

01/18/24

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Wade met in regular session January 11, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. at the Wade Town Hall. The January 9, 2024 regular session was rescheduled due to inclement weather.

Board Present

Mayor Johnny Lanthorn
Commissioner Jennifer Weaver
Commissioner Kevin Herring
Commissioner Beth Ritchie
Commissioner Johnny Sawyer
Commissioner Huell Aekins

Visitors

2 Wade Citizens

Mayor Lanthorn called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance

Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

Board Introductions

Mayor Lanthorn asked that for the start of the new term that each Board Member formally introduce themselves.

Agenda Adoption

Commissioner Sawyer made a motion seconded by Commissioner Herring to adopt the Agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

Commissioner Herring made a motion seconded by Commissioner Sawyer to approve the Minutes of the December 12, 2023 regular session. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Reports

Board Members reviewed the Reports and Commissioner Sawyer made a motion to approve the Reports as presented. Commissioner Aekins seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett explained that the General Fund expenses increased due to the purchase of the land adjacent to the Park and the quarterly payment of property taxes to the Wade Community Fire Department.

Water Department

Board Members reviewed the December Water Report. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett explained that this report was for the November water usage and so the increased unaccounted-for percentage was due to the water line break at the main Park well. Commissioner Sawyer made a motion seconded by Commissioner Herring to approve the Report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Business Items

Speakers from the Floor

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

Cumberland County Community Development Presentation

Mayor Lanthorn explained that Mrs. Dee Taylor from Community Development was unable to attend the meeting since the original meeting date was changed because of the weather. He explained that she would reschedule her presentation for a future meeting.

Committee Assignments for the 2023-2025 Term of Office

Mayor Lanthorn explained that each Board Member would be assigned to a Committee to address different aspects of the Town. He stated that the Committees were for the Park, Streets and Beautification of the Town. Mayor Lanthorn asked Board Members where they would like to serve the Town. There was a general discussion and the following Committee assignments were established:

Park – Commissioners Weaver & Ritchie

Streets – Commissioners Sawyer, Herring & Aekins

Beautification – Commissioners Weaver & Ritchie.

Plans/Goals for 2023-2025 Term

Board Members held a general discussion concerning various projects and ideas that they would like to accomplish. Commissioner Weaver expressed interest in pursuing the annexation of the new home of Shivraj Bansal on Wade Stedman Rd. as well as the Lucky 7 Truckstop. There was a discussion concerning the adjacent properties.

Commissioner Sawyer stated that he would like for the Board to monitor closely the development of the Wellons subdivision to make sure that all aspects of the development, especially the streets, were built according to Town standards. Commissioner Weaver reminded the Board that the Town received a verbal promise of a fence on Clara St. and a beautification easement on Wade Stedman Rd. She stated that it was important that these two items be included in future plans/maps for this development.

Commissioner Aekins stated that he was concerned with the appearance of many of the properties in Town and expressed a desire to work with the County to correct the problem. Commissioner Aekins also stated that he would like the 2-year term for the Council to be changed to a 4-year staggered term to eliminate the problems created by electing all 5 Commissioners at one time.

Mayor Lanthorn stated that he wanted to meet with Parks & Recreation director Michael Gibson about getting the multi-purpose field project completed as well as getting assistance with tree removal and other park projects.

Preventative Maintenance Contract/Monitoring System for Generators

Mayor Lanthorn stated that proposals had been received from Premier Power Generation for maintaining and monitoring the newly installed generators. He stated that he felt that for preventative maintenance having the generators checked once a year would be sufficient. Mayor Lanthorn also explained that monitoring would be a good idea. He

stated that initially because of the installation of the equipment the cost would be greater but the yearly fee after that would only be \$537.00. He informed the Board that the monitoring would allow the Town to get notified that the generators were in use through text or email. He stated that this would also let staff know that the chemicals should be monitored. There was a general discussion concerning getting other estimates and the fact that Premier Power installed the generators and had vast knowledge of how they worked with the Town's water system. Following the discussion, Commissioner Herring made a motion to approve the proposal from Premier Power Generation for annual preventative maintenance and also the proposal for monitoring for the initial cost and future monitoring costs. Commissioner Sawyer seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Mileage Reimbursement Rate

Board Members reviewed the IRS information and Commissioner Sawyer made a motion to approve the 2024 IRS Mileage Reimbursement Rate of .67-cent per mile. Commissioner Ritchie seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Announcements

Commissioner Ritchie stated that she attended a meeting each month that included a NCDOT representative where she learned about pending projects as well as updates on existing projects. She stated that the meeting was for Fayetteville Area Economic Development and that she would get information to Town Clerk Cindy Burchett in case other Board Members would like to attend to do some networking.

Commissioner Aekins stated that he was back on the Board learning again. He stated that he was very interested in the items that the Board had already discussed. He also expressed an interest in getting Mt. Olive FWB Church annexed into the Town of Wade especially regarding water service.

Commissioner Weaver stated that even though it was January, the Board needed to start thinking about and preparing for Founder's Day. Mayor Lanthorn stated that he would like to form a committee to oversee the event that would be kept separate from the Board. He asked that consideration be given to when the first meeting should be scheduled. She also stated that she would like the Town to consider having an event for Easter possibly involving the area churches. Commissioner Weaver also stated that she felt that the Board needed to reach out to District 7 School to get the students involved in Town events.

Adjournment

Commissioner Sawyer made a motion seconded by Commissioner Herring to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.



Johnny Lanthorn, Mayor



Cindy C. Burchett, Town Clerk