

**SNEADS TOWN COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
FEBRUARY 28, 2007**

The Town Council of the Town Of Sneads, Florida met in special session at the Sneads Town Hall on Wednesday, February 28, 2007 at 4:00 p.m.

Ricky Whittington called the meeting to order with the following present:

Ricky Whittington, Jimmy L. Wright, Mike Weeks,
Greg Lewis, Donovan Weeks, Councilmembers.
Guy Green, City Attorney
Burt McAlpin, Police Chief
Sherri Griffin, City Clerk

and the following were absent:

Jerry Tramel, City Manager

The purpose of the special meeting was to address the issue of the City Manager being under investigation and what action needs to be taken. Mike Weeks asked Attorney Green about the letter received from the Minnick Law Firm concerning Jerry Tramel. Attorney Guy Green told the Council he received an e-mail that appears to be the same letter and responded this morning. Mr. Green informed the Minnick Law Firm that when the complaint was filed it was not appropriate for the Sneads Police Department to investigate. The first thing he told him was that when he received the complaint he called Mr. Tramel and asked him about it and Jerry Tramel assured him there was not anything to it so he referred the complaint to the States Attorney but did not send anything with it. Attorney Green told the Council that he did not address the issue concerning Greg Lewis. Ricky Whittington asked Attorney Green for advice on what action should be taken at this time. Attorney Green told the Council that this has been turned over to States Attorney Office and the documents he found and gave to the Council at the last meeting speak for themselves. Attorney Green told the Council that his application stated he had a Ph.D and if they find not a proper application then they could either suspend him, do nothing or terminate his employment.

Mike Weeks asked Ricky Whittington for the record the purpose of this special meeting. Ricky Whittington said the purpose of the meeting is to figure out what they are going to do with the City Manager based on what has been going on and the ongoing investigation and legal attorney to advise the Council on the best way to go in reference to what could be the future outcome of this and the best interest of the Town. Mike Weeks asked if meeting notice was posted as required by Florida Statutes. Ricky Whittington said there was 48 hours notice of the meeting and also have a picture of the sign.

Police Chief Burt McAlpin played for the Council a recorded voice mail to him left by Attorney Minnick who represents Jerry Tramel and then a recorded conversation with Attorney Minnick the day before.

Mike Weeks asked Attorney Green his recommendation in reference to Jerry Tramel. Attorney Green told the Council this was a political decision. Council discussed the information they have received concerning Jerry Tramel's degree, charges that could be filed by States Attorney's Office if proven guilty and not knowing of time frame it would take for States Attorney's Office to investigate. Also the Council's concern of Jerry Tramel still working here while under investigation, threatening to sue the Council and Town Attorney and time consumed if he is placed on Administrative Leave and the not allowing the Town to move forward. Jimmy L. Wright made a motion to terminate Jerry Tramel with severance pay. Donovan Weeks seconded. Roll-call vote: Mike Weeks-aye, Jimmy L. Wright-aye, Ricky Whittington-aye, Donovan Weeks-aye, Greg Lewis-aye. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Attorney Green to prepare Resolution setting forth the removal and effective date. Council agreed for Attorney Green to contact Jerry Tramel.

Jason Johnson representing the Economic Development Council offered their services to the Council concerning Development in Sneads.

Mitchell Mark Brannon came before the Council requesting an Occupational License to build canoes and kayaks at his residence. Mr. Brannon told the Council the business would be located indoors. After discussion, Jimmy L. Wright made a motion to issue Occupational License. Greg Lewis seconded. All voted aye.

Greg Lewis told the Council that the Town needs to purchase 3 or 4 more dumpsters and Weeks Sanitation has them. Jimmy L. Wright made a motion to purchase the dumpsters. Donovan Weeks seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0 with Mike Weeks abstaining from voting.

Motion to adjourn at 5:13 p.m. by Jimmy L. Wright.

Respectfully Submitted,

APPROVED:

Sherri B. Griffin
City Clerk

RICKY WHITTINGTON, COUNCIL PRESIDENT