

TOWN BOARD MEETING – REGULAR MEETING

August 4, 2020

Present: Mayor George Holleman
Mayor Pro-Tem Kenny Poole
Commissioner Ronnie Robinette
Commissioner Jack Simms

Absent: Commissioner Kimberly Brown

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Poole and seconded by Commissioner Robinette to approve the June 16, 2020 regular meeting minutes and work session minutes as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

Open Forum:

Carolina Land & Lakes, Firewise Project Manager, Christina Newhouse gave a narrative on how to reduce wildfire risks in the home ignition zone. She states that the first 5 feet around a home is the most vulnerable to wildfire. In most areas, home assessments can be done at no charge through the local forestry agency. It is best to create a defensible space around homes. For example, remove dead leaves or debris from around the home or under trees, keep tree branches trimmed away so they do not overhang the home, and remove mulch and replace with non-combustible products such as crushed stone & gravel and maintain vegetation around the home annually. There is also an Energy Cap Program which consists of cost-share dollars of 25% on energy projects that farms & rural businesses might need. She distributed pamphlets and informational materials and will be visiting and assessing neighborhoods and areas around Taylorsville.

Mayor Holleman mentioned that the Mountain Wood apartment complex has rehabbed its 40 units recently. He urged people to contact their state representatives regarding the COVID-19 pandemic and stimulus bill; Tom Tillis 1-336-885-0685; Richard Burr -800-685-8916; Virginia Fox 828-265-0240. The NC Housing Finance Agency has over 200,000 for urgent repairs for housing. He mentioned a walking trail will be constructed from Lenoir Rhyne College to Lake Hickory. He would like to see a trail from Matheson Park to Wal-Mart.

Charles Coxon spoke before the Town Board asking about the trash cans around town and how they can be emptied more regularly since the town has lost the inmate help under the COVID-19 pandemic. He was assured that they will be emptied more regularly by town staff.

There were no other comments.

A motion was made by Commissioner Poole and seconded by Commissioner Robinette to approve the short form contract for service agreement between the Town of Taylorsville and Happy Ours Laundry LLC owned by Tommy & Dana Baldwin. It is a 1 year specific services agreement which benefits the citizens of the Town of Taylorsville because urgent needs of the local population are being provided. In exchange for 12 months of operation a one-time payment of \$7,000.00 will be made to Happy Ours Laundry as a utility incentive. The motion was passed

unanimously

The Linney's Mountain Water Project is now complete. New grass will be spread this fall. The residents are glad for the new improved water pressure. 4th & 5th Avenue are now connected along with Beulah Church and now the fire hydrants are operational.

A motion was made by Commissioner Simms and seconded by Commissioner Robinette to approve the budget amendments and transfers for the FY 2019-2020. The motion was passed unanimously. See attachment A, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes.

David Robinette, Public Works Department noted that the yearly compliance inspection for the collection system was completed recently. All other yearly reports have been filed as required.

Doug Bowman, Police Chief commended the actions of Officer Mike Millsaps praying and Gordon Knight recently performing CPR on a person in front of Goodwill.

David Odom, Town Manager noted that over 15 years ago, the Town had 26 full-time employees and now we are down to 17. He stated that we will continue to spread the duties out among existing employee's, there are no plans to hire full-time employees at this time. Due to COVID-19, the inmate work program is shut down. We are doing the best we can with what we have. The grand opening of the Happy Ours Coin Laundry is scheduled for Monday, August 10th at 3:00 pm. With Phase II still in effect, and the NC State Fair & the Woolly Worm festivals cancelled, there will be no flea markets or yard sales held at the old hospital parking lot. We are thankful to have the farmer's market. 8.5% of the utility customers are delinquent on their bills. We will start disconnections again effective August 15th.

By unanimous consent, a work shop is scheduled for September 9th at 11:00 am

A motion was made by Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Poole to schedule the next meeting for September 1st, 2020 at 5:30 pm.

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

Mayor

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Attest: _____
Yolanda T. Prince, Town Clerk