

## **TOWN BOARD MEETING – REGULAR MEETING**

May 3, 2022

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

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

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown and seconded by Councilman Simms to add the following changes to the agenda.

7. Resolution – Permanently closing 1 block of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street

7a. Outside sewer tap request

8.4 –Resolution accepting ARPA funds

The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown and seconded by Councilman Simms to approve the April 5th, 2022 regular meeting minutes and the April 21<sup>st</sup> Special Called meeting minutes as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

Open Forum:

There were no comments in open forum.

A voluntary annexation request from Jeffery & Barbara Collamore was received for their vacant land consisting of .60 acres located on 7<sup>th</sup> Street. All information has been reviewed by the Town Clerk and she has declared that all is sufficient for the voluntary contiguous annexation to proceed. A motion was made by Councilman Poole and seconded by Councilman Robinette to adopt a Resolution to set a public hearing for May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 5:30 for the purpose of discussion and action regarding the voluntary contiguous annexation request received from Jeffery & Barbara Collamore. 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 Councilman Robinette and seconded by Councilwoman Brown to open the public hearing for discussion of action to permanently close 1 block of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street SW between the Alexander County Public Services building and the new Courthouse Park in order to create additional parking. The street was recently resurfaced at a cost to the Town of \$24,000.00. All costs to convey the property to Alexander County would be the sole responsibility of the county, including but not limited to all advertising and legal fees associated with conveying the property from the Town to the County. No citizens, property owners nor groups placed any objections to the closure. All adjacent property is owned by Alexander County. It will be up to Alexander County to determine the flow of traffic once the block is closed. No other comments or discussion occurred. A motion was made by Councilman Robinette and seconded by Councilman Simms to close the public hearing.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown and seconded by Councilman Simms to adopt a Resolution permanently closing 1 block of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street SW at the intersection of Main Street and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to the North and the intersection of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Main Ave. Dr. SE. 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 Robinette to approve the outside water & sewer tap request from Zach Price for a 1.68 acre lot located at Shannon Park Circle. Outside rates for water & sewer taps would apply. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Simms and seconded by Councilwoman Brown to approve amending the FY budget for the purpose of receipting in the FEMA reimbursement from the November 2021 storms in the amount of \$5,411.86. This was for damages incurred at the Urgent Care building. 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 Councilwoman Brown and seconded by Councilman Robinette to approve the amendment to the American Recovery Fund showing the entire amount to be funded of \$688,067.79 and for \$293,233.89 to be transferred to W&S dept. public works salaries. 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 Councilwoman Brown and seconded by Councilman Simms to approve the adoption of a Resolution accepting the ARPA funding of \$1,205,130.00 for the construction of the Wastewater System Reliability Improvements Project to address reliability/capacity issues at the Paul Payne pump station and to replace equipment at the wastewater treatment plant. The motion was passed unanimously. See attachment E, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes herein.

Police Dept. Report: Chief Doug Bowman

Chief Bowman noted that an audit was conducted by NC Training & Standards in April 2022. No deficiencies were found in the department. Lieutenant Tyler Land is resigning to take a position in the private sector. This will be a blow to the department losing his experience level.

Utility Manager Report: Aaron Wike

Manager Wike mentioned that the Lewitties pump station had major problems recently. One pump went out & the other pump couldn't keep up. A diesel generator has been leased to help as a backup until the 2 pumps can be re-built in Charlotte & re-installed.

Town Manager Report: David Odom

Manager Odom noted that the Alexander County park dedication will be Sunday May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Mayor Holleman mentioned that County Manager Rick French has some serious health concerns.

A motion was made by Councilman Robinette and seconded by Councilwoman Brown to schedule the next regular meeting for May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 5:30 pm and to also schedule a public hearing for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the proposed FY budget for 2022-2023. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Robinette and seconded by Councilwoman Brown to set a

public hearing and schedule May 24, 2022 as the 1<sup>st</sup> reading for the proposed FY 2022-2023 proposed budget and to move the regular June meeting to June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and to schedule a public hearing for the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the FY 2022-2023 proposed budget. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown and seconded by Councilman Simms to enter into closed session regarding personnel issues as permitted by N.C.G.S. #143.318.1.1 The motion was passed unanimously.

Town Attorney Karen Bryckcy spoke before the Town Council. The first issue was the Solar Project and the contractor Petra, who has filed for bankruptcy and legal options for completing the solar energy project. The second issue was regarding personnel matters. She mentioned that all personnel matters reside solely with the Town Manager and cautioned on having any discussion or conversations with anyone even hearsay regarding any personnel matters of the town or town employees either past or present.

No other business was discussed. A motion was made by Councilman Simms and seconded by Councilman Poole to exit the closed session and return to the regular meeting. The motion was passed unanimously.

With no other business, a motion was made by Councilman Poole and seconded by Councilwoman Brown to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 pm. The motion was passed unanimously.

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Mayor

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Councilman

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Councilman

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Councilman

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Councilman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Yolanda T. Prince, Town Clerk