

**Town of Elizabethtown  
Special Called Meeting  
March 15, 2010**

The Elizabethtown Town Council met in a Special Called Meeting session on March 15, 2010 at 10:00 am in the Council Chamber of the Elizabethtown Municipal Building. Those in attendance were Mayor Sylvia Campbell, Mayor Pro Tem Rufus Lloyd, Council members Herman Lewis, Charles DeVane, Dicky Glenn and Russell Priest. Also present was Attorney Goldston Womble, Fire Chief Byron Graham, Assistant Fire Chief Jamie Smith, Planning Technician Robert Lewis and Jenny Hayes-Carroll with the "Bladen Journal". Absent: Council Member Ricky Leinwand.

Mayor Campbell called the meeting to order and stated that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss extending the moratorium for Internet Cafe'/Cyber Sweepstake businesses, award bid on the Downtown Revitalization project, review Facade Improvement applications and listen to the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) presentation for the Elizabethtown Fire Department. Council Member Rufus Lloyd gave the invocation.

**1. Public Hearing** - Mayor Campbell opened the public hearing to discuss and hear public comments regarding the extension of the moratorium for 180 days on Internet Cafe'/Cyber Sweepstake businesses. Town Manager Eddie Madden stated that he along with Planning Technician Robert Lewis, Jim Perry, Executive Director of the Lumber River Council of Governments, Institute of Government and Town Attorney Goldston Womble have worked carefully on this matter. Mr. Madden reported that Legislators will be discussing this matter in the very near future; therefore, an outcome is probable within the 180 days that the Town is requesting for the moratorium. Mr. Madden suggested that the Town implement the additional 180 day moratorium for the Internet Cafe'/Cyber Sweepstakes. It is understood that pertinent information has been compiled at this point and staff will continue working on this matter.

Mayor Campbell asked for questions or comments from the Council, but none were noted and the public hearing was closed.

**2. Ordinance** - Mayor Campbell stated that a request was made to extend the moratorium 180 days on the Internet Cafe'/Cyber Sweepstakes. A motion was made by Council Member Dicky Glenn, and seconded by Council Member Charles DeVane to approve the ordinance as presented (Unanimous).

**3. Bid Award-** Mayor Campbell stated that the opening of bids for the Downtown Revitalization Project took place on March 11, 2010. Mr. Madden recognized Mr. Tom Goodwin of Hobbs, Upchurch & Associates to report further on the bid opening. Mr. Goodwin stated that eight (8) bids were received with the lowest bid being at \$752,475 and the highest bid being \$1,358,821.35. Mr. Goodwin advised that all the bids were placed into a spreadsheet to make sure the totals were accurate, DOT was contacted to discuss the lowest bid and it was approved by

them. Also, USDA had a list that would need to be submitted along with the proposal, which included a list of references of the projects that they had completed to prove they were qualified and that they were a licensed contractor. Mr. Goodwin stated that funding would need to be approved as well as the Municipal Agreement which should be obtained in the next two weeks and then the official notice of award would be sent out. Mr. Goodwin distributed to Town Council a recommendation as to bid award and such noted that the low bidder, Allen Grading Company, would need to provide adequate documentation to support their Good Faith Effort to meet the 5% MBE goal and USDA and NCDOT review and approval. Such recommendation from Mr. Goodwin is attached.

Mayor Campbell stated, that since there was such a large difference from the lowest bid to the highest bid; what would that be contributed too? Mr. Goodwin advised that in projects such as this, there are many unknowns and of course there will be construction taking place at night.

Mayor Campbell asked what the projected date would be for construction to begin. Mr. Goodwin reported that once agreements and proper paperwork has been signed, construction could begin the last part of April.

Mayor Campbell stated that a request is being made to award the construction bid to Allen Grading Company. A motion was made by Council Member Dicky Glenn, and seconded by Council Member Herman Lewis to approve the bid to Allen Grading Company subject to USDA and NCDOT approval (Unanimous).

**4. Facade Improvement Grants** - Mayor Campbell stated that two additional Facade Improvement Grant applications have been submitted for approval. Town Manager Eddie Madden advised that Faith Partner Christian Supply Book Store had originally submitted their application to the Bladen County Economic Development Office; however, those funds ran out and the application was passed to the Town to possibly be considered for any Facade Grant money the Town had appropriated. Faith Partner Christian Supply Store submitted their application and proposal in the amount of \$1,574.21. It is stipulated in the Town's grant application that the cost must not be less than \$500 and considered up to \$1,000; therefore, the grant will be considered in the amount of \$787.10. The second application was submitted by Kinlaw Furniture Company for which their improvements would be more than \$7,500, and the balance \$1,281.27 of the \$6,000 appropriated by the Town for Facade Improvement grants would be given to Kinlaw Furniture for their improvements. A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Rufus Lloyd, and seconded by Council Member Herman Lewis to approve the facade grant applications presented (Unanimous).

**5. Presentation of the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) for the Elizabethtown Fire Department** - Mayor Campbell recognized Fire Chief Byron Graham to present the Capital Improvement Project for the Fire Department. Mayor Campbell stated that Chief Graham was unable to present his CIP at the Budget Retreat due to an emergency call that took him from the budget meeting. Chief Graham and Assistant Fire Chief Jamie Smith gave a powerpoint presentation depicting the equipment needs as well as a cost of the equipment that

they are in hopes of obtaining in the future for the Fire Department.

**6. Open Forum** - Mayor Campbell opened the meeting to an open forum session, which would include anyone with a complaint or concern. Mayor Campbell stated that no one came forward to speak; therefore, Council moved to the next agenda item.

**7. Closed Session** - Mayor Campbell reported that Council would enter into closed session at this time. A motion was made by Council Member Dicky Glenn, and seconded by Council Member Herman Lewis to enter into closed session in accordance to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(5)- Real Estate.

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Sylvia Campbell, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Sarah L. Baysden, Deputy Town Clerk