

**State of Mississippi
Carroll County
Town of North Carrollton**

MINUTES

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Regular Session for the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for the Town of North Carrollton, Mississippi were held on **April 2, 2019** to conduct the following official business.

Official Attendance

Mayor Ken Strachan	Present
Alderman Tom Hearn	Present
Alderman Mitchell Costilow	Present
Alderman Edward Carpenter	Present
Alderman Christopher R. Givens	Present
Alderwoman, Barbara Sheppard	Absent
Town Clerk, Glynnis Taylor	Present
Water Director Galen Shumaker	Present
CPA - Howard Davis	Absent
Attorney – Ryan Taylor	Absent

Public Attendee(s)

None

Agenda Attendee(s)

John Wiggers- North Central Planning & Development
Jake Hurst – Assistant Fire Chief

Mayor Strachan called the meeting to Order at 6:00 p.m. and Alderman Carpenter opened with prayer.

1. Mayor Strachan asked the board to approve the agenda. Alderman Hearn made the motion to approve the agenda. Alderman Carpenter made the second motion. Ayes – All, Nays – None.
2. The board of Aldermen reviewed the minutes. Alderman Givens made the motion to approve the minutes. Alderman Costilow made the second motion. Ayes- All, Nays-None.
3. Public Comment was made on behalf of Fire Chief Andy Vining by Mayor Strachan. Monthly Activity Report was as follows:

Total fire calls: 7

Fire Calls:

1-Brush Fire (March 6th), 1-Residential False Alarm Fire Call (March 7th), 1-Brush Fire (March 15th), 1-Wildland Fire (March 17th), 1-Brush Fire (March 19th), 1-Brush Fire (March 22nd), 1-Wildfire (March 24th)

Training:

Members preformed routine maintenance on all apparatuses and reviewed **vehicle** operation training.

In other news:

To both towns of North Carrollton and Carrollton,

When I took over CNCVFD I did so knowing full well what was expected of me. I do not and will not credit myself with the restructuring of CNCVFD on my own as this took the efforts of all the members. I trained each and every fireman to the best of my knowledge on all aspects of the fire service each week for 6 months until I was satisfied that they knew what was expected of them.

From the very beginning up to this moment right now I cannot tell you just how proud of their improvements and their great strides in bettering CNCVFD for the greater good of both towns.

The only hard part for me as Chief was finding an Assistant Chief, one who is just as skilled and just as tactful as myself and one who possess the knowledge to execute the duties thereof.

My entire time I watched everyone perform their duties and tested them all to their ability. Out of them all I found that Jake Hurst who has gone above and beyond his duties as a fireman in his time with CNCVFD.

Which is why I appointed Jake to the rank of Asst. Chief and even then, I still watched how he performed his duties. To my expectation as I already had known, he performed extremely well.

In my time with the department it has truly been my honor to serve as Fire Chief of CNCVFD. I knew my time would be limited as the towns deserved a Chief close to the town and one who has the same love for the department, town and his firemen as I do.

Now is the time I must step down as Chief of CNCVFD and allow Jake Hurst the opportunity to serve you as Fire Chief. I am without a doubt that he will serve you well as both an administrator and a firefighter. Unfortunately, my reason for this is due the continued failing health of my father. My family needs more of my attention than ever at this moment and CNCVFD needs an administrator.

As I step down, I will take up the role as Interim Asst. Chief until one can be appointed under him. I will continue to serve within the department as a firefighter for the community and assist Chief Hurst in any way I can.

At this time, I would like to ask both the town of Carrollton and North Carrollton to affirm the position of Fire Chief to Jake Hurst and support him just as you have always supported me. Jake is more than deserving of the position and will serve you well.

I would like to thank both town Mayors, Ken Strachan and Pam Lee for the opportunity and privilege to serve you and the community as Fire Chief. Thank you, and may God Bless you all!

Mayor Strachan said that Fire Chief Vining has done a great job with the transition of fire department. Mayor Strachan said that Chief Vining had prayed about the decision and had put a lot of thought in his decision. Mayor Strachan that Assistant Jake Hurst bring a lot of experience with the fire department. Mayor asked the board if there was anything the board like to say. After further discussion, Alderman Costilow made the motion to accept Andy Vining's resignation and to name Assistant Fire Chief Jake Hurst as Fire Chief. Alderman Carpenter made the second motion. Ayes- All, Nays – None

Alderman Hearn and the board discussed both the Jayco Trailer and the small trailer. Mayor Strachan said the town attorney has all the information about the said trailers whether to bid or just sale the trailers separately. Ryan Taylor could not be in attendance for the board meeting because of him having the flu. Fire Chief Hurst said that the fire department has no need for the trailers.

Mayor Strachan said that he and former Fire Chief Andy Vining met with Mr. Richard Parham from the Fire Rating Bureau. Mayor Strachan said that they had a good conversation. The meeting was a follow –up of the letter that he had to send after one year of the fire department reconstruction. Mayor Strachan said he was shown the records at both Fire Department and City Hall and he liked the follow up monthly reports. Mayor Strachan said he told Mr. Parham that both towns wants to work with him, so that the insurance rates can be low and whatever the towns needs to do they will assist him in anyway.

4. Unfinished Business, Boyd Rate Increase- Howard Davis is in the process of getting the 2018 documentation. Mayor Strachan gave the board a copy of the 2016 Audit, 2017 Audit , booklets for the board are in the process of being completed and the Audit for 2018 is underway.
5. Unfinished Business was the Dilapidated Housing, Unkempt/Unsanitary Properties. Mayor Strachan submitted his list of un-kept and dilapidated property in the city limits and the pending letters concerning such areas.

6. Mayor Strachan gave an update on the Wildlife & Fisheries Grant. Mayor Strachan said the grant has been filed by the deadline. Senator Lydia Chassional wrote a letter of support for the said grant to Mr. Terry McDill, administrator of the Outdoor Recreation Grants. Mayor Strahan said that Ryan Taylor is in the process of drawing up a deed of the said area adjacent to the Tabernacle. This area is where the Pavilion will be located. This land will have to be deeded to the Town of North Carrollton, land will be donated to the Town for the purpose of the said Pavilion. This will be an asset for both Carrollton and The Town of North Carrollton. After further discussion Alderman Costilow made the motion to draw up the said deed and for Mayor Strachan to sign the deed on behalf of the town. Alderman Givens made the second motion. Ayes- All, Nays – None
7. Galen Shumaker said that the lines that runs on Morgan Street and runs across to East Alley is scheduled for repair. The cast iron pipe has a small hairline crack in it. The scheduled repair date is set for Friday, April 19, 2019. The time frame for the repair will be from 8:30 a.m. until the repair is completed that day. Alderman Givens said that a letter needs to be mailed out to those affected by the repair. The repair date selected was due to J.G. George School being closed for Easter Holidays and this would prevent the school from not having to close for the said repair.
8. New business discussed was Atmos Construction/Agreement. Mayor Strachan presented a RESOLUTION from Willis Engineering regarding Atmos Energy. This RESOLUTION was regarding construction of a new line .The propose construction will be a natural gas facility (3” minimum depth below flow line, that will run along Jefferson & Colvin Street. The said facility to be installed between Station No. Winona Road and Station No. Colvin Street and within the road right-of-way. Alderman Costilow made the motion to adopt the RESOLUTION. Alderman Givens made the second motion. Ayes –Ayes, Nays - None
9. New business discussed - John Wiggers with North Central Planning and Development said that we are in the process of starting the application for a new 2019 CDBG Grant Application for Sewer Improvements. Willis Engineering held a meeting last week at the Town Hall. Mr. Wiggers presented to the board an aerial map of the town that Willis Engineering had been working on. The map shows the sewage lines and certain items/ areas that need to be addressed where there are problems with the sewage line. In order to get the most for the said project, if you do a project that affects everybody in town then your beneficiary goes up. You get points for cost benefit ratio. The map of highlighted troubled spots on the map was discussed at length. The town is eligible to apply for \$450,000.00, \$375,000.00 is for available for construction there is no match. Willis Engineering is working on the cost estimate, then the board can prioritize which items / areas that need to be addressed the most. In conjunction with that items tonight that need to be address is as follows; the town will need to advertise for a Public Hearing. In order to that then the town needs to adoption of a 2019 Citizen Participation Plan. The plan has to be adopted first. Mayor Strachan asked was there a motion to adopt the plan. Alderman Hearn made the motion. Alderman Carpenter made the second motion. Ayes- All, Nays – None. Next item is the RESOLUTION approving the submittal of an application for financial assistance under the Mississippi Community Development Block Grant Program. However, 1st, Mr. Wiggers said that he needs to discussed some new items that came up today when he was going over the application. Mr. Wiggers said that he did not think to look at the said items because of data in the previous years. The 2016 application the low mod percentage from the census data was 74.81 %, which is real good. MDA sent out new data on the 18th and Mr. Wiggers received it on the 19th or 20th of March. Town of North Carrollton’s mod is 32%, which basically means the town is ineligibly to apply. However, unless the town does a house to house grant survey. The town has to be 51% low mod, mod means that 51% of the house is below low to moderate income. Mr. Wiggers gave the board a copy of the said survey for the board to review. 80% of the household that are going to be served in the project area. Basically you are looking at town wide 300 surveys, which includes residents outside the city limits that are served on sewage. Discussed was home many customers come in and pay. Discussed was the customers that come in and pay could fill out the said survey at the Town Hall. It is vital that the customers participate in the survey in order to obtain grant funds. The Application is due on Monday, MAY 13, 2019. The survey will take a while to do, so there needs to be teams to do the said survey in the said time frame. After the surveys are completed. The said surveys will be left at the Town Hall and the customers that do not come in, a survey will have to be hand delivered at their resident. After further discussion, Alderman Givens made the

motion to pass the RESOLUTION, Alderman Costilow made the second motion. Ayes – all, Nays – None. Public Hearing for the said grant is Tuesday, April 23, 2019 at 4:30 held at the North Carrollton Town Hall. Mr. Wiggers said he will present for the public hearing.

10. Mayor Strachan said that the tourism tax had passed the legislation this time. House 93 to 5 for North Carrollton, it passed the senate 45 to 0. It has been to Governor Phil Bryant this week for him to sign. Mayor Strachan handed out the Sales Tax Collection for February 2018/2019 to July 1 to present for 2017/20148 & 2018/2019 for the board to review. The figures reflected in the Tax Collection report represents 18.5 % which is returned to the cities in which the taxes were collected. Mayor Strachan asked the board to look At Vaiden's February 2018 tax was \$6,438 compared to Vaidens's 2019 tax which was \$29,666.00 the change was 360.8% . Mayor Strachan said this was due to their citizens passing the Tourism Tax for their town. Mayor Strachan said raising property taxes would never create this increase that is much needed for the town. Mayor Strachan said it is best to keep low property taxes. Mayor Strachan said after Governor Bryant signs this bill. There is another bill that he is going to sign that has already passed. It is called a Movie Theater Bill, State of Mississippi is going to do incentives on these tourism bills. This will enable Movies companies to come to Missiippi for their filming which will give the movie industry a tax break. Mayor Strachan said that he had spoken with Senator Chassional this morning and that the movie industry is expecting to do another movie in Carrollton/ North Carrollton again. The third bill that is in motion is that they are doing an advertisement promotion through the Mississippi Development Authority, the state is spending money to promote different towns thru out Mississippi to come visit these towns in Mississippi. Mayor Strachan said that some officials with the state is going to meet with the North Carrollton Board, Thursday , May 2, 2019 2 6:00 p.m. There is going to be some items discussed that the Board of Alderman will have to vote on. The Town of North Carrollton will have to have a Special Election to vote on the Tourism Tax. Once the election is done and the town passes the Tourism Tax then the town can start collecting the said tax money. After further discussion the board voted to move the regular board meeting to Thursday, May 2, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. Alderman Carpenter made the motion. Alderman Hearn made the second motion. Ayes- All, Nays – None
11. Discussed was a donation to J.Z. George. Ms. Gwendolyn Davis requested in writing a donation to help with the cost of their April 9 thru 10, 2019 Skills USA Competition. They will compete in two categories, Criminal Justice and Crime Scene Investigations. Alderman Hearn made the motion that the town donate \$100.00 to the school. Alderman Carpenter made the second motion. Ayes – All, Nays – None.
12. New Strachan presented his 2019 Drainage Improvement Plan Part III. This plan covers the areas along Colvin Street and West Main Street. Mayor Strachan proposal include pictures of the aid area and an estimate from C & C Tree company for \$1 150.00. After further discussion of the status of the previous plans of phases 1 & 2, and the improvements that the previous plans brought about with drainage, Alderman Costilow made the motion to approve plan III. Alderman Carpenter made the second motion. Ayes- All, Nays – None
13. New business discussed was the purchase of a new chain saw for the town. The quote from Cox Appliance was for \$450.00. Alderman Givens made the motion to purchase the saw. Alderman Hearn made the second motion. Ayes- All, Nays – None
14. Discussed was the business of a gas card for the town. The town usually buys all of its gas from 4K Deli & Grocery. However there are times that fuel is not available at the said store. Alderman Costilow made the motion to apply for a Scott's Fuel Card. Alderman Hearn made the second motion. Ayes- All, Nays - None
15. Mayors Report

Mayor Strachan reported that on Friday, March 8, 2019 he attended the Carroll County Development Association Board of Director's meeting at Carrollton Town Hall. Mayor Strachan said that he gave the report on the town of

North Carrollton.

Mayor Strachan reported that Chase Williams Lawn Care had their first cutting of the year on Tuesday, March 19. Mayor Strachan said that he supervised the entire time they were here, and all points of the town including ditches to be bottom was cut. Mayor Strachan said that the grass cutting was continued on Wednesday, March 20, 2019 and was completed by Noon.

Mayor Strachan said that he went over the street lines from the Carrollton Clinic, Kozy Kitchen to the corner of Main Street and across the street by loan store since they were last done in October 2018. Mayor Strachan said this included handicap parking places.

Mayor Strachan reported that the town of Carrollton had agreed to join the town of North Carrollton in having the weather siren sound in severe Thunderstorm Warnings instead of Tornado Warnings. Mayor Strachan said he wrote a letter of the change to the Carroll County EOC.

Mayor Strachan presented a letter from Northern District Public Service Commissioner Brandon Presley on the passing of the resolution supporting the broadband expansion legislation. Mayor Strachan said he was proud the board joined other municipalities in this state on supporting this effort for the “Mississippi Broadband Enabling Act.

Mayor Strachan presented a letter to the Mississippi Arts Council regarding the application for the FY 2020 MAC grant from the Carroll County Development Association.

Mayor Strachan said that he appreciated all the participation last Saturday at the ribbon cutting for the town’s newest business, Aunt Bea’s Garden Center and Bait Shop. There was a good attendance from the community.

Alderman Carpenter made the motion to accept the financial report and to pay the payables. Alderman Givens made the second motion. Ayes- All, Nays – None.

Therefore being no further business, Alderman Carpenter made the motion to adjourn and Alderman Givens made the second motion.

Mayor

Clerk