

MINUTES

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Feb. 20, 1973

Those Present: Messrs: Cumbie, Hopkins, Thompson, Fowler, O'Dell, Kennemore, Mayor Holladay and Mrs. Williams.

*Special* Special guests from the Central Planning Committee; Mr. ~~Gliden~~ <sup>Blanton</sup> representing the group. Former Mayor Griffin and a member of the press from the Anderson Independent.

The Mayor opened the meeting and brought forth a request he had received from a Central resident for permission to obtain a license for a pin-ball and pool-table to be placed in a residential home in Central for recreation for our youth. The Mayor felt this was a bit unusual and the Council felt we should hold off permission until it was checked out further.

The Mayor introduced a Mr. Blanton and he took the floor. Mr. Blanton is a salesman for Christmas decorations for towns. He suggested that if the Town was interested, a small committee could be appointed and he and this committee could meet to look over his merchandise and discuss the prices further. Dr. O'Dell mentioned that we allow approximately \$500 per year in our budget for Christmas decorations for the town, but that we do not necessarily spend that each year. It was also agreed that the matter of purchasing new Christmas decorations would fall under the Street Committee.

*Sp* The Mayor then introduced the Planning Committee and Mr. Gliden <sup>Blanton</sup> who took the floor to discuss the projected changes to Central in the next 20 years. My ~~Gliden's~~ <sup>Blanton's</sup> group had prepared a map showing the projected changes and he proceeded to run over this with the Council.

TOWN CHANGES: The Committee would actually like to see the town itself turn the front of their stores to the rear, thus forming a new look and a mall look with better access roads through the shopping area. It was pointed out that space would be better allocated and no new construction costs would be incurred. It was mentioned that they did see trouble with this idea since ownership of the town is in the hands of individuals who may not sell or want to remodel.

CENTRAL ELEMENTARY: The school here is in bad location, with no room to possibly expand and legally should not be accredited. They felt that possible land could be made available on Rd 18 for a new Elementary school in the future.

PARKS: Park areas should be increased within our limits. The present park just built should be expanded to accommodate

more of the new residential areas that will be built around the town. Also a badly needed spot would be the area of Head Town for the children of the lower income group.

CANNON MILLS: They have plenty of room for growth and expansion. No problem here.

HEAD TOWN: The Committee is working now on some new plans for new low-income housing to replace the present shacks. They felt that we have laws presently that could close these shacks now, but that the residents need some new housing to go to, plus education on how to use new appliances, etc.

INDUSTRY: All existing industries are fine as far as room to grow. We may have one new industry on Rd 18 in the future.

UTILITIES: No growth was shown on the Committee's map, because they do not know what the power companies plan, and the Committee or Town would have no control over it anyway.

Mr. ~~Gliden~~<sup>Alleton</sup> thanked the Council and he and his Committee asked permission to sit in on our regular meeting matters. The Mayor expressed his welcome to stay and we proceeded.

The Mayor then mentioned to the Council the matter of getting the light in town corrected in order to turn right with the red light. The street will be marked with a right turn lane to go along with this. Also the road at the underpass will be marked for a left turn lane.

The Mayor then brought up the matter of the Brock street work. It was stated that the Town has a 50' right of way, except where Meredith crossed Brock; in this area we have a 40' right of way. The Town will have water lines and hydrants to move for the road construction. The members of the Council felt we would have a lot of trouble with residents over the construction.

A short discussion was then brought up about our difficulty in hiring our new policeman, Mr. L. Cannon. Many things occurred through the press to cause problems, but he is finally on duty with Central.

The Mayor mentioned that we did pay the back-hoe out of General fund because he was actually purchased a year ago, and he felt we may run into difficulty.

The Mayor mentioned that all sewerage payments are up-to-date. The North plant will be operating Thurs, Feb.22 and the South Plant will be starting up Monday. It was noted to all that the plants will have to be fully inspected before the final payment is to be made. The plants will have to run approximately 6 mos. before the inspection.

Mr. G. Fowler then reported to the Council about the the Municipal meeting he attended. In regards to a uniform election time for all counties Mr. Fowler stated that he did

not expressed Central's views on this since he did not know how it would effect the Financial Committee of Central. If a change was to be taken by the Town, it was stated that you cannot extend terms of office, but can shorten them.

Mr. Fowler then mentioned the matter of the County Court system brought up at the Municipal meeting. It was the preference of the meeting that the municipalities hold the courts, and appeals then be sent to the County Court. The County is request that 50% of the fines be kept to cover the cost of the County Court. As it is now, no fines will be returned to the Towns until a study is made on the cost to operated the County Court.

Dr. O'Dell then brought several matters to the attention of the Council. The FREE RURAL FIRE CUSTOMERS now on the list were presented to the council for a decision on how long to carry these. After lengthy discussion, the Council agreed to carry all with the exception of 3 names that were formerly carried because they were under the protection of CWC housing. They have since built new houses in our area and should be billed. No final decision was made on a time limit for these FREE customers.

*suggested  
15 yrs.*

Dr. O'Dell then presented a list of bad debts that need approval to be cleared off the books. The Council agreed these should be written off.

The matter of the 1972 delinquent taxes was brought up by Dr. O'Dell. The Council agreed that a notice should be sent out on the 1972 delinquent taxes and we should try to collect both 1972 and back taxes before the County takes this duty over for the Towns.

Mr. Thompson then took the floor with a proposal from G.E. for a City Government Communication System. It would consist of 1 relay tower, 1 base station, 1 portable unit and 3 mobile units with VHF frequency. Our obtaining the VHF frequency pends the approval of N.C. and Ga. This communication system would have a range of 15-20 mi. from the center of town, addition cost would increase the range. Total cost of the system would be \$3,915.20 (state price). It was stated that lines would have to be run from the tower relay to the town hall. This could be rented from the telephone co., or G.E. would run lines overfor us. It was further stated that the Rescue Squad was without communications too. If we purchase the City Government system, they could be placed under this communications system. If we purchase single frequencies, we have to pay for additional ones we wish to add later. Another portable unit for the Res. Squad would cost them \$1,285.00 and they would fall under our frequency. It was mentioned by Mr. A. Cumbie that this could be bought with the Revenue Sharing money.

The Council felt we should consider this information and bring it up for a decision at later meeting. Mr. Thompson stated that he had a bid coming from Motorola to present to the Council, but that it would be definitely higher. (Post Note: Motorola bid was received, total cost was \$8,254.48)

Dr. O'Dell then requested that an executive council be called for a special matter that has come up. The Planning Committee and Mrs. Williams were excused.

*N. R. Williams*  
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MAYOR

Respectfully Submitted,

*Carolyn Williams*  
Carolyn E. Williams  
Town Clerk & Treas.

*Executive Council notes*

*The matter of people calling Mrs. Williams at the office and cursing her about high water bills, unpaid bills & taxes, etc. was brought before Council. It was felt town employees should not have to take this abuse & if the same citizens continued this practice warrants should be issued.*