Jim Palenick

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Jim Palenick [jpalenick@dallasnc.net]

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Friday, October 04, 2013 12:37 PM

To:

Cc:

'rcdc18@charter.net'; 'ronniemorrow@att.net'; 'huggybarber@att.net';

'hovlewithers@yahoo.com'; 'JOHN BEATY'; 'scott.martin@duke-energy.com' 'Maria Stroupe'; 'gbuckner@dallasnc.net'; 'Steve Lambert'; 'Doug Huffman'; 'David Kahler'; 'Bill

Trudnak'; 'A. Martin'; 'J. Thomas Hunn'

Subject:

Town Manager's Weekly Report (#47)

Attachments:

Reader Board Revised.pdf

Mayor & Board of Aldermen:

Please accept the following as the Town Manager's Report for the Week-ended, Friday, October 4, 2013.

- Please remember that Hope-4-Gaston: Dallas is scheduled for tomorrow, October 5th. The Town's Team of volunteers will be meeting at 7:15 a.m. in Cloninger Park to assist with set up and to get final directions as to assignment. The Central location for much of the day's activities will be Cloninger Park, with the food and clothing distribution taking place there. We look forward to good weather, a good turn-out of both volunteers and recipients and a productive day for area residents in need.
- The new fully-automated solid waste collection truck was purchased this week, slightly under budget and is expected to be delivered by April, 2014.
- Following his most-recent follow-up doctor visit late this week, Doug Huffman was provided written direction to not yet return to work and to await a further evaluation at his next follow-up on October 17th. As such, Doug will remain out of the office for at least the next two weeks but will continue to monitor e-mail and activity and provide assistance and direction from home while he continues his recuperation.
- The large maps showing the 4-phases of Water-line reconstruction, including details within each phase depicting location and size of lines, along with general time-frames for completion, were delivered this week and we have prominently placed one on display in the lobby of Town hall for easy access and viewing. In addition, we will put one up in the Board Room of the Fire hall and will get smaller versions to each of you at the Board meeting on Tuesday night.
- Consensus was reached on the design for the Reader board, electronic display sign and cabinet with the page 1 choice receiving clear majority support. We have, however, slightly modified the design (final copy attached) to incorporate some small, subtle features that were part of the page 2 design that offered a touch more "relief" to what was a rather straight up-and-down base. We will now be entering into a contract with the low-bidder, "Sign Connection" of Gastonia for the purchase and installation of the sign at the final total bid price of \$44,306.00 (which is \$2,994.00 under the budget of \$47,300.00). Following contract approval, the reader board will be ordered and fabrication on the cabinet will commence. Final installation should occur prior to the end of the calendar year.
- With regard to the October 8th Board Meeting, please note the following:
 - > There is no pre-arranged Citizen Participation, and no Employee Recognitions.
 - > We are holding a Public Hearing for and introducing an Ordinance Amendment to better deal with enforcement against "barking dogs", by specifically defining within the Nuisance Ordinance what constitutes the definition of a barking dog as actual "nuisance" versus that which is common and acceptable. With this, we will be better able to actually enforce against violators.
 - On the final action for the request for the Annexation of the 28-acre, Ratchford Drive property, please keep in mind that the property is not within the territorial jurisdiction of the Town Electric system so we will never be able to provide electric service there (The Rutherford Co-op has jurisdiction). And, if annexed, and we are to someday provide water & sewer, our revenues from "in-City" customers are only ½ that of "out-City" customers, so I can see very little economic benefit to the Town from Annexation given our very low 38-cent property tax rate is likely to yield far less in revenues than the corresponding cost of the services

- which will be required if we are responsible for service. It begs the question, "why is this annexation being brought to the Town"? and, "What couldn't be accomplished on the property if it remained as unincorporated Gaston County"?
- > The Ordinance on Traffic Schedules is the acknowledgement that we have never included the authorization for "stop signs" at the street intersections in the Alder Ridge Subdivision. Clearly this needs to be remedied.
- On the "TOP TIER" Economic Incentive Grant Program, please feel free to approve it in my absence or postpone it until I return. However, I would suggest you not attempt to make changes or offer additions or deletions unless I am there to detail and explain possible ramifications, since this is a very comprehensive program in which many details are inter-related, and for which unintended consequences can be easily created.
- Diamond Engineering has not provided any details or information on their request for additional fees, so I don't know if they will be there or make the request. However, since we had been told previously that they would appear at this meeting I kept the Agenda item intact.
- > On the final request for Annexation from the MED Group, it is important that we have written verification from the City of Gastonia that they (consistent with our adopted Sphere of Influence Agreement) do not object to Dallas Annexing. Town Attorney Hunn will be contacting Gastonia to get this information, so please ask him at the Meeting for an update.
- ➤ If you have any further questions of me, please don't hesitate to call me on my cell phone (704-214-1031) while I am absent from the office.

Thank You,

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