

The Smithfield Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 5, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Smithfield Town Hall, Mayor M. Andy Moore presided.

Councilmen Present:

Emery Ashley, Mayor Pro-Tem
Marlon Lee, District 1
J. Perry Harris, District 2
Travis Scott, District 3
Roger A. Wood, District 4
John A. Dunn, At-Large
Stephen Rabil, At-Large

Councilmen Absent

Administrative Staff Present

Michael Scott, Town Manager
John Blanton, Fire Chief
Lenny Branch, Public Works Director
Ted Credle, Public Utilities Director
Gary Johnson, Parks & Rec Director
Tim Kerigan, Human Resources/PIO
Steve Medlin, Interim Planning Director
R. Keith Powell, Chief of Police
Greg Siler, Finance Director
Shannan Williams, Town Clerk

Present:

Bob Spence, Town Attorney
Bill Drietzler, Town Engineer

Administrative Staff Absent

Mayor Moore called the meeting to order at 7:00

The invocation was given by Councilman Scott followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by the following members of Girl Scout Troop 614: Madeline Smith, Valerie Smith, Juana Garcia, Brianna Faircloth, Katelyn Hill and Katlin VanRoekel.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Councilman Wood made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Ashley, to approve the agenda with the following amendments:

- Remove from the Business Items: *7. Consideration and Approval to eliminate resident rates for Youth Team Sports and Kinder – Sports Programs under Parks and Recreation.*
- Add to the Business Items: *Special Event – Smithfield Primitive Baptist Church was requesting to conduct an event September 22nd – 24th with Street closures on East Church Street and Front Street from East Church Street to East Johnston Street*
- Add to the Business Items: *Discussion concerning an Ecommerce Zone in the Smithfield Crossings Area.*

Unanimously approved.

PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Moore read a Proclamation that was presented to the Smith-Bryan Daughters of the American Revolution Chapter proclaiming September 17 through 23 as Constitution Week in the Town of Smithfield.

The Proclamation was presented prior to the start of the meeting.

**Proclamation
Constitution Week
September 17 – 23, 2017
In the Town of Smithfield, North Carolina**

Whereas, The Constitution of the United States of America, the guardian of our liberties, embodies the principles of limited government in a Republic dedicated to rule by law; and

Whereas, September 17, 2017 marks the two hundred and thirtieth anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention; and

Whereas, it is fitting and proper to officially recognize this magnificent document and the anniversary of its creation; and

Whereas, it is fitting and proper to officially recognize the patriotic celebrations which will commemorate the occasion; and

Whereas, Public Law 915 guarantees the issuing of a Proclamation each year by the President of the United States of America designating September 17 through 23 as Constitution Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, M. Andy Moore, Mayor of the Town of Smithfield do hereby proclaim September 17 through 23, 2017 to be CONSTITUTION WEEK in the Town of Smithfield and ask our citizens to reaffirm the ideals the Framers of the Constitution had in 1787 by vigilantly protecting the freedoms guaranteed to us through this guardian of our liberties.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

- Connie Robie owner of Simple Twist restaurant encouraged the Town Council to support and adopt the "Brunch Bill" that would allow the sale of alcohol beverages at 10:00 am on Sunday mornings. Mrs. Robie stated she has lost some customers on Sunday morning.
- Billie Stevens Chairperson of the Downtown Smithfield Development Corporation requested the Town Council support and adopt the "Brunch Bill". Mrs. Stevens stated that patrons should not have to go to neighboring Towns if they want to have an alcohol beverage before 12:00 pm on Sunday.
- Sarah Edwards Executive Director of the Downtown Smithfield Development Corporation informed the Council that the DSDC received several requests from restaurant owners that would like to be able to serve alcohol beverages before 12:00 pm on Sundays. She asked the Council to consider adopting this change to the Town of Smithfield's Ordinances.
- Antoine Williams of 6 Cedar Drive questioned why the land in front of Pine Acres Subdivision was being cleared. Town Manager Michael Scott informed Mr. Williams that the Town had no knowledge of why the land is being cleared. Mr. Williams further questioned why the street sweeper had not been maintaining the streets in his neighborhood. Town Manager Michael Scott responded that the Public Works Department was in the process of purchasing a new street sweeper. Currently, they were testing some models and should have a request to the Council to purchase a new street sweeper by the fall.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilman Harris made a motion, seconded by Councilman Wood, to approve the following items as listed on the Consent Agenda: Unanimously Approved

1. Approved the following Minutes:
 - August 1, 2017 – Regular Meeting
 - August 1, 2017 – Closed Session
2. Special Event – Car Show: Approval was granted to allow the Smithfield Police Department and Hopes N Dreams to conduct a Car Show to be held on September 9, 2017 from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm at 1140 West Market Street. There will be food vendors and amplified sound from 12:00 pm until 5:00 pm.
3. Special Event – Wine Walk: Approval was granted to allow Harbor, Inc. to conduct the Wine Walk on November 17, 2017 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in Downtown Smithfield. This event was previously approved on April 4, 2017 for the Downtown Smithfield Development Corporation.

4. Special Event – Six County Silent March: Approval was granted to allow Harbor, Inc. to participate in the Six County Silent March on October 31, 2017 from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm. This march will be held at Johnston County Courthouse and will have amplified sound.
5. Approval was granted to close Seventh Street from East Johnston to Woodall Street on Saturday, September 16, 2017 from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for a live burn training event at 305 S. Seventh Street conducted by the Smithfield Fire Department.
6. Approval of Resolution # 610 (15-2017) authorizing the Planning Staff to serve as the Town's point of contact for the acquisition and elevation hazardous mitigation grant program with FEMA.

**Town of Smithfield
Resolution # 610 (15-2017)
DESIGNATION OF APPLICANT'S AGENT
North Carolina Division of Emergency Management**

Organization Name (hereafter named Organization) Town of Smithfield		Disaster Number: FEMA-DR-4285-NC	
Applicant's State Cognizant Agency for Single Audit purposes (If Cognizant Agency is not assigned, please indicate):			
Applicant's Fiscal Year (FY) Start Month: July Day: 01			
Applicant's Federal Employer's Identification Number: 56-6001335			
Applicant's Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) Number 101-62520-00			
PRIMARY AGENT		SECONDARY AGENT	
Agent's Name: Julie Edmonds		Agent's Name: Mark Helmer	
Organization: Town of Smithfield		Organization: Town of Smithfield	
Official Position: Administrative Support Specialist		Official Position: Senior Planner	
Mailing Address: P O Box 761		Mailing Address: P O Box 761	
City ,State, Zip: Smithfield, NC 27577		City ,State, Zip: Smithfield, NC 27577	
Daytime Telephone: 919.934.2116 ext. 1111		Daytime Telephone: 919.934.2116 ext. 1112	
Facsimile Number: 919.934.1134		Facsimile Number: 919.934.1134	
Pager or Cellular Number:		Pager or Cellular Number:	
<p>BE IT RESOLVED BY the governing body of the Organization (a public entity duly organized under the laws of the State of North Carolina) that the above-named Primary and Secondary Agents are hereby authorized to execute and file applications for federal and/or state assistance on behalf of the Organization for the purpose of obtaining certain state and federal financial assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief & Emergency Assistance Act. (Public Law 93-288 as amended) or as otherwise available. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above-named agents are authorized to represent and act for the Organization in all dealings with the State of North Carolina and the Federal Emergency Management Agency for all matters pertaining to such disaster assistance required by the grant agreements and the assurances printed on the reverse side hereof. BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT the above-named agents are authorized to act severally.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PASSED AND APPROVED this 5th day of September, 2017</p>			
GOVERNING BODY		CERTIFYING OFFICIAL	
Name and Title: M. Andy Moore, Mayor		Name: Shannan L. Williams	
Name and Title: Emery Ashley, Mayor Pro-Tem		Official Position: Town Clerk	
Name and Title: Marlon Lee, Councilman		Daytime Telephone: 919.934.2116 ext. 1108	
Name and Title: J. Perry Harris, Councilman			
Name and Title: Travis Scott, Councilman			
Name and Title: Roger Wood, Councilman			
Name and Title: Stephen Rabil, Councilman			
Name and Title: John A. Dunn, Councilman			

7. Approval was granted to submit grant applications to the North Carolina Department of Commerce Rural Development in the amount of \$20,000 and the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources in the amount of \$20,000 for repairs to the river bank along the Neuse River Trail infrastructure.

8. Bid was awarded and contract approved with Clegg's Pest Control in the amount of \$2,310.00 for annual pest control services. Bids were received as follows:

- Clegg's Pest Control \$2,310.00
- Woods Pest Control \$3,360.00
- Home Master \$3,630.00
- Orkin Pest Control \$5,990.00
- Economy Exterminators \$8,940.00

9. Bid was awarded to TEBCO Fencing in the amount of \$12,200 for the purchase and installation of fencing for the Miracle League Field. Bids were received as follows:

- TEBCO Fencing \$12,200.00
- Blackmon's Fence \$13,178.22
- Moye Fence Co. Inc. \$14,506.18

10. Bid was awarded to Barrs Recreation, LLC. in the amount of \$36,249.50 for the purchase of playground equipment for the Bob Wallace Jaycee Kiddie Park.

11. The following Advisory Board Appointments were approved:

- Amy Keith was reappointed to the Library Board of Trustees for a second term.
- Johnnie Pippin was reappointed to the Library Board of Trustees for a second term.
- Oliver Johnson was appointed to the Planning Board to serve as an In-Town Alternate for a first term.

12. New Hire Report

<u>Position</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Budget Line</u>	<u>Rate of Pay</u>
P/T Scorekeeper	P & R – Recreation	10-6200-0210	\$9.00/hr.
Police Officer I	Police	10-5100-0200	\$15.58/hr. (\$34,836.88/yr.)
Pump Station Mechanic	PU – Water/Sewer	30-7220-0200	\$14.10/hr. (\$29,328.00/yr.)
Utility Line Crew Supervisor	PU – Water/Sewer	30-7220-0200	\$14.31/hr. (\$29,764.80/yr.)

Current vacancies:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Budget Line</u>
Electric Line Technician	PU – Electric	31-7230-0200
Planning Director	Planning	10-4900-0200
Police Officer	Police	10-5100-0200
Sanitation Equip. Operator	PW – Sanitation	10-5800-0200
Sanitation Worker	PW – Sanitation	10-5800-0200
Utility Line Mechanic	PU – Water/Sewer	30-7220-0200
Water Plant Operator	PU – Water Plant	30-7200-0200

BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Consideration and approval to add to the Town of Smithfield's Code of Ordinances Chapter 9, Licenses, Permits & Miscellaneous Business Regulation, Article VIII Wine, Fortified Wine, And Mixed Beverages On Sunday Mornings; Section 9-250

Town Manager Michael Scott addressed the Council on a request to amend the Town of Smithfield's Code of Ordinances. The Town Manager explained ratified Senate Bill 155 amended current state law to permit cities to adopt an ordinance to allow for the sale of malt beverages, unfortified wine, fortified

wine, and mixed beverages beginning at 10:00 A.M. on Sundays. Within this Senate Bill was a new section of Chapter 160A that reads as follows:"§ 160A 205.3. Hours of certain alcohol sales. In accordance with G.S. 18B 1004(c), a city may adopt an ordinance allowing for the sale of malt beverages, unfortified wine, fortified wine, and mixed beverages beginning at 10:00 A.M. on Sunday pursuant to the licensed premises' permit issued under G.S. 18B 1001." The Town Manager further explained during the August meeting this issue was brought before the Council for consideration. Due to that being the first reading of the ordinance, it had to be adopted by a two-thirds majority vote. Since that was not achieved, a second reading was necessary. A simple majority vote of the Town Council was required for adoption of Ordinance 492.

Councilman Rabil made a motion, seconded by Councilman Dunn, to approve Ordinance # 492-2017 allowing for alcohol sales on Sunday beginning at 10:00 am. Councilman Rabil, Councilman Dunn, Mayor Pro-Tem Ashley and Councilman Harris voted in favor of the motion. Councilman Scott, Councilman Lee and Councilman Wood voted against the motion. Motion passed 4 to 3 on the second reading of the Ordinance Amendment

**TOWN OF SMITHFIELD
NORTH CAROLINA
ORDINANCE #492-2017**

**AN ORDINANCE ADDING A NEW SECTION TO THE SMITHFIELD TOWN CODE OF
ORDINANCES
TO AUTHORIZE THE SALE OF MALT BEVERAGES,
UNFORTIFIED WINE, FORTIFIED WINE, AND MIXED BEVERAGES
BEGINNING AT 10:00 A.M. ON SUNDAYS**

THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SMITHFIELD ORDAINS:

Section 1.

Pursuant to authority granted to the Town pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 160A-205.3 (Session Law 2017, Chapter 87, Senate Bill 155, Section 4)), the Town of Smithfield hereby enacts a new Town Code Chapter 9, Licenses, Permits & Miscellaneous Business Regulation, Article VIII Wine, Fortified Wine, And Mixed Beverages On Sunday Mornings; Section 9-250 to read as follows:

Section 9-250 Wine, Fortified Wine, And Mixed Beverages On Sunday Mornings.

The sale of malt beverages, unfortified wine, fortified wine and mixed beverages shall be allowed within Smithfield's corporate limits at any premises licensed pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. 18B-1001 on Sundays beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Section 2. All provisions of any town ordinance in conflict with this ordinance are repealed.

Section 3. This ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

Duly adopted this the 5th day of September, 2017

2. Bid award and contract approval with Cla-Val Valves in the amount of \$33,334.00 for altitude valves.

Public Utilities Director Ted Credle addressed the Council on a request to purchase altitude valves from Cla-Valves. In this fiscal year budget, the Town Council approved funding to purchase two (2) new altitude valves for the elevated water tanks at Market Street and Shelter Way. The quoted tanks are under the approved budget and will fit Town needs. Remaining funds in the project line item will pay for installation. Mr. Credle explained that once installed, the valves will enable the Town to supply greater water volume and better pressure in West Smithfield. Further, the occasional spillage from both the Market Street tank and the Shelter Way tank will cease. Staff would like to have these

valves installed by Thanksgiving. Mr. Credle stated that while the altitude valves will not correct every issue, it will help with some pressure issues.

Quotes were received from the following:

- Cla-Val Valves in the amount of \$33,334.00 for two altitude valves.
- Singer Valves in the amount of \$ 40416.76 for two altitude valves
- Heyward chose not to submit a quote

Councilman Wood questioned if customers in West Smithfield would see an immediate difference in water pressure. Mr. Credle responded customers should see an improvement.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ashley made a motion, seconded by Councilman Wood, to approve the purchase of altitude valves from Cla-Val Valves in the amount of \$33,334.00. Unanimously approved.

Councilman Harris inquired as to who would install the valves. Mr. Credle responded the installation would have to be put out to bid.

3. Consideration and approval to adopt Resolution #611 (16-2017) requesting grant funding for the expansion of the Water Plant.

Public Utilities Director Ted Credle addressed the Council on a request to adopt Resolution #611 (16-2017) requesting grant funding for the expansion of the water plant. Mr. Credle explained The Town will be seeking funding from the NCDEQ Department of Water Infrastructure (DWI) to pursue the expansion of the Town Water Plant. Funds may take the form of grants, loans, or a combination of both. The deadline for the next round of funding applications was September 29, 2017. Mr. Credle explained with anticipated growth in Smithfield and with the needs of Johnston County, the water plant will need to be expanded to a fourth train to meet the demand. Currently, the Town is permitted to withdrawal 6.2 MGD from the Neuse River. With the expansion, the Town will be requesting to withdrawal and additional 2.1 MGD. Mr. Credle further explained that the first step is to apply for funding with state & federal agencies. The funding application maybe withdrawn at any time, but must submit to get our application in the Que. Mr. Credle stated the expansion is estimated to cost \$8 million, but realistically he anticipated it to cost \$10 - \$12 million.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ashley made a motion, seconded by Councilman Rabil, to adopt Resolution #611 (16-2017). Unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION # 611 (16-2017) BY TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SMITHFIELD APPROVING FUNDING APPLICATION

WHEREAS, The Federal Clean Water Act Amendments of 1987 and the North Carolina the Water Infrastructure Act of 2005 (NCGS 159G) have authorized the making of loans and grants to aid eligible units of government in financing the cost of construction of collection system, stream restoration, stormwater treatment, drinking water treatment works, and/or drinking water distribution system or other "green" project), and

WHEREAS, The Town of Smithfield has need for and intends to construct an expansion to the existing drinking water treatment works to expand capacity of the plant. Work includes installation of new process units, upgrade of existing process units and other work, as applicable, for the new capacity.

WHEREAS, The Town of Smithfield intends to request state loan and/or grant assistance for the project,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SMITHFIELD:

That Town of Smithfield, the Applicant, will arrange financing for all remaining costs of the project, if approved for a State loan and/or grant award.

That the Applicant will adopt and place into effect on or before completion of the project a schedule of fees and charges and other available funds which will provide adequate funds for proper operation, maintenance, and administration of the system and the repayment of all principal and interest on the debt.

That the governing body of the Applicant agrees to include in the loan agreement a provision authorizing the State Treasurer, upon failure of the Town of Smithfield to make scheduled repayment of the loan, to withhold from the Town of Smithfield any State funds that would otherwise be distributed to the local government unit in an amount sufficient to pay all sums then due and payable to the State as a repayment of the loan.

That the Applicant will provide for efficient operation and maintenance of the project on completion of construction thereof.

That Mayor M. Andy Moore, the Authorized Official, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of the Applicant with the State of North Carolina for a (loan and/or grant) to aid in the construction of the project described above.

That the Authorized Official, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the appropriate State agency may request in connection with such application or the project: to make the assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required in connection with the application.

That the Applicant has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances applicable to the project and to Federal and State grants and loans pertaining thereto.

Adopted this the 5th day of September, 2017 in Smithfield, North Carolina.

4. Electric Rate Stabilization

Finance Director Greg Siler addressed the Council on a proposed Rate Stabilization Fund. Mr. Siler explained the Council expressed an interest in building up a reserve to ease the impact of future increases in energy cost. In accordance with North Carolina General Statute 159B-39, rate stabilization funds are permitted. Mr. Siler further explained a recent rate study concluded the Town of Smithfield had the capacity to reduce electric rates. At the recommendation of the Manager, Council approved an average 4.5% rate reduction, equal to the Town's Wholesale rate reduction from ElectricCities. Depending on future capital planning and cost, staff believes an additional 2.5% (\$362,500) could be placed in reserves to offset or delay future rate increases. If wholesale rates increase, the reserve would allow the Town to delay that increase to the customer for a year depending on the balance of the reserve fund. Continual increases would eventually have to be passed onto the customer. Mr. Siler informed the Council that ElectricCities is projecting 3% increase in wholesale energy cost in 2020 and 2021. Based on 12 recent months of wholesale cost (less 4.5% reduction) 3% equates to \$323,163 in 2020 and an additional \$332,857 in 2021. Management recommends that the electric fund maintains a minimum fund balance of 50% for any unforeseen events. Money will be budgeted annually by placing proposed rate stabilization funds into the contingency line item. Following a positive annual audit each year, unspent money from contingency, up to \$362,500, will be moved into the rate stabilization fund via a budget amendment approved by Council. Rate Stabilization Reserves should be revisited a minimum of every two years after implementation to make any necessary adjustments. Mr. Siler believed that after the annual audit, the Electric Fund fund balance will be at 50%

Mayor Pro- Tem Ashley stated this was a good idea, but the key would be how to utilize the reserves to offset future rate increases.

Councilman Scott stated the goal was to establish a fund to offset future increases for the consumers. Councilman Scott questioned if the funds would be in a separate line item and if those funds could be used in the event of an emergency. Mr. Siler responded that the funds will be held in the contingency line item and would only be moved to a rate stabilization fund after the audit has been completed. The Electric Rate Stabilization Fund would have its own bank account labeled as such. Mr. Siler further

stated any funds spent from the Electric Rate Stabilization Fund would have to be approved by the Town Council.

Mayor Moore questioned if staff could develop a detailed policy on the Electric Rate Stabilization Fund outlining how funds would be saved and how funds could be spent. Town Manager Michael Scott replied that language can be added to the budget ordinance each year.

Councilman Scott made a motion, seconded by Councilman Rabil, to approve this request consistent with the Finance Director's Report. Unanimously approved.

5. Bid Award and agreement approval with Barrs Recreation, LLC in the amount of \$94,466.00 for materials and installation of surfacing for the Miracle League Field.

At the suggestion of Mayor Moore, it was the consensus of the Council to discuss and approve Business Items 5 & 6 at the same time.

Parks and Recreation Director Gary Johnson addressed the Council on a request to award two bids to Barrs Recreation, LLC. The first bid was in the amount of \$94,466.00 for materials and installation of surfacing for the Miracle League Field and the second bid was in the amount of \$221,039.75 for playground equipment at the Partnership to Build a Miracle Inclusion Playground.

Mr. Johnson explained the surface of the field was a poured in place rubber surface that was wheel chair, walker and crutch accessible and provided a cushioned base that helps prevent injuries due to falls. There are no trip hazards as the bases, pitchers rubber, and home plate are painted onto the surface.

Solicitations for were sent out and 2 were received as follows:

• Barrs Recreation	\$ 6.34 / sf	\$ 94,466.00
• Surface America	\$ 7.20 / sf	\$ 111,909.60

Mayor Pro-Tem Ashley questioned the life expectancy of the surface. Mr. Johnson responded there was a 7-year warranty on the surface with a life expectancy of 10-15 years.

Councilman Scott questioned the difference in pricing for surfacing of the Miracle League Field and the Inclusion Playground. Mr. Johnson responded the surface at the playground had to be thicker than that of the baseball field.

Mayor Moore inquired as to why some Parks and Recreation items were placed on the consent agenda while others were placed on the agenda as business items. Town Manager Michael Scott responded that the business items were big ticket items. He felt it was an important to update the public on this project since it is such a positive project that will benefit the community. Also, the Partnership to Build A Miracle committee has worked very hard to see this project come to fruition and they deserve recognition.

Councilman Scott questioned if the Town would be reimbursed for the \$20,000 in sales tax. Finance Director Greg Siler responded the Town would be reimbursed for the sales tax.

Councilman Harris made a motion, seconded by Councilman Wood, to approve the bid award to Barrs Recreation, LLC in the amount of \$ 94,466.00 for the surfacing at the Miracle League Field and \$221,039.75 for playground equipment at the Partnership to Build a Miracle Inclusion Playground. Unanimously approved.

6. Bid Award and agreement approval with Barrs Recreation, LLC in the amount of \$221,039.75 for playground equipment at the Partnership to Build a Miracle Inclusion Playground.

Agenda Items 5 & 6 were discussed and approved by the Council together.

The Partnership to Build a Miracle committee has been diligently and continuously working on the playground design for the Inclusion Playground at Smithfield Community Park. This playground is specific in nature and the committee has been working with Barrs Recreation and BCI Burke Company to design a playground system that will fit with the site design provided, provide a safe and enjoyable environment and satisfies the wishes and demands of the playground committee, design engineers, and donors.

The Parks and Recreation Department was requesting to purchase playground equipment from Barr's Recreation located in Cary, NC through the NIPA Contract with the BCI Burke Company.

Councilman Harris made a motion, seconded by Councilman Wood, to approve the bid award to Barrs Recreation, LLC in the amount of \$ 94,466.00 for the surfacing at the Miracle League Field and \$221,039.75 for playground equipment at the Partnership to Build a Miracle Inclusion Playground. Unanimously approved.

7. Special Event: Smithfield Primitive Baptist Church

Town Manager Michael Scott addressed the Council on a Special Event request by Smithfield Primitive Baptist Church received earlier today. The Church would like to hold a three day event called Little River Primitive Baptist Association of Churches. This event would include preaching, singing and eating. Set-up would begin September 22nd at 8:00 am and end September 24th at 2:30 pm. Food will be served 3 times a day to attendees. No amplified sound will be used. The Church was requesting to have Front Street blocked off between Church and Johnston to be used for event specific parking. Smithfield Police are requested to control and block traffic for those attending this event. One officer will need to be posted to allow only attendees past the barricades on Front Street during event times. While the request is only to close Front Street from Johnston to Church, Church Street is a one way from South 2nd Street to Front Street. For this reason, Church Street will need to be blocked off at South Second Street, only allowing attendees past this location. It was outside the norm of permitting special events to authorize the blocking of town streets for no other purpose but to designate special use parking. Staff was concerned with setting the precedence for permits going forward. Staff was also concerned about parking on both sides of Front Street, preventing possible emergency vehicles from getting through this location. The sponsor was also requesting the police department allocate staff to allow only event attendees past the barricades. The cost for staffing this event is approximately \$600.00 and this would be an unbudgeted expense.

Judy Flowers explained she was a member of Smithfield Primitive Baptist Church and the Church Clerk. Mrs. Flowers further explained that every sixth year, they host the Association of Churches event. Approximately 75-100 embers from other counties and states will be in attendance. Every time the event is held in Smithfield, there has always been a problem with parking. Mrs. Flowers stated she was open to any suggestions.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ashley questioned if Johnston Street could be closed.

Councilman Harris suggested utilizing the Methodist Church parking lot. Mrs. Flowers responded that most of the attendees are elderly and the Methodist Church does not seem like it is close enough. She questioned if attendees could park in Riverside Extension Cemetery. Mayor Pro-Tem Ashley responded that using the cemetery would pose problems in the event of a funeral.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ashley suggested the Town cone off the river side (left side) of Front Street and close Johnston Street from Second Street to Front Street.

Councilman Scott suggested attendees use the Town parking lot and utilizing a small shuttle. Mrs. Flowers responded that she did not have any knowledge of this suggestion.

Councilman Harris made a motion, seconded by Councilman Rabil, to close Johnston Street from Second Street to Front Street and cone off the left side of Front Street for the event parking.

Councilman Dunn stated that there are businesses on Johnston Street that would be effected by closing Johnston Street on Friday.

Sarah Edwards Executive Director of the Downtown Smithfield Development Corporation stated she would assist Mrs. Flowers with a parking map for the attendees and also by contacting someone at the Methodist Church to ascertain if the parking lot could be utilized.

Councilman Harris amended his original motion, seconded by Councilman Rabil, to closed Johnston Street on Saturday and Sunday from Second Street to Front Street and cone off the left side of Front Street for the event parking. Unanimously approved.

8. Discussion concerning E-Commerce in the Smithfield Crossing Area

Councilman Scott stated that idea was not necessarily an E-Commerce designated area. Councilman Scott explained the area he is concerned with is the Crossings Area, Outlet Center Drive, North and South Equity Drive and Venture Drive. He further explained there have been a lot of challenges in this area with traffic flow and pedestrian flow. He felt it was essential that the Council form a committee of Councilmembers with the Mayor chairing the committee, business owners and citizens to help plan for the future of this area. Topics such as: the traffic circle, traffic plan, stormwater flow, vegetation control, traffic signals and sidewalks need to be discussed. The committee could come up with ideas that would benefit the entire area.

Councilman Scott made a motion, seconded by Councilman Harris, to create a committee to investigate the Smithfield Crossings Area and come up with a plan for the future. This committee will be comprised of Councilmembers, business owners and residents of the area. Unanimously approved.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ashley felt that there should be representation from all interested parties. This includes representation from the Pine Acres Subdivision, Smithfield Crossings Drive, North and South Equity Drive, Venture Drive and Outlet Center Drive. He suggested business owner Hank Daniels may be interested in serving on this committee.

Mayor Moore stated this is a major area and a major attraction for the Town and he agreed that the Town should begin to plan for the future. He reminded the Council that the Town did receive funds from the sale of Ava Gardner Boulevard that could be used for planning studies of the area.

Councilman Scott, Councilman Lee and Councilman Harris will serve on this committee. Councilman Rabil will serve as an Alternate.

Mayor Moore asked each Councilmember to submit recommendations of business owners and citizens to serve on this committee to him and the Town Manager.

Councilmembers Comments

- Mayor Moore informed the Council that during the recent weather situation he was truly impressed with Town Department staff, Councilmembers, and the DSDC Executive Director for their cooperative efforts.

Mayor Moore read the following statement concerning Hurricane Harvey & Hurricane Irma
On August 25th, Hurricane Harvey made landfall as a category 4 hurricane near Rockport, Texas. Harvey hung around southern Texas for days as a weakening hurricane and tropical storm. An estimated 40-52 inches of rainfall dropped in southeast Texas and southwest Louisiana. FEMA director Brock Long called Harvey the worst disaster in Texas history, and expected the recovery to take many years. 60 deaths are attributed to Hurricane Harvey. Economic losses are preliminarily estimated at between \$70 to \$190 billion. And tens of thousands of people are still in shelters.

Having dealt with catastrophic flooding due to Hurricane Matthew last year, our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Texas and Louisiana. We know how devastating it can be to watch the flood waters rise into homes and businesses in our community.

It is Hurricane season and Irma is currently churning in the Atlantic as a category 5 Hurricane. Due to the uncertainty of the path Irma will take, I urge all citizens to continue to monitor the situation and be prepared in the event that this Hurricane turns northward towards the Carolinas.

Websites such as, Johnston County Emergency Services, readync.org and ready.gov and Smithfield Police Department have vital information on hurricane preparedness. Johnston County has also changed its Code Red Notification System to the JoCoAlerts System. It is Johnston County's primary emergency notification system providing critical time-sensitive information to the public during emergencies. Citizens can register for this free service on Johnston County's website and the Town of Smithfield's website. The Town of Smithfield will also post information on our website to help you prepare.

It is our hope and prayer that Hurricane Irma will weaken and cause minimal damage. Please know that the Town of Smithfield staff will be prepared to assist our citizens in any storm event.

Town Manager's Report:

Town Manager Michael Scott gave a brief update to the Council on the following items:

- The Town Manager asked for citizens' assistance on maintaining and cleaning their ditches and making sure drainage grates are free of debris. He also asked that yard debris be placed on sidewalks/ yards instead of in the street. He reminded the public that yard debris is a service provided to the citizen and not contractors. If contractors are doing work for our citizens, it is their responsibility to haul the debris to the landfill.
- FEMA – The Town has received all its FEMA reimbursement funding with the exception of \$85,000. The Town received a check in the amount of \$230,000 which was the federal share of damages at the Water Plant. The State will provide the additional \$85,000 once representatives have inspected and certified all the repairs. The Town has also been notified that \$230,000 has been allocated for repairs to the Wetland Facility near Jaycee Kiddy Park. The Town has not begun work on this project.
- Grants – The Town Manager informed the Council that CDBG funding has turned out to be CDBG-DR (disaster recovery). In order to receive funding, residential properties had to have incurred damages as a result of Hurricane Matthew and also did not receive funding from FEMA. The Town Manager explained that unfortunately, the Town will not be able to take advantage of these grant opportunities.
- Parks and Recreation has announced that Community Park will host the 2019 State Baseball Tournament. This will be a large event that will have a positive economic impact upon the community.
- Smithfield Selma High School will be hosting its annual 9-11 ceremonial event on September 11, 2017 at 7:20 am. All are encouraged to attend. The event lasts about an hour.
- **Department Reports**
 - A highlight of each department's monthly activities was given to the Council.

Closed Session: Pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (6) to discuss a personnel matter

Mayor Pro-Tem Ashley made a motion, seconded by Councilman Rabil, to go into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (6). Unanimously approved at 8:23 pm.

Reconvene in Open Session:

Mayor Pro-Tem Ashley made a motion, seconded by Councilman Wood, to reconvene in open session. Unanimously approved at 9:08 pm.

Adjourn

Councilman Scott made a motion, seconded by Councilman Harris, to adjourn the meeting.
The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:09 pm.

M. Andy Moore, Mayor

ATTEST:

Shannan L. Williams, Town Clerk