools, police departments and other agencies have shown commitment in working together to help create opportunities for creating healthy lifestyles for kids. The group hopes to form partnerships and is looking for people to "act as bridges" letting the coalition know if there is another group in the community who would like to join forces. She stated that policies will need to be developed in order to sustain a good prevention program. The two

main substances they are targeting now, due to information from research data, is alcohol and prescription drugs. Programs that have been developed are Operation Medicine Drop and a campaign for "Safe Stores and Homes". Mayor ProTem Grimes felt the Boys and Girls Club would be a good target group. Commissioner Buckner asked if they worked with the court system? Wagner advised they do have a representative from the court system attending meetings. Commissioner Adams suggested putting information regarding this program in with the water bills. (Schedule 16-D)

2011 AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF NORTH CAROLINA HONORS AWARD:

Bill Lester, P.E. with Hobbs Upchurch & Associates advised he spoke with Town Manager Brower a couple of months ago soliciting his support for submitting the Turner Reservoir project to the American Council of Engineering Companies for consideration of their awards program. He advised there were many applicants and the Turner Reservoir project did capture the award which Hobbs Upchurch & Associates accepted at a meeting about a month ago. Lester thanked the Town of Siler City as a part of the project team not only for the financial backing, but the support from Town staff and the Board of Commissioners. He presented the award to Mayor Johnson and how much he appreciates working with the Town of Siler City.

Commissioner Buckner left the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

REVISED RESERVOIR PROPERTY MAPS: Brower directed Board Members to new maps developed by Planning Director Jack Meadows regarding access to the reservoir for fishing as requested. Discussion ensued regarding a temporary access obtained during the construction of the reservoir from the Clapp family. Brower advised the Town negotiated with the Clapp family at the end of the project. The Clapp family wanted to retain the retention pond, a building that the contractor used as a testing facility, and power supply lines in exchange for an easement. This easement is restricted for construction or checking on the reservoir. To use as an access to the reservoir, this easement would have to be expanded. Two other options discussed was a tract owned by Lake Shore, LLC and possibly negotiating with the property owner to obtain an easement where the old boat ramp is located. It is important to take into consideration the ups and downs of the water levels. The minimum release for the Town of Siler City is very significant also. There were a couple of other possibilities discussed which would require the negotiation of easements. Commissioner Adams suggested that a workshop be held in January or February to discuss the issue of reservoir fishing with Board members sharing thoughts and ideas to come up with specific plans to work towards. (Schedule 16-E)

RELEASE OF TAX BILL Due to a decrease in valuation for Sheffield Manor Limited Partnership per order from the Property Tax Commission based on Section 42 Housing, it is necessary to release \$1,237.25 for tax year 2010. This release was unanimously approved upon a motion by Mayor ProTem Grimes and a second by Commissioner Cheek. (Schedule 16-F)

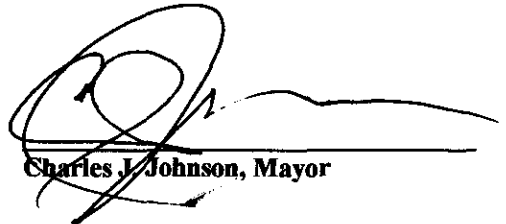
NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AWARD: Police Chief Gary Tyson announced that Siler City has been selected as a National Award Winner in the "27th Annual National Night Out" crime, drug and violence prevention program. Siler City ranked 18th in the nation for towns under 15,000 population. Tyson thanked all the coordinators for a job well done in bringing the community together to help solve crime. He thanked the Town Board and staff for all their support and "believing in this program" in continuing to budget funds. Tyson gave the award plaque to Town Manager Brower to display. Brower and the Board thanked Chief Tyson, the Siler City Police Department and all the volunteers for their hard work and the success of this program. (Schedule 16-G)

PROCLAMATION FOR VOLUNTARY WATER CONSERVATION: Brower advised a proclamation has been prepared for Mayor Johnson's signature for voluntary water conservation effective December 21, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. Town ordinance states that when the reservoir water level drops below 70-percent, voluntary water conservation will go into effect. The required minimum release will be reduced which will help the water levels by approximately 2,300,000 gallons per day. During times of non-drought, the Town operates under a very significant minimum release as required by State permit. (Schedule 16-H)

TOWNSEND, INC. - CHAPTER 11: Mayor Johnson advised that Townsends, Inc. has filed for voluntary reorganization under Chapter 11 effective December 19, 2010. They are seeking a loan package approval that would allow restructuring of the company's debt. Jeff Wilson, NC Complex Manager for Townsends, Inc., explained to Brower that the company continues to face economic pressures due to increased cost of feed ingredients and the downward spiral of the market price for chicken to consumers. Brower stated that revenues from Townsend's annual water and sewer billing is approximately \$1.5 million and their annual tax bill runs about \$45,000. He will keep the Board updated on this developing situation. (Schedule 16-I)

CANCELLATION OF JANUARY 3, 2011 MEETING: Board members agreed to cancel the meeting for Monday, January 3, 2011 due to a lack of business items and the New Year holiday. Because of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday on Monday, January 17, 2011, the Town Board will meet on Tuesday, January 18th.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.



Charles J. Johnson, Mayor

ATTEST:



Karen C. Alman, Town Clerk