



**Minutes of The Board of Commissioners Meeting- March 2, 2021 @7:30 pm
Held at 227 West Main Street, United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall**

Attending:

Mayor Perry Conner, Mayor Pro-Tem Priscilla Dunn, Commissioner A.C. Hurley
Commissioner Richard Goodwin, Commissioner Brandon Hurley, Commissioner Mac Whatley
Finance Officer/Town Clerk-Beverly O'Brien
Utility Clerk-Christie Gunter
Public Works Director- Arnold Allred
Guests: County Commissioner David Allen, Harvey Harman, Jill Wood

21-110 7:30 pm: MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Pledge of Allegiance
Moment of silence/ prayer

21-111 CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Conner discussed the consent agenda. **Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Dunn, seconded by Commissioner Whatley, to accept the Consent Agenda. Motion adopted, unanimously.**

21-112 OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Whatley with Consultant Jill Wood discussed the hire and qualifications necessary for a Code Enforcement Officer for the Town. See attached position description.
Commissioner A.C. Hurley discussed whether to hire an employee per hourly basis, or contract the position. General discussion reference the Board reviewing for a month or so and possibly including in the next year's budget.
Commissioner Whatley has completed a copy of the proposed deed agreement and contract for Ray and Vickie Caudle for the old company store building. He will contact the surveyor for a survey of the building without the inclusion of the municipal parking lot, for the final deed.

21-113 ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Finance Officer O'Brien presented the financial report. See attached. Revenues are as expected and large payments for the TTHM grant project have been made with anticipation of reimbursement from the project within a few months. The on-line payment usage is up and this does not require the Town to collect card convenience fees or pay bank fees for the card use.
Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Dunn to accept the financial report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Goodwin. Motion adopted, unanimously.

21-114 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Commissioner Whatley discussed the last few up-dates to the Land Development Ordinance proposed at the last Planning Board meeting. The changes involved clarifying the use of solar panels and their placement and lot sizes for developments. The Piedmont Triad Council of Government should have the required 160-D LDO changes ready in 2 to 4 weeks and we can hold a public hearing on the changes and complete the process by the schedule of July, mandated by the State.

Mayor Conner discussed the recent letter to State Representative McNeill for inclusion in a bill allowing for an exclusion from the 10% cap on annexation. Representative McNeill has added the Town to the bill, and it has passed to committee. Mayor Conner discussed a request for clarification from Harvey Harmen with the Living Well Community in reference to accessory buildings within their development and Mayor Conner reiterated that the Board has approved that the Living Well Community accessory buildings meeting the conditions of a “bona fide farm” have the same exemption from the building code as it would under county zoning.

21-115 PUBLIC SAFETY

Commissioner A. C. Hurley asked that the Mayor discuss with Sheriff Seabolt the speed of Deputies as they come through the Town.

County Commissioner David Allen discussed the reopening of some county offices and the safe reopening of the schools and recreation venues.

21-116 PUBLIC SERVICES

Mayor Conner led discussion on the two proposed projects for the Town. The Townhall/Library project and the Highway 64 water/sewer extension. General discussion on the importance of both to the growth of the Town. General consensus of the Board to pursue the financing for the Highway 64 project first, as it will promote growth and future revenue. A Highway 64 PER (Preliminary Engineering Report) meeting, will be held soon, before an application submittal to the USDA. Commissioner Whatley and Mayor Conner discussed the application timeline for the Library project and the grant for the Storywalk in the park the Librarian is trying to receive. Liberty has installed one with some success.

Finance Officer O'Brien asked the Board to decide if the park shelter could be rented this season and suggested a price increase of 10.00 per event. The cost would go from \$35.00 to \$45.00. Public Works Director Allred agreed to have the shelter and restrooms ready for April 1st rentals. **Motion by Commissioner to approve a rental fee of \$45.00 for the park shelter. Seconded by Mayor pro tem Dunn. Motion adopted, unanimously.**

General discussion reference the possibility of installing another set of steps to the park, closer to the shelter. This should help encourage street side parking. Mayor Conner asked Director Allred to look into the installation costs.

21-117 PUBLIC UTILITIES

Public Works Director Arnold Allred presented his report. See attached. He discussed the Sewer Treatment Plant Licensure Renewal for 2021 and the March 16th deadline for submittal. Director Allred discussed the water loss report for Town and Country mobile home park and Pinecrest mobile home park. The loss fees are

coming closer to the losses with more occupancy of the units. Pinecrest is still lagging because of vacancies in the units, but the loss is much less than previous. Mayor Conner explained the TTHM projects to County Commissioner David Allen. General discussion of the progress of the second project and the completion of the first TTHM project at the Ramseur Water treatment plant. Director Allred discussed his pictures of the project at the Otus Thomas ballfield and the work the department has accomplished. He discussed the dugout replacements. Commissioner Brandon Hurley discussed the start-up of the baseball season in mid-April, with games on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Director Allred showed the used compressor the department bought for \$75.00 and had repairs done of \$800.00. The compressor is now ready for use and can be used for water line bores. Director Allred discussed the contract for the crack filling of the Streets in the mobile home park the Board had previously approved and a timeline for completion. Mr. Allred asked about the budget for the two portalets to be placed in the park and will meet with Finance Officer O'Brien to go over the budget for those units.

21-118 NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Whatley introduced a resolution in support of the Textile Museum and asked that it be approved and sent to our State Representatives and State Senator to show the Town's support for legislation to fund the Textile Museum in the Cedar Falls Plant. **Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Dunn to approve the resolution. Seconded by Commissioner Goodwin. Motion adopted, unanimously.**

21-119 VISITORS COMMENTS

County Commissioner David Allen spoke in favor of the Textile Museum and discussed the Rail trail/greenway that he and his wife have enjoyed. He discussed the county and how it is working through the Covid 19 crisis and the positive resolution of the Randolph Hospital situation. The Board thanked Commissioner Allen and vowed to work with the County on mutual projects.

Commissioner Brandon Hurley ask the Board to please thank Jon Thomas for all his hard work with the Athletic Association and Mayor Pro tem Dunn asked the members to pray for Jon's father, Richard Thomas.

Commissioner A.C. Hurley. motion to Adjourn.

**Seconded by Commissioner Whatley,
Adjourned 8:55 pm.**

Respectfully Submitted

Perry L. Conner, Mayor

Attest: _____

Beverly O'Brien, Finance Officer/Town Clerk