

TOWN BOARD MEETING – REGULAR MEETING

April 6, 2021

Present: Mayor George Holleman
Mayor Pro-Tem Kenny Poole
Councilman Ronnie Robinette
Councilwoman Kimberly Brown
Councilman Jack Simms

The regular meeting was opened for business by Mayor Holleman at 5:30 p.m. The invocation was given by Mr. Edd Elliott. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Simms and seconded by Commissioner Robinette to approve the March 2nd, 2021 regular meeting minutes as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

Open Forum:

There were no comments in open forum.

A motion was made by Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Poole to open the public hearing for the purpose of hearing public comments regarding the proposed name change of the Town Governing Board official salutation from Town Commissioner to Town Council. This is the 2nd public hearing as required by N.C.G.S. 160A-101-102. It is the desire of the Town Governing Board to officially change the formal name from Town Commissioner to Town Councilman/Councilwoman. There were no comments from citizens. The public hearing was closed by a motion from Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Brown.

A motion was made by Commissioner Poole and seconded by Commissioner Simms to approve the adoption of Resolution to Amend the Town Charter by Ordinance for the purpose of officially changing the Town Board Governing name from Town Commissioner to Town Councilman/Councilwoman. The motion was passed unanimously. See attachment A, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes herein.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown and seconded by Councilman Simms to open the public hearing for the purpose of hearing citizen input regarding a conditional use permit 21-2 Heritage Woods. The conditional use permit is up for re-application; being previously approved in 2018 and 2020. The owner John Walser and the applicant –Southern Properties and Development, LLC, who has the property under contract, wishes to construct a multi-family development on the 7.36 acres. It is proposed to build a multi-family residential planned development consisting of 3 buildings consisting of 56 units and a one story community building. The development will depend on certain government tax incentives in order to construct the proposed 8.6 million dollar project and those funding incentives have not been previously approved which has caused the application to have to be re-applied for and delayed construction. All previous conditions of approval remain the same. Joey Russell, Southern Development was present to answer any questions. Seth Harris, Alexander County Planning & Zoning was also present to answer any questions. No comments from citizens were heard. A motion was made by Councilman Robinette and seconded by Councilman Poole to close the

public hearing.

A motion was made by Councilman Robinette and seconded by Councilwoman Brown to approve the conditional use permit 21-2 for Heritage Woods. The motion was passed unanimously. See attachment B, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes herein.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown and seconded by Councilman Simms to approve the attached budget amendments for the general fund. The motion was passed unanimously. See attachment C, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes herein.

A motion was made by Councilman Poole and seconded by Councilman Robinette to approve the attached budget transfers for the general fund. The motion was passed unanimously. See attachment D, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes herein.

A motion was made by Councilman Simms and seconded by Councilwoman Brown to approve the attached budget amendments and transfers for the water & sewer fund. The motion was passed unanimously. See attachment E, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes herein.

Doug Bowman, Police Chief, noted that a high priority case happened recently at Wal-Mart where an employee was secretly peeping under women's skirts with a tiny camera. Hildebrand Accounting was recently broken into. The suspect was caught with the help of social media and the school resource officer Chasity Hamby. There was a sexual assault reported at New Life Church and the victim was under 16 years old. The radio grant has been awarded but the funding has not been dispersed yet.

David Odom, Town Manager stated that the Town received 17 inches of rain since January 2021 which hits our system with surface water. We have had unprecedented rainfall and storms which have created havoc on our infrastructure. Aaron Wike has assumed some of the duties of former Public Works Director David Robinette. We hope to have the inmates back within the next 2 weeks. The farmer's market & yard sales will be allowed back at the old hospital parking lot. It is suggested to open Matheson Park for use & reservations once again. There will be a dumpster placed at the park for garbage collection and will need weekend staff to handle trash removal from the park once it opens again.

By unanimous decision, a budget and planning work shop will be held on Tuesday April 27th from 10 to 12 noon in the council chambers.

The next regular scheduled meeting will be May 4th, 2021 at 5:30 pm.

A motion was made by Councilman Robinette and seconded by Councilwoman Brown to enter into closed session as permitted by N.C.G.S.143-318. A personnel issue was discussed but no action was taken. The Town Manager is to discuss the issues with the employee. A motion was made by Councilman Robinette and seconded by Councilman Poole to exit closed session and return to regular session. The motion was passed unanimously.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor

Councilman

Councilman

Councilwoman

Councilman

Attest: _____
Yolanda T. Prince, Town Clerk