

SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING

March 30, 2004

Present: Mayor Guy Barriger

Comm: Glenn P. Deal Sr., Comm. Bob Phillips,

Absent: Comm. George Holleman

The special meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Minister Sergey Sveltov led the prayer. Olaga Antonova served as interpreter. Mayor Barriger presented lapel pins and welcomed all in attendance honoring our sister city representatives from Chechuleno Russia. Over six years ago a relationship was born between Councilman Phillips and a local government official from Russia. The relationship centered on a crippled child who loved to fish but had no means of transportation. With the help of Councilman Phillips and others, this small child is known for his little red scooter that enables him to overcome physical adversity. In subsequent years, assistance projects included roof repair, schoolbooks for children, a new floor for a school, soccer uniforms and improvements for an impoverished area in rural Russia. Councilman Phillips stated that this effort is a true example of it is better to give than to receive. By all information provided the Russian government is very hesitant to accept help from the American delegation. This relationship has been a trying one at times; it took over four years to gain permission to construct a Church. Mayor Barriger, the Town Council and Town Staff submitted a Resolution of Friendship, roses for the ladies and an official JuneBug clock for Sergey. Following comments from Olga Antonova, she sang a beautiful Russian hymn. Mayor Barriger and Council adjourned the special meeting to host a reception for Olga Antonova, Sergey Svetlov, Svetlana Svetlova and local residents who attended to show their support.

As recorded and submitted by David Odom, Town Manager.

_____ Mayor

_____ Commissioner

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ATTEST:

Yolanda Prince
Town Clerk