



MINUTES

The Grover Tourism Development Authority
June 28, 2016 | 6:00 p.m.

We provide published notice of our regular meetings held four times per year via our regular website, paid advertising campaigns, Facebook site and public body notice posting in plain view of public passerby on the town hall bulletin board to be at 6 pm held the last Tuesday of every quarter (March, June, September, December) at the Grover Town Hall with a backup default of Carolina Crossing Restaurant. Notice is provided to the public that all budgets are submitted at the March meeting, posted on the town bulletin board, our Facebook site, and TDA website for full public review 90 days before the June Public Hearing meeting where budget voting occurs. Entities desirous of requesting tourism-related funds for their use can apply all year long.

1. **Called to order at 5:58 pm** with members Mongiello and Brackett seated and in attendance, member Hoyle attended by phone while Town Finance Manager Willis also presented his bank updates in Excel.
2. Chair Martin Mongiello, made a motion for approval and acceptance of the March, meeting minutes and 2nd by Ms. Brackett. Passed unanimously. **A NOTE ABOUT CRIMINAL CONDUCT:** At this time for any public meeting under NC law, a board member or Commissioner has the legal right to add any item to an agenda, accordingly, per Roberts Rules of Order. Additionally, it is noted under law that no single person is legally allowed to control any agenda of a public meeting, including any Mayor or Chairperson. Meetings do not have to have an agenda printed up under law and distributed before, and **members** of any public body are allowed under General Statute, to add or request a vote be held on items to add into any agenda. NC General Statute allows for a criminal offense to be had of class two (2) misdemeanor for anyone in charge of meetings stating otherwise, lying to board members or falsely reporting control of any agenda and, “not allowing a new item to be added to tonight’s agenda.” This call to order is mainly directed towards those leading public boards who think they control the agenda or make illegal statements in North Carolina such as, “well, if I feel like putting your item onto my agenda – otherwise we might never talk about your ideas.”
3. **Financial Report presented** – The 10% restricted held in store by the state is required at all times by law. The current balance at September’s 2016 meeting produced by outgoing Mayor JD Ledford was stated by he as \$4,057.58 with restricted reserve making



an available balance of 3651.82. Mr. Willis mentioned he finished catching up depositing and reviewing checks and would present his first and full accounting to the TDA tonight, in time for the Open Hearing and Public Meeting for the budget going into 2017. Willis mentioned one of the first items noted by our CPA during the audit of JD Ledford's conduct as Town Finance Manager was the failure to deposit a missing payment owed to the TDA of \$1061.90 which he was going to rectify. He also produced the detailed report of such in an Excel sheet and mentioned he had verified the balance the day before as \$3,083.77.

4. Next, Mongiello made motions to suspend the normal meeting and enter/subsequently to exit after such also made/into the public hearing portion of the 2016/2017 annual budget meeting and public hearing. The budget was passed unanimously after being submitted for acceptance and voting by Brackett; a second made by Hoyle. The budget passed included \$1655.00 for more signs for the streets in different requested designs for 2016/2017 complete with installation, repair and adjusting of signs on street poles, an increased Christmas expenditure of \$1500.00 for the annual holiday tourism festival debated back and forth with increases sought by Hoyle and Brackett, \$400.00 more for potters/paint for sidewalk and plants beautification as well as normal expenditures for bonding at \$158.00, and audits by the CPA at \$725.00 – each being typical, annual costs. The inclusion of the line item onto the budget of a collections fee came up as possibly being done away with in a future town council meeting but for the time being would remain on the budget. This item is normally listed and posted on the public bulletin board in plain view of passerby as line item 40-101-06 COLLECTIONS FEE FOR GROVER and estimated as \$90.00, but for accountancy accuracy, the town may pass a resolution to not collect it anymore since it is such a small amount that it would aid in collection procedures and verification procedures. The Town Finance Manager, Mr. Willis, recommended such be advanced by himself in the town council meeting where he sits as Mayor, but cannot vote in the TDA.

5. OLD BUSINESS for action and report review.

- A. **Holiday Tree with Tourism Draw Ceremony** – Discussions continued on the new ceremony and doing it again for 2016 at the higher amounts. It would span four nights, each selected as Nov 19, 26, December 3 and 10 with the Inn showcased, stores on Main Street and Restaurant, for tourists to visit. The tree lighting would occur first on the 19th. Mongiello will setup a Facebook Event site and would invite vendors, he already has a Santa suit but needs to get a beard, Willis offered to program the lights. Signage or posters could be done but had not been volunteered for yet. Additional ideas from town folk are welcomed.
- B. **The planter plants and painting of kick plate on Main Street** of an NTE of \$400.00 was discussed as done with watering concerns and the 100-degree heat. Member Ann Hoyle agreed to take over keeping an eye on them, and a motion was made by Mongiello



to spend \$400.00 on new plants and paint as was approved in the budget and turn it into a community work day. The paint idea will be looked at in the September meeting.

- C. Mongiello spoke with CSX** about the sidewalks and more while Willis agreed to call and get bids from Dewey Electric to install lights on our signs. CSX is open to helping the town anyway they need. Ms. Hoyle agreed to pick out the paint scheme and bring it to the next TDA meeting for review and purchase.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Street signs unable to be read by tourists on main town roads** was brought up by Mongiello and discussed. He has emailed the list of the signs and Willis stated the County price of 58.00 per sign might be able to be lowered from Dewey Electric doing them instead. All that needs to be done is forward the file to the county or Dewey to make the signs and then pay the bill.
- B. Discussion was held on the town computers and system.** The majority of the computer installation was finished and the town is moving towards a new website as well as individual email addresses were created for town positions.

7. Adjourned at 7:04 pm with a motion by Mongiello, 2nd Brackett and unanimously voted for.