

The Smithfield Town Council met in Closed Session pursuant To NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (5) on Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at approximately 7:31 pm in the Conference Room of the Smithfield Town Hall. Mayor M. Andy Moore presided.

Councilmen Present:

J. Perry Harris, District 2
Travis Scott, District 3
John A. Dunn, At-Large
Stephen Rabil, At-Large

Councilmen Absent

Emery D. Ashley, Mayor Pro-Tem
Marlon Lee, District 1
Roger A. Wood, District 4

Administrative Staff Present

Jim Freeman, Interim Manager
Shannan L. Williams, Town Clerk

Also Present

Bob Spence, Town Attorney
John H. Lampe II, former Mayor

- 1. Pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (5)** *To establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating (i) the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease; or (ii) the amount of compensation and other material terms of an employment contract or proposed employment contract.*

Former Mayor John Lampe addressed the Council on negotiations that he has had with BB&T bank concerning the Family Life Center building. Mr. Lampe informed the Council that he has negotiated the deal whereby BB&T is willing to sell its note to the Town of Smithfield for \$25,000. He explained that the Family Life Center building is currently in the Smith Collins Park area on land owned by the Town of Smithfield. The members of the family that ran the organization have either passed away, too feeble to tend to the building or have no interest in the building. It was his recommendation that the Town purchase the building, complete some renovations and rent it out to the Boys and Girls Club or to another organization that can benefit the community. It was the consensus of the Council that should the building be purchased, the Town should have a viable plan for the building and that it should be rented for a fee that would cover its maintenance costs.

Town Attorney Bob Spence informed the Council that members of the family have been less than cooperative with members of the community and staff. He stated that he and his staff would pursue the wishes of the Council, but that he has not been involved with the negotiations thus far.

It was the consensus of the Council to direct the Town Attorney to move forward with the purchase of the Family Life Center Building not to exceed \$25,000. Mr. Spence responded that this item should be placed on the February 2nd agenda for approval in open session.

Reconvene in Open Session:

Councilman Harris made a motion, seconded by Councilman Rabil, to reconvene in open session. Unanimously approved. Open session reconvened at approximately 8:08 pm.

M. Andy Moore, Mayor

ATTEST:

Shannan L. Williams, Town Clerk