

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

November 3, 2020

Present: Mayor George Holleman  
Mayor Pro-Tem Kenny Poole  
Commissioner Ronnie Robinette  
Commissioner Jack Simms  
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 Simms and seconded by Commissioner Brown to add the following changes to the agenda. Addition of 4a ABC report. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Simms and seconded by Commissioner Brown to approve the October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 regular meeting minutes as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

Open Forum:

There were no comments.

Jeff Bronnenberg with the Catawba County ABC Board presented a report on the Taylorsville ABC Store location. The FY 19-20 distribution was up 26%. Distributions for this year were \$94,000. Sales for the store fell just short of \$1.5 million dollars for the year. Sales this year in comparison to 2016 were up 50%. Mr. Bronnenberg commented that building space is becoming an issue as they work towards increasing sales even more. They would like to have more shelf space to offer a larger variety to customers and need more storage space to keep stock on hand.

Mayor Holleman opened a public hearing for comments on amendments to the cemetery policy.

David Odom, Town Manager gave an overview of the proposed changes to the cemetery that other than cemetery lot price increases hasn't been changed since 1994. Changes include a reduction in price for outside town residence rates from \$2,000 to \$1,500. A cremation section was added to the policy but at this time there isn't a section designated for cremations in the cemetery. Details and regulations for burials, heirship, disinterment, floral arrangements, and general regulations were updated giving staff better guidelines to go by.

No other comments made. Mayor Holleman closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Poole to amend the cemetery policy. The motion was passed unanimously. See Attachment A

Mayor Holleman opened a public hearing for speed limits in town subdivisions.

Douglas Bowman, Chief of Police, gave the recommendation that if the Town Council chose to

change the speed limit, to reduce it to 25 mph. Most subdivisions are streets with no outlets so the people driving on the streets are residence of the subdivision. Currently the ordinance reads that the speed limit in all R-1 Residential Districts shall be 25 mph but there are some subdivisions now that are in R-2 and R-3 zoning districts. He suggested that if a change was made, to consider changing it for all residential areas to help with future speeding complaints.

Commissioner Robinette suggested that all residential area speed limits be set to 25mph.

No other comments were made. Mayor Holleman closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Brown to set the speed limit in all named and unnamed residential subdivisions to 25 mph. The motion was passed unanimously.

Mayor Holleman opened a public hearing for changes to the tree ordinance.

David Odom, Town Manager, addressed the Council and citizens about changes to the current tree ordinance in regards to the tree board, insurance requirements for arborists and tree workers, and the large tree category of the ordinance. Currently the tree board is comprised of 7 members, who are residents of the town, and serve varying terms. Recommendation from Council members during the January 21, 2020 work session were to reduce the board to 3 members all servicing for a term of 3 years and appointed by Mayor with the approval of the Town Board of Commissioners. It was recommended that all arborists and anyone else who works on trees be required to carry liability insurance of at least \$350,000 for bodily injury and \$1,000,000 for property damage. The current requirements are \$50,000 for bodily injury and \$100,000 for property damage. The last recommendation was that any work requested to be done on trees that fall into the large tree category be approved by the Town Board of Commissioners.

No other comments were made. Mayor Holleman closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Commissioner Poole and seconded by Commissioner Brown to adopt the changes to the tree ordinance as presented by Manager Odom. The motion was passed unanimously. See Attachment B

A motion was made by Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Simms to amend the project budget ordinance for the 2018 Wastewater Treatment Plant Project back to the original budget adopted in 2018 when the plan was first presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Poole and seconded by Commissioner Robinette to approve a budget transfer of \$32,000 from Water & Sewer Capital Outlay to Water & Sewer System Maintenance for storm related expenses and repairs to wastewater pump stations. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Simms and seconded by Commissioner Brown to amend

the Town of Taylorsville Personnel Policy regarding unused sick leave to mirror the State of North Carolina's current policy. The motion was passed unanimously. See attachment C

A motion was made by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioner Poole to approve a contract dated July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 with Greg W. Isley, CPA, PA for accounting services to assist with year end bookkeeping and journal entries to ensure the town is prepared for our year end audit. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Simms and seconded by Commissioner Robinette to surplus two 2008 Ford Crown Victorias Vin numbers 2FAFP91V18X172131, 2FAFP71V38X100704, one 2009 Ford Crown Victoria Vin number 2FAHP71V79X118312, two Panasonic Toughbook computers, and retired Chief, Dennis James', sidearm, a Glock 17 9mm serial number BARD557. The motion was passed unanimously.

David Robinette, Public Works Director reported that the department has been very busy for the last week cleaning up the damage left behind by the hurricane. He also noted that there have been several calls about the tree that was blown down during the hurricane on School Drive. That is a NCDOT street and they are waiting on Duke Power to disconnect the power from the line that is tangled up in the tree to ensure worker's safety while removing the tree. David Odom has made numerous calls trying to speed up the process of the cleanup of the tree.

David Odom, Town Manager noted that the town has received a notice of violation & intent to issue civil penalty by the NCDEQ for a wastewater spill that was self-reported by the town on September 17, 2020 at the Paul Payne lift station. The overflow was a product of over 2.5 inches of rain we had received in a short time period from the remnants of Hurricane Sally. It is unclear yet what the fine will be or if we will receive one, but we done everything we could do giving the circumstances.

A motion was made by Commissioner Simms and seconded by Commissioner Brown to enter into closed session to discuss a personnel issue. The motion was approved unanimously. Discussion was held regarding an early retirement and the law enforcement separation allowance that will be due upon retirement. Permission was given to the Town Manager and Town Attorney to negotiate an acceptable amount and report back to the Town Board for further discussion. No other matters or actions were discussed or taken. A motion was made by Commissioner Poole, and seconded by Commissioner Robinette to return to the regular meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Simms and seconded by Commissioner Brown to schedule the next meeting for December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 at 5:30 pm.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.

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Mayor

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Commissioner

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Commissioner

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Commissioner

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Commissioner

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