

August 1st, 2011

At 7:00pm., on Monday, August 1st, 2011, in the Board Room of the Landis Municipal Building, Mayor Dennis Brown called to order the Town of Landis Board of Aldermen Regular Meeting. Those present along with the Mayor were Aldermen James Furr, Roger Safrit, Tony Hilton and Craig Sloop, Public Works Director Steve Rowland, Police Chief Brian McCoy, Town Manager Reed Linn, Deputy Town Administrator Debbie Goodman, Recreation Director Andrew Morgan, Administrative Assistant Heather Wood and Town Attorney Rick Locklear.

A quorum was met.

Alderman James Furr arrived later in the meeting due to work issues.

Mayor Dennis Brown opened the meeting and welcomed all those in attendance.

The invocation was led by Reverend Honeycutt.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mayor Dennis Brown.

Alderman Safrit motioned, seconded by Alderman Sloop, to adopt the agenda as presented. All voted aye.

Alderman Safrit motioned, seconded by Alderman Sloop, to adopt the minutes from the July 6th, 2011 Regular Meeting as amended. All voted aye.

Town Planner Shelley Williamson then addressed the Board concerning Community Development Block Grants. She stated that the Town had received such a grant in the 1980's. She was simply presenting information tonight for the Board to consider. She went over what the Block Grants are, and where the money comes from. The Block Grants were mainly geared towards low income households. The grants were generally handled in a two year cycle and things were currently being revamped with staff changes, new programs, etc.

There was some discussion concerning the application process. It was also stated that the grants do have "some strings attached". She indicated that she was simply seeking an indication as to whether or not the Board wished for her and Manager Reed Linn to pursue the matter. The process would require two public hearings – one that was more of a general hearing and the second would have to be very specific to the project the grant would be used for.

Alderman James Furr then arrived.

Alderman Tony Hilton inquired as to who administers the Block Grants. Ms. Williamson stated that it was handled through the Department of Commerce and those awarded grants were generally given 24-36 months to get projects underway and finished.

Mayor Brown instructed the Board if they had any projects in mind to please get with both Manager Linn and Ms. Williamson and let them know.

The next order of business was to consider approving new lots in the Oaks of Landis subdivision. They were lots 119, 120, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129 and 130 in Phase I. The request was being made by Summit Land Services/True Homes. Phase I was approved several years ago. There are existing homes around the

requested lots and all lots meet the conditions set forth by the Board. In order to begin construction on new homes, those lots had to be recorded.

Alderman Hilton motioned, seconded by Alderman Safrit, to approve lots 119, 120, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129 and 130 in Phase I of the Oaks of Landis as requested. All voted aye.

The next order of business was an agreement between the Department of Transportation and the Town of Landis for the DOT to inspect the Town's bridges. Several years ago, the Board had approved a similar agreement, but it had been the wrong agreement. The agreement they had before them was the corrected, proper agreement. The Town has two bridges – one in the Oaks of Landis and one in Irish Creek.

Alderman Safrit motioned, seconded by Alderman Furr, to accept the agreement between the Department of Transportation and the Town of Landis for the DOT to inspect the Town's bridges as presented. All voted aye.

Department Head Comments

Town Manager Reed Linn: stated that Recreation Director Andrew Morgan was on vacation, so he would be covering some of the upcoming events for Director Morgan. On Saturday, September 24th, 2011 the Mud Run at Lake Corriher would take place and on Saturday October 1st, 2011 the 3rd Annual Cancer Survivors 5k Walk/Run would be held. Manager Linn went on to state that they had received a letter from the Department of the State Treasurer and all local governments now had a new “hoop” to jump through when they want to borrow money. He provided the Board with information on the house bill that addressed this new rule. Any bonds would now have to go before a new committee before they were sent to the LGC. Alderman Sloop stated that he disagreed with this new measure, stating that our bonds were approved pending the outcome of the audit for 2010-2011 and now the Town would have to take this additional step.

Public Works Director Steve Rowland: stated that he had started to gather quotes for the material for the electrical project for this budget year and they should be able to start in November. He would be ordering supplies soon. Alderman Hilton inquired about the sidewalks on South Chapel Street. Director Rowland stated that so far he had received quotes from two companies and that if the Board gave him permission, he would like to continue. He understood that the sidewalks were on the edges of the Town, but if they repaired/replaced them it would make things look nice as people entered the Town's limits. He stated that with permission, he could begin the work tomorrow. Powell Bill monies would be used to complete the project. It would cost approximately \$11,000.00 and the sidewalks would be 5 foot. Alderman Furr inquired about the sidewalks uptown. Director Rowland stated that they had come up with a few ideas and had seen some things they liked when visiting Charlotte. There was some discussion of this matter. Director Rowland stated that he would also like to add some trees and improve the streetscape uptown to help with appearance. Alderman Hilton stated that fixing South Chapel Street would enhance the entrance into the Town. Alderman Hilton stated that if Powell Bill monies were being used, he was fine for Director Rowland to move forward. The Board agreed.

Police Chief Brian McCoy: stated that tomorrow (August 2nd, 2011) National Night Out would take place. It was going to be larger than last year. There would be a blood mobile present, as well as a “drunk goggles” machine, which would simulate being drunk. China Grove PD was also involved. It would take place in front of the PD in Landis.

Manager Linn stated that they would need a motion to close the 100 and 200 blocks of North Central and North Garden between the hours of 5:30p and 10:00p on Tuesday, August 2nd, 2011 for National Night Out.

Alderman Furr motioned, seconded by Alderman Hilton, to close the 100 and 200 blocks of North Central and North Garden between the hours of 5:30p and 10:00p on Tuesday, August 2nd, 2011 for National Night Out. All voted aye.

Board Comments

Alderman Tony Hilton: inquired how the audit was progressing so that it could be sent to the LGC to get the bonds back in motion. Manager Linn stated that the end of the month report for June 2011 was in the Board's boxes, and that everything was looking positive. Everyone at City Hall was ready for the audit, which would begin the last week in August. The auditors would be in the office for one week and then they would return to get everything ready to submit to the LGC. The auditors are aware of the timeliness of the situation, as is the LGC. Everything was on board to be "fast tracked". Alderman Hilton inquired if there was anything that the Board could do to help. Manager Linn stated that they could make phone calls, and that he could provide them with a list. Alderman Hilton stated that he would also like all of the Board members to be assigned Town email addresses so they could be placed on the website.

Citizens Comments

Nadine Cherry: showed the Board a jug of water that was filled with sediment that she had taken from her outside spigot on June 1st, 2011. She stated that she called the answering service as it was after hours and not long after someone arrived to flush the hydrant. She wanted to know what the hold up on the water/sewer project was. She also inquired if the Board drinks the Town's water. The Board replied that they did.

Alderman Furr motioned, seconded by Alderman Sloop, to go into Executive Session to discuss Legal and Personnel Matters and to adjourn the meeting following the conclusion of the Executive Session. All voted aye.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm on Monday, August 1st, 2011.

Heather Wood
Administrative Assistant