

**ERWIN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 26, 2009
ERWIN, NORTH CAROLINA**

The Board of Commissioners for the Town of Erwin with Mayor Patsy Carson presiding held a Workshop meeting in the Town Hall on Thursday, February 26, 2009 at 5:00 P.M. in Erwin, North Carolina.

Board members present were Commissioners Norma Ennis, Mark Whitman, Michael West, William Corbett, Randy Baker and Frank Taylor.

Town Manager Bryan Thompson, Town Clerk Cynthia Patterson were present.

Mayor Patsy Carson called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

Commissioner Frank Taylor gave the invocation.

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

DISCUSSION OF INSPECTION SERVICE OPTIONS

Town Manager Bryan Thompson advised the Board three (3) jurisdictions were interested in providing inspection service to the Town of Erwin. These jurisdictions include Harnett County, the City of Dunn, and the Town of Holly Springs. Each of them has their own benefits and disadvantages.

Harnett County and the City of Dunn have offered two (2) levels of service. One, they will provide the inspections and the Town of Erwin will do the paper work. The cost associated with that will be 75% of the fees collected would go to the service provider and 25% would be retained by the Town. The other level of service for either Harnett County or the City of Dunn would provide 100% of the service. Which means the Town of Erwin would not benefit from any of those fees.

Town of Holly Springs is similar to which is proposed by the County and Dunn with regard to the Service Level One approach. Erwin would be responsible for taking applications, calculating fees, and collecting fees. Holly Springs staff would visit Town Hall once a day to sign off on permits and conduct inspections. However, the significant differences in Holly Springs proposal it will not be a fee base schedule for payment but rather a fixed amount. If the Town went strictly with the inspections service with Holly Springs the amount would be \$21,000 on an annual bases to be paid on quarterly installments.

DISCUSSION OF CODE ENFORCEMENT SERVICE OPTIONS

Town Manager Bryan Thompson advised the Board that there were two (2) jurisdictions available to provide this service. These jurisdictions include Holly Springs and Angier.

Holly Springs will be able to provide Code Enforcement services at a rate of \$9,000 per year. With the inspections service, the total number of hours dedicated to Erwin for building inspections and code enforcement will amount to three (3) hours per day or fifteen (15) hours per week.

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The Town of Angier will be providing code enforcement services 2.5 days per week. The cost of this service would be the ½ share of the cost of the code enforcement officer's salary and benefit package. The Angier Code Enforcer has experience in nuisance lots and minimum housing code issues.

Most of the Commissioners agreed that the citizens of Erwin should not have to drive to another municipality to purchase a permit for a job in Erwin. Some also expressed concern with the citizens having to wait a long period of time for an inspection. The Town of Erwin could hire a Code Enforcer much cheaper than to hire Inspector/Code Enforcement.

After much discussion, it was the consent of the Board to go with Harnett County 75/25 with Building Inspections and hire a full-time Zoning/Code Enforcer. Commissioner Baker did not vote due to conflict in interest.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Baker made a motion to adjourn at 6:25 P.M. and was seconded by Commissioner Whitman. The Board voted unanimously.

**MINUTES RECORDED AND TYPED BY CYNTHIA B PATTERSON,
TOWN CLERK**

Cynthia B. Patterson, Town Clerk

Patsy Carson, Mayor