

01/19/22

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Wade met in regular session January 11, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. at the Clayton (Sam) House Community Center due to COVID-19 meeting restrictions and to allow for social distancing.

Board Present

Mayor Joseph Dixon
Commissioner Johnny Lanthorn
Commissioner George Strater
Commissioner Jennifer Weaver

Board Absent

Commissioner Johnny Sawyer
Commissioner Kevin Herring

Visitors

Town Attorney Thomas Neville

Mayor Pro Tempore George Strater called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

Agenda Adoption

Mayor Dixon made a motion seconded by Commissioner Lanthorn to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

Commissioner Lanthorn made a motion seconded by Mayor Dixon to approve the Minutes of the December 14, 2021 regular session. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Reports

Board Members reviewed the Reports and Commissioner Lanthorn made a motion to approve the Reports as presented. Mayor Dixon seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Water Department

Board Members reviewed and discussed the report. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett explained that the large unaccounted-for percentage was due to the water tank overflowing on three different occasions. She informed the Board after a small delay; the necessary repairs were complete. Mayor Dixon made a motion seconded by Commissioner Lanthorn to approve the Report as presented. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Lanthorn stated that there had been reports of the Genx chemical being found in wells just outside Town. He suggested that this issue be brought to the attention of Envirolink to see if the Town needed to do its own testing.

Agenda Business Items

Speakers from the Floor

Mayor Pro Tempore Strater informed the Board that no one had signed up to address the Board under the Speakers from the Floor agenda item.

Committee Reports

Beautification – Commissioner Lanthorn stated that because of the time of year there was not any activity to report regarding beautification.

Park – Mayor Dixon reported that there were some limbs down and that the maintenance employees would be working on getting leaves up now that the holidays were over.

Streets – Mayor Dixon reported that overall, the streets were in good shape.

Committee Assignments for the 2021-2023 Term of Office

Mayor Dixon stated that he had been giving consideration to the committees that were needed for the new term. He then appointed Board Members to the following committee appointments:

Park – Commissioners Lanthorn & Mayor Dixon

Streets – Commissioners Strater & Mayor Dixon

Beautification – Commissioner Weaver

Mayor Dixon stated that he would like to talk to Commissioners Herring & Sawyer prior to making any additional appointments. He stated that this issue could be addressed at the Board's February meeting. He asked that Board Members ride around Town to see what was going on and what was needed.

Plans/Goals for 2021-2023 Term

Commissioner Lanthorn stated that he would like to form a committee comprised of citizens from the north, south, east & west areas of Town to get opinions on what citizens think they would like to see in Town or what was needed. He stated that Commissioners could submit a name of someone they would like to see on the citizens' advisory group and that the Board could service as liaisons to the group.

Commissioner Strater stated that he would like for the Board to somehow get the churches more involved in activities and in attending meetings. He suggested that someone could attend Board meetings to represent the churches.

Commissioner Weaver stated that with new development coming, the Board needed to make people more aware of Town activities and opportunities. The Board held a general discussion about how to get people involved. Mayor Dixon stated that for many of the Town events more people from outside Town attended than actual citizens from the Town. Commissioner Weaver suggested getting the schools more involved with programs such as the terrific kid. Mayor Dixon stated that the Town had been working with District 7 for many years; however, for the last couple of years due to COVID things had changed. Commissioner Weaver also suggested using social media such as the Town's website and Facebook to reach people and keep them informed. Commissioner Weaver stated that it may be as simple as just posting random pictures of people and things around Town.

Commissioner Weaver offered to help with keeping the social media sites updated.

Mayor Dixon stated that he was open to any ideas as to how to get people more involved.

Mayor Dixon asked what projects the Board would like to pursue. He explained that he had reached out to a couple of Senators about projects in Wade and through this communication the Town was awarded a \$50,000 grant to be used to complete the multi-

purpose field at the Park. He also informed the Board that he and Town Clerk Cindy Burchett had a meeting scheduled with representatives from the Mid-Carolina Council of Governments to discuss this grant and other issues. Commissioner Lanthorn questioned the funding for the grant as well as funding from Parks & Recreations. There was a general discussion of this issue. Commissioner Lanthorn also stated that in regard to the American Rescue Act Funds that if the Town could not find a practical project that would benefit the citizens of Wade, then perhaps the funds should be returned. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett stated that she was trying to get additional information from the Institute of Government as to what the funds could or could not be spent for. She suggested that if it was an allowable expenditure that the Board consider installing an additional well with the funds. There was a general discussion of the issue and Board Members agreed that with the potential growth for the Town that this would be a great infrastructure project.

Commissioner Weaver questioned the status of the zero-lot line issue. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett explained that the meeting that was planned with Mid-Carolina would be the beginning of the process to remove zero lot line from the Town's Subdivision Ordinance. Commissioner Weaver also stressed that she wanted the Board to closely monitor the plans for the Eagle's Bluff subdivision to make sure that the developer met all the Town's requirements and requests. Mayor Dixon asked Board Members to continue to think about projects or issues they would like to address.

Mileage Reimbursement Rate

Commissioner Lanthorn made a motion to approve the 2022 IRS Mileage Reimbursement Rate of .58 ½ -cent per mile. Mayor Dixon seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Founder's Day

Mayor Dixon informed the Board that Mr. Hubert Bullard had called inquiring if the Town was going to have Founder's Day. Mayor Dixon stated that many other places were doing events; however, he was a little apprehensive about having the event due to the recent spike in the COVID rate. He stated that the Town could hold the event requiring masking. He explained that he would like for the Town to have the event, but he was going to need help in getting things organized. Commissioner Strater stated that this would go back to community involvement so that volunteers could help. Mayor Dixon stated that in years past more volunteers and organizations from outside the Town helped than those inside Town. He asked the Board to consider what type of events they would like to have for Founder's Day. Commissioner Weaver asked about changing the date. Mayor Dixon stated that Mr. Bullard mentioned that the date for the event had already been established in people's minds. Commissioner Weaver expressed interest in holding the event. There was a general discussion concerning Founder's Day and it was agreed that work would begin on planning Founder's Day for June 4, 2022.

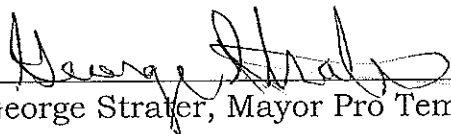
Announcements

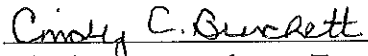
There were no announcements.

Adjournment

Commissioner Lanthorn made a motion seconded by Commissioner Weaver to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.


George Strafer, Mayor Pro Tempore


Cindy C. Burchett, Town Clerk