

TOWN BOARD MEETING – REGULAR MEETING

August 3rd, 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 invitation was given by Councilman Simms. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

A motion was made by Councilman Simms and seconded by Councilman Poole to approve the June 15th, 2021 regular meeting minutes as presented and the agenda. The motion was passed unanimously.

Open Forum:

Mayor Holleman stated that the NCDOT is out of money for road projects. The project on Hwy 16 in Catawba County will be completed but the Hwy 321 project in Caldwell County will be postponed. The WPCOG is offering vouchers for the homeless, but the supply is limited. They also have got new funding for residential housing emergency repairs. Citizens can apply for either of these at the WPCOG. He also mentioned that a new weather radar was being installed that will better detect storms in our area that were being missed by the current radar.

No other comments were heard.

A motion was made by Councilman Robinette and seconded by Councilman Poole to approve the year end budget amendments totaling \$108,000.00 for General Fund for FY 2020-2021. The motion was passed unanimously. See attachment A, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes.

A motion was made by Councilman Poole and seconded by Councilman Robinette to approve the year end budget amendments totaling \$146,700.00 for Water & Sewer Fund for FY 2020-2021. The motion was passed unanimously. See attachment B, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes.

A motion was made by Councilman Simms and seconded by Councilman Robinette to approve the budget amendment for FY 2021-2022 totaling \$130,000.00 for the police department for the purpose of transferring to the NC League of Municipalities. The motion was passed unanimously. See attachment C, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes.

A motion was made by Councilman Poole and seconded by Councilman Simms to approve a short form contract agreement with Withers Ravenel PLLC for a water and sewer system financial viability analysis for a fee of \$11,600.00. The motion was passed unanimously. The official copy of the contract will be retained in the Town Clerk's office for reference.

A motion was made by Councilman Simms and seconded by Councilman Robinette to surplus 15 Glock 21 45 caliber pistols, 1 Bolt Action Remington 700, and 8 12 gauge shotguns and ammunition from the police department. The trade in value for these items through Duncan's Gun Shop is \$10,025.00. The motion was passed unanimously. Details and serial numbers for these items can be found in the surplus item file located in town hall.

A motion was made by Councilman Poole and seconded by Councilman Simms to approve a budget amendment receipting in grant reimbursement funds in the amount of \$24,500.00 for 7 new handheld Motorola radios for the police department. The motion was passed unanimously.

Chief Douglas Bowman stated that the radios received through the grant funding were now in use. He also stated that he had received a complaint about vehicles speeding through Northwood Park. He drove through the area and noted the need for a couple more speed limit signs. With the added signage and extra patrol, he hoped to have the issue resolved.

Public Utilities Manager Aaron Wike informed the council of the meeting he had with Duke Energy regarding the large project they are beginning in the town and county. The project is projected to take 2 years and will cause traffic issues on West Main Avenue due to the road being closed during the hours in which they work.

Town Manager David Odom added to Aaron's report that due to the project Duke Energy is undertaking, he would advise delaying the Christmas light upgrade project until Duke Energy's work is complete. He also informed the council of a new insurance claim that was started due to damages from a lightning strike at the WWTP.

A motion was made by Councilman Robinette and seconded by Councilwoman Brown to enter into closed session to discuss legal, contractual and personnel issues as permitted by N.C.G.S.143-318.11(4)(8). The motion was passed unanimously.

NC League of Municipalities Attorney Patrick Flannigan recommended to the Town Council that after mediation between the employee and town manager and his representation of the League, that a settlement be reached between all parties. No action was taken in closed session

A motion was made by Councilman Poole and seconded by Councilwoman Brown to exit closed session and return to the regular meeting.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown and seconded by Councilman Poole to accept a settlement between the employee and the town with the NC League administering the settlement.

The next regular scheduled meeting will be September 7th, 2021 at 5:30 pm.

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

Mayor

Councilman

Councilman

Councilwoman

Councilman

Attest: _____
Yolanda T. Prince, Town Clerk