

**Belhaven Town Council  
Minutes – February 12, 2007  
Regular Session**

**Call to Order/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance**

The Belhaven Town Council met in regular session on Monday, February 13, 2007. Mayor Adam W. O’Neal called the meeting to order at 7:07 P.M. with the following Council members present: Albert Baker, Dr. Charles O. Boyette, Steve W. Carawan, George R. Ebron, Jr., Mayor Pro-Tem and Cynthia M. Heath. Town Attorney Keith B. Mason, Town Manager Tim M. Johnson and Town Clerk Marie J. Adams were also present. Mayor O’Neal recognized and introduced Mrs. Jennifer Boyd, Elder with St. Miller Missionary Baptist Church, gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes – January 9, 2007 Public Hearing and Regular Session**

Mayor O’Neal announced that the minutes of the January 9, 2007 Public Hearing and Regular Session were open for review and adoption. Councilman Ebron made the motion to approve the minutes. Councilman Boyette seconded the motion and stated that page 3. under the heading “Former Belhaven Fish & Oyster Property Deed and Final Approval”, second paragraph that in the motion “within three months” that months be changed to “years” and on page 4. under the heading “Other Business: Vote of No Confidence for Mayor O’Neal; the word “resolves” should be changed to “involves“. Mayor O’Neal stated that the following correction should also be included at the bottom of page one, last paragraph, after Mayor O’Neal’s questioned, if the comments/questions he (the Mayor) made were the reason the Town was not being funded. Add, “Mr. Whitesell stated emphatically no, absolutely not”. The motion carried unanimously.

**Recognition of Mr. Wesley Bowman, Former Belhaven Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Member**

Mayor O’Neal stated that he would like to recognize Mr. Wesley Bowman for serving more than twelve years on the Planning Board/Board of Adjustment. Mayor O’Neal called Mr. Bowman forward to receive his plaque as he read the acknowledgement given Mr. Bowman. The audience and Mayor and Council applauded Mr. Bowman.

**The Belhaven Town Council**

**Would like to Recognize**

**Mr. Wesley Bowman**

**For his dedicated public service to the**

**Town of Belhaven and her Citizens**

**By serving as a member of the**

**Belhaven Planning Board/Board of Adjustment**

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**February 1994 – December 2006**

**Presented to Mr. Bowman**

**On Monday, February 12, 2007**

**At the Regular Meeting**

**of the**

**Belhaven Town Council**

Mr. Bowman thanked the Mayor and Council for the recognition. Mr. Bowman also publicly thanked Town Manager Johnson, as he stated that the Town Manager's door was always open for any questions/concerns and guidance. Mr. Bowman thanked Town Clerk Adams, who in previous years took the minutes of the board and to the past and current members of the board. Mr. Bowman stated that he liked that the Town Council minutes were televised to keep those citizens informed who could not attend the meetings but stated that he did support the purchase of microphones as sometimes it was hard to hear comments from the Council. Mr. Bowman closed by stating that he hoped that the Council would "see eye to eye".

Councilman Boyette made the official motion to award Mr. Bowman the plaque. Councilman Heath seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**2005/2006 Audit Presentation – Mr. Jeff Best, CPA (Pittard, Perry & Crone, Inc.)**  
Mayor O'Neal recognized Mr. Jeff Best, CPA with Pittard, Perry & Crone, Inc. (PP&C) who was present at the meeting to give the 2005/2006 audit presentation. Mr. Best stated that he would give a brief overview of the audit and would gladly answer any questions. Mr. Best overviewed pages 5 and 6 "Independent Auditor's Report" which states that the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Belhaven, North Carolina, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2006, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements. Mr. Best stated that that the "Management's Discussion and Analysis" was on pages 7-14; and that pages 16-24 were the "Basic Financial Statements" with the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance on page 20; Page 24 showed transfers from the General Fund to the Electric Fund of \$127,620, to the Water and Sewer Fund \$30,000 and totaling \$157,620 in transfers; Pages 27-40 is the Summary of Significant Accounting Policies with page 32. the Town has \$341,761 invested with the North Carolina Capital Management Trust's Cash Portfolio; Pages 33-34 showing the Capital Assets; Page 35-36 shows Retirement

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Benefits; Page 38 shows the General Obligation of Debts; Page 42-58 shows the Individual Fund Statements and Schedules; Page 61 shows a Total Property Valuation of \$77,632,798 with current tax levy collection of 88.70%; Property (excluding registered motor vehicles) tax levy collection at 90.28% and a current tax levy collection of 76.09% for registered motor vehicles. Mr. Best explained that in the “Report of Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements performed in Accordance with Government Accounting Standards”: Material Weaknesses – Segregation of Duties – there is a lack of segregation of duties among town personnel because there are a limited number of personnel for certain functions; (Town Manager Johnson stated that segregation of duties is hard for small towns due to the limited number of employees, lunch hours – time out of work for employees, etc. Material Weaknesses – Approval of Journal Entries – Town’s journal entries recorded were not approved by a management –level employee other than the preparer of the journal entries. (Town Manager Johnson stated that has been corrected now and the journal entries are being approved by someone other than the preparer – Auditor Jeff Best concurred with the statement. Town Manager Johnson stated that the audit was “very clean”.

Mr. Best stated that he would be available for any questions. Councilman Carawan questioned if the cost allocation study was performed which was recommended by the Local Government Commission (LGC). There was some discussion concerning the cost allocation and the need for such.

Mayor O’Neal stated that the Finance Officer Robin Godsell had forwarded to him the amended audit contract (for him to sign and return), due to the audit being presented at such a late date and past the completion date stated in the original audit contract. Mayor O’Neal stated that contract had to be voted on by the Council and he could not sign the amended contract. Mayor O’Neal insinuated that PP&C was trying to “slip one by”. There was much discussion concerning these accusations, questions of breach of contract with PP&C and concerns from the Mayor on the management letter stating a concern with segregation of duties. Mayor O’Neal read the following management letter:

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*Ideas...Strategies...Results*

To the Honorable Mayor and  
Members of the Town Council  
Belhaven, North Carolina

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Town of Belhaven, North Carolina for the year ended June 30, 2006, we considered its internal control in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control. However, we noted certain matters involving internal control and its operation that we consider to be reportable conditions under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of internal control that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the Town of Belhaven, North Carolina's ability to initiate, record, process, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements.

A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that errors or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions.

Our consideration of internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters in internal control that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses as defined above. However, we noted the following reportable condition that we believe to be a material weakness.

**Segregation of Duties:**

The duties in the finance department should be separated as much as possible and alternative controls should be used to compensate for lack of separation. With the number of personnel in the finance department this may continue to be a problem.

**Approval of Journal Entries:**

Journal entries were not approved by a management-level individual independent of the preparer. The Town should have a management-level individual review and approve all journal entries.

**OTHER COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Tax Collection

The percentage of current year tax collections was 88.70%. Current year collection rates are still lower than the State average. We recommend that the Town continues to pursue all legal remedies including garnishment of wages and foreclosures for collecting property taxes owed to the Town to maximize tax revenue realized on an annual basis.

Cost Segregation Study

We recommend that the Town have a cost allocation study of the charges for services allocated between the General Fund, the Electric Fund, and the Water and Sewer Fund.

Penalties for Failure to List or Late Listing of Property for Taxation

We recommend that the Town begin an agency fund for penalties for failure to list or late listing of property for taxation, and remit these funds to the schools per Local Government Commission recommendations.

These material weaknesses and other reportable conditions were considered in determining the nature, timing, and extent of the audit tests applied in our audit of the June 30, 2006 financial statements, and this report does not affect our report on those financial statements dated August 22, 2006. We have not considered the internal control since the date of our report.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the governing body, management, and cognizant audit agency, and other state agencies and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

*Pittard, Perry & Crone, Inc*  
Pittard Perry & Crone, Inc.  
August 22, 2006

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Mayor O'Neal questioned if elected officials could step in and perform some of the duties to keep the segregation of duties. Town Manager Johnson stated that it would be hard to have elected officials on stand-by. The Mayor continued questioning Auditor Best with the cost allocation and the percentages; stating that the percentages did not match the transfers, etc. Mayor O'Neal's made accusations of funds being misstated, and misappropriated with transfers overstated. Mayor O'Neal proceeded to show figures on an overhead projector concerning transfers over-stated, etc. while pointedly questioning the auditor. At this point, Councilman Boyette made the motion to recess the meeting. Councilwoman Heath seconded the motion. Mayor O'Neal continued with his presentation. Mr. Walt Allen, from the audience brought to the Mayor's attention that he had a motion and a second on the floor and the Mayor should call for a vote (point of order). Mayor O'Neal told Mr. Allen he needed to leave the meeting, due to not being recognized, he was out of order. Mrs. Ellen Allen stated that she was tired of hearing the Mayor make accusations and "dragging everyone through the mud". Mr. Andy Fisher then informed the Mayor, that he (the Mayor) had stated that he would never have anyone removed from the meeting and that if Mr. Allen had to leave the meeting, he would also. Mr. Fisher made this statement again, emphatically. Mayor O'Neal stated that his meetings would not be interrupted.

Mayor Boyette and Councilwoman Heath stated the motion had been made and seconded to recess the meeting at 7:48 P.M. the Mayor continued with his presentation by stating there were misappropriations and over transfers. Councilman Boyette called the vote – the motion carried 4 to 1 with Councilman Carawan voting against the recess. Mayor O'Neal continued with this overhead presentation while the Council members, Boyette, Baker, Ebron and Heath along with Town Manager Johnson stood. Mr. Best asked if the Council needed any further information from him. The Council members standing gave Mr. Best permission to leave the meeting. Mr. Best left the meeting at 7:48 P.M.

Mayor O'Neal continued his presentation. The Mayor stated that the auditor was gone and that he (the auditor) may have answered some of the questions which he (the Mayor) was bringing forth.

Councilman Boyette made the motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2005/2006 audit as presented and to approve the amended audit contract. Councilwoman Heath seconded the motion. Town Manager Johnson stated that the only change in the amended contract is the date of completion. Town Manager Johnson stated that the reason for the late date in the audit presentation was because of complaints that the Mayor had sent to the state auditor's board concerning PP&C and that PP&C had to wait for an answer back from that board before they could complete the audit for the Town.

Councilman Carawan asked Attorney Mason if PP&C was in breach of contract. Attorney Mason stated that, technically, they were in breach because the audit was not completed by October 31, 2006 as per the contract. However, the Town was not obligated to treat it as a breach or file suit for breach if it didn't want to. The breach could be cured by amending the contract, which was what this agenda item would do.

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Councilman Carawan stated that the town was being robbed.

Mrs. Ellen Allen stated that Councilman Carawan was implying that the Town Manager, Finance Officer, Council and other employees were robbing the town. Councilman Carawan stated that the General Fund was robbing monies from the Electric Fund which made utility rates higher. Mrs. Allen stated that these remarks implied that fraud was being committed.

Councilwoman Heath stated that additional employees could be hired to insure the segregation of duties but, that the Mayor wanted to cut expenses and have a hiring freeze. Councilwoman Heath stated that the public should be aware of what is provided by the Town, the services that are provided such as police officers, water service and electric service. Should any employees be cut in any of the departments then what services would be reduced. Councilwoman Heath questioned what entity would the Town not fund, the Boys and Girls Club, Library, etc. Councilwoman Heath stated that the implications by the Mayor of someone being fraudulent needed to stop or someone would get sued.

The motion for the adoption of the audit carried to 4 to 1 with Councilman Carawan voting against the motion.

Town Manager Johnson stated that segregation of duties had been brought up in all of the town audits and that this happens in small towns due to the number of employees. Town Manager Johnson stated that this problem could be handled with the hiring of another employee; but supposedly the Town should have a hiring freeze, according to the Mayor. Town Manager Johnson stated that no money is missing, if so, call the SBI, the auditor is not to blame.

Mrs. Ellen Allen stated that a law suit should be filed; as these type of meetings and accusations have completely divided the town; nothing is happening, the town has the option to cut utility bills and go up on taxes and she did not want property taxes to increase. Mrs. Allen stated that tonight the auditor was badgered, Walt Allen (her husband) had been thrown out of the meeting and she was tired of hearing the same information for 14 months and that tonight's meeting was a "free for all".

Mrs. Julia Ward stated that she was very disappointed to see the division and confusion in the town. Mrs. Ward stated that the devil divides and that this town was divided by the Mayor.

**Budget Amendment #8 Fiscal Year 2006/2007**

Mayor O'Neal stated that the Town needed to adopt the budget amendment to include undercover drug operations monies. Councilman Boyette made the motion to increase revenue account 10-348-006 (NC Controlled Substance Tax Distribution) by \$3,685 from \$656 to \$4,341; and increase expenditure account 10-510-045 (State Drug Tax

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Distribution Expense) by \$3,685 from -0- to \$3,685. Councilman Carawan seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**Mosquito Control Agent Designation – Resolution**

Mayor O’Neal stated each year an agent for the Town should be appointed for the Mosquito Control Program. Councilman Ebron made the motion approving Robin J. Godsell as the Town’s representative in the following resolution. Councilwoman Heath seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**Resolution**  
**Designating Official to Sign on**  
**Behalf of Mosquito Control**

Upon motion of Councilman George Ebron, seconded by Councilwoman Cynthia Heath, it is hereby ordered that Robin J. Godsell, as agent for the Town of Belhaven, is hereby authorized and empowered to sign and execute all papers and documents necessary in connection with the request made to the Division of Environmental Health, North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, for aid in control of mosquitoes.

She is further authorized and required to carry out all agreements stipulated in the project application submitted by us to the division of Environmental Health, North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, and to perform other acts that are proper and necessary in connection with the operation of this project. Acts of said person on behalf of said Town of Belhaven, are in all respects validated approved and confirmed.

The undersigned Marie J. Adams, Clerk of the Town of Belhaven, hereby certified that the foregoing is a true copy of the resolution of the Town Council at a meeting held on the 12th day of February, 2007.

Marie J. Adams, CMC  
Town Clerk

**Ordinance Amendment Granting Sun Burn Communications a One Year Time Extension – First Reading**

Mayor O’Neal stated that Mr. Singleton was requesting an ordinance amendment for a one year time extension in order to complete construction of his cable television company. Mayor O’Neal asked if anyone was present representing Sun Burn Communications. No one was present on their behalf. Mayor O’Neal stated that a one year extension was also granted last year which stated he was 75% complete and this year his letter stated he was 79% complete. Councilman Carawan made the motion to table the issue. There was no second, therefore the motion failed. Councilman Boyette made the motion to adopt the Ordinance Amendment Granting Sun Burn Communications a One Year Time Extension at the first reading and that the item also be placed on the March 12, 2007 Council Agenda for the second reading. Councilwoman Heath

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seconded the motion. The motion carried 4 to 1 with Councilman Carawan voting against the motion.

F I R S T R E A D I N G  
AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE GRANTING A CABLE COMMUNICATIONS  
FRANCHISE TO SUN BURN COMMUNICATIONS, L.L.C.

WHEREAS, effective February 7, 2005, the Town of Belhaven (the “Town”) council enacted an Ordinance granting a cable communications franchise (“Cable Ordinance”) to Sun Burn Communications, L.L.C. (“Sun Burn”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the terms of that Ordinance, Sun Burn was to complete construction of its cable system and make service available by February 7, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Sun Burn has requested an additional one year extension of that deadline, to complete the construction of the cable systems by February 7, 2008; and the Town finds good cause for agreeing to that request.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BELHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS:

1. Section XI(B) of the Cable Ordinance is replaced with the following:

The construction of the system will be completed and all subscribers will have the service available no later than 36 months from the effective date of this Franchise.

2. The original terms of the Cable Ordinance otherwise remain in effect.

Finally adopted on second reading, ordained and agreed to this \_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007, by the Town Council on behalf of the Town of Belhaven.

\_\_\_\_\_(Seal)  
Mayor

ATTEST:

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk

AGREED TO:

SUN BURN COMMUNICATIONS, L.L.C.

BY: \_\_\_\_\_(SEAL)  
J. C. Singleton, Jr., Member/Manager

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Pungo Creek Bridge Replacement**

Mayor O’Neal stated that the Department of Transportation (DOT) had informed the Town of the upcoming replacement of bridge #64 over Pungo Creek. Councilman Boyette stated that the Town had been very active in the replacement of this bridge in the past due to the closing of the bridge and re-routing of traffic. Councilman Boyette stated that the Town’s concern was the loss of time during the detour for emergency vehicles and the economic impact for shopping in Belhaven. Councilman Boyette stated that he understood that the bridge would be closed, for as minimal time as possible. Following some discussion, Councilman Boyette made the motion to resubmit the April 4, 2004 correspondence with attachments. Councilman Ebron seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**Attorney Compensation Agreement**

Mayor O’Neal stated that Town Attorney Mason had submitted a request for increased compensation. Mayor O’Neal asked Town Attorney Mason for any comments. Town Attorney Mason stated that he felt that his letter was self-explanatory. Mayor O’Neal then read the letter.

January 3, 2007

Mr. Tim M. Johnson  
Town Manager  
Town of Belhaven  
P.O. Box 220  
Belhaven, N.C. 27810

Re: Town attorney services

Dear Tim:

I am writing you to advise you that effective January 1, 2007, I have merged my law practice with that of Brian Jones, and that we will be engaged in the general practice of law, doing business under the firm name of Mason & Jones, P. A., Attorneys at Law. I would like to continue to represent the Town of Belhaven, serving at the pleasure of the Town Council, and look forward to continuing the good working relationship that we have had over the last 14 plus years. However, I feel that I can no longer continue to represent the Town under the compensation arrangement that has been in place since 2001. At the time that arrangement was agreed to, the town meetings typically lasted only about 1 to 1 ½ hours. Since December, 2005, the meetings have grown longer and more contentious, and have frequently lasted 3 to 4 hours. Especially with higher fuel prices over the past year, I simply cannot drive 60 miles round trip and endure a marathon meeting for monthly retainer of \$100.00. Therefore, I would like to request a change in our compensation agreement.

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I propose to bill the Town monthly and charge a flat rate of \$125.00 per hour for all work done on behalf of the Town of Belhaven, including driving to and from and attending the monthly Town Council meetings. I would also request that I receive mileage at the federal rate for any travel to and from meetings. As under the current arrangement, any other work done on behalf of the Town, or attendance at any additional meetings, would be billed on a monthly basis at the rate of \$125.00 per hour plus mileage.

I would request that this change be made effective as of January 1, 2007, if possible, but if this would cause any problems with the budget, I would be willing to make it effective with the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

I would appreciate the opportunity to continue working with the Town as its attorney and hope that you will look favorably upon this request. Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,  
Keith B. Mason

Councilman Carawan stated that the Council meetings were previously two times a month and now there was only one meeting per month. Town Attorney Mason stated that previously he attended only one meeting (the first Monday) of each month unless specifically requested to attend the second meeting. Councilman Boyette stated that he felt that Town Attorney Mason was ethical and that his request for compensation was not unreasonable. Councilman Boyette made the motion to approve the new compensation rate of \$125.00 per hour and mileage to and from the meetings be effective with the March 12, 2007 meeting. Councilwoman Heath seconded the motion. The motion carried 4 to 1 with Councilman Carawan voting against the motion.

**Special Recreation Committee Meeting – February 2, 2007**

Mayor O'Neal stated that Councilman Baker would be giving the report from the recreation meeting which took place on February 2, 2007. The purpose of this meeting was because of racial bias claims concerning children not being allowed to form a basketball team in the league after the parents did not sign them up by the deadline, which was brought before the Town Council at the January 8, 2007 meeting. Mayor O'Neal stated that Councilman Baker was not named as a committee member in the minutes of the January 8 meeting on page 6. Following some discussion, Councilman Boyette made the motion to correct the minutes of January 8, 2007 meeting to include Councilman Baker as one of the members appointed to this special recreation committee, as this was obviously an error. Councilman Carawan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Baker stated that the meeting was held on February 2, 2007 with the following present: Town Manager Johnson, Mr. Tony Stanley, Recreation Director Harold Nixon, Mr. Brian Butler and Recreation Staff Brian Stevens. Council Baker acted as Chairman of the special committee and summarized the meeting by making the following comments concerning the results of the meeting: there was no discrimination

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in any way; heard complaints from Mr. Stanley in that he felt that some black children were not played in specific positions (by volunteer coaches) in baseball/softball and that his daughter did not make an all-star team even though she was a good player – Mr. Stanley stated that he was told it was because the coaches did not like him; the initial issue of racism was found to be blown out of proportion and that Mayor O’Neal asked Mr. Butler and a parent (Ms. Tamika Palmer) to come to his office to discuss this issue; as a result of that meeting at the Mayor’s office, Town Manager Johnson received a letter from the Mayor on January 2 and was given a response concerning the racial allegations on January 5, Mr. Butler had stated that he had seen the response from the Town Manager but did not know if any others had; only four children of the original eight, actually signed up and played in the basketball program; it was stated that deadline rules should be strictly adhered to and that the consensus of the meeting was there was no racial issues involved with the children who had wanted to form a basketball team and that the issue was blown out of proportion and that the issue was used as a political ploy. Councilman Baker concluded his report by stating that it is the parents’ responsibility to sign the children up for recreation programs prior to the deadlines.

Councilman Ebron asked Mr. Baker where the letter originated,(the initial complaint). Councilman Baker stated that Mr. Butler stated that he did not write the letter. Town manager Johnson stated that he had information that the letter was written and produced by an employee in Mayor O’Neal’s personal business office and not produced by the parents. Councilman Boyette made the motion to include all the correspondence in the minutes concerning this issue. Councilwoman Heath seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

(Insert Letters)

**Town Manager’s Report**

Town Manger Johnson stated that departmental monthly reports were included in the packets for review and/or questions. Councilman Carawan asked about an accident with a police car. Town Manager Johnson stated that a police car was involved in an accident, when responding to a mutual aid call from the Beaufort County Sheriff’s Department on 264 heading West towards Pantego and a deer was hit. Mayor O’Neal questioned why he was not informed of the accident. Town Manager Johnson stated that no personal injury was involved in the wreck and with the number of vehicles the town has there are damages from time to time. Councilman Carawan stated that the police department had only one drug related arrest reported on the monthly report.

Councilman Carawan stated that he had been contacted by the BC Department of Social Services (DSS) and that there was some problem with accepting their pledges. Town Manager Johnson stated that the Town had no problems with the pledges. Councilman Carawan stated that the Finance Officer told DSS that the form of payment would not be accepted.

Mayor O’Neal stated that he had heard that the Police Department was in pursuit of a radar gun. Town Manager Johnson stated that the Police Department was looking at

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options of possibly getting radar guns donated by the NC Highway Patrol. Mayor O’Neal stated that Belhaven did not need radar guns and he did not support the use of radar guns. Town Manager Johnson stated that should radar guns be obtained then it would be one or two and they would be in the control of the Sergeant or Lieutenant. Councilman Carawan made the motion not to purchase radar guns. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Mayor O’Neal also stated that he had requested that Mr. Toby Woolard, Utilities Director be present for information on the town’s sewer system but he was not present. Town Manager Johnson stated that employees would not attend meeting unless requested by a majority of the Council. Town Manager Johnson further stated that he did not want to subject his employees to the belittlement and humiliation as has been shown to himself, Town Clerk Adams, Town Attorney Mason and the Auditor Jeff Best.

Councilman Boyette overviewed the Wynne View \$5,000 loan issue by stating closure was needed on the subject. Councilman Boyette stated that Wynne View, Inc. had requested a \$5,000 no interest loan, and the loan was to be paid back in full within 6 months. Councilman Boyette also stated he had a letter dated February 7, 2007 (from the attorney’s office) confirming receipt of the check that office had received on October 13, 2006 that \$5,000.00 toward fees for the litigation. Councilman Boyette stated that this information should clear innuendos of the \$5,000 being used to obtain an additional loan from Southern Bank. Also, a letter received by the Town on December 5, 2006 from Wynne View, Inc. stating re-payment of the \$5,000 to the Town was now made. Councilman Boyette stated that he was sorry that the Wynne View board was accused of lying about the loan. Councilman Boyette asked that these letters and a copy of the checks be included in the minutes. Councilman Ebron seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

(Insert)

**Adjournment**

Mayor O’Neal declared the meeting adjourned at 9:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie J. Adams, CMC  
Town Clerk

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