

03/19/24

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Wade met in regular session March 12, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. at the Wade Town Hall.

**Board Present**

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

**Visitors**

Mr. Thomas Neville, Town Attorney  
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.

**Agenda Adoption**

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

**Minutes**

Commissioner Sawyer made a motion seconded by Commissioner Aekins to approve the Minutes of the February 13, 2024 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 Ritchie seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**Water Department**

Board Members reviewed the Report and discussed the unaccounted-for water percentage. Commissioner Aekins made a motion to approve the February Water Report as presented. Commissioner Herring seconded the motion and 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.

### **Brief From Cumberland County Commissioner Marshall Faircloth**

Mayor Lanthorn informed the Board that Commissioner Faircloth was not in attendance.

### **Committee Reports**

**Beautification** – Mayor Lanthorn stated that once the weather changed beautification projects such as planting flowers at the Park could be started.

**Park** - Mayor Lanthorn informed the Board that he had contacted Parks & Recreation about cleaning up a tree that was down at the Park. Commissioner Sawyer questioned if Parks & Recreation had made any progress on the projects and issues that were discussed at prior meetings. Mayor Lanthorn stated that the only work completed by Parks & Recreation was clearing some of the debris at the Park. He also stated that Mr. Michael Gibson had assured him that work on the multi-purpose field would begin before spring. Commissioner Weaver questioned the status of the purchase of a Mommy & Me swing using the funds raised at Founder's Day. She explained that this type of swing would benefit parents with smaller children & handicapped children. Mayor Lanthorn stated that Parks & Recreation had plans to replace the entire swing set. There was a general discussion concerning this issue and the possibility of Parks & Recreation supplying the swing. Commissioner Weaver also stated that the Founder's Day funds could be used to install the community bulletin board, or little library at the Park.

**Streets** – Commissioner Sawyer stated that the streets were in good condition. Commissioner Aekins that he thought that yield signs needed to be installed at Second St. & Smith St. as well as Third St. & Smith St. He also stated some type of signage needed to be put at Third St. & McKeithan St. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett stated that she would discuss this issue with the maintenance employees.

### **Town Hall Maintenance**

Mayor Lanthorn explained that there were three estimates for the proposed project. Board Members reviewed & compared estimates for the painting of the Town Hall & gazebo. The Board discussed the specifications of each estimate and compared the difference in the details of the work and pricing. It was agreed that none of the estimates included repairs to the Town Hall or gazebo. There was a general discussion concerning the contractors. Following discussion, it was agreed that more clarification was needed for the estimates. Mayor Lanthorn agreed to contact JP Construction & Maintenance regarding additional explanation of his estimate. Board Members also agreed to contact Donnie Lee to get an estimate for the repairs to go along with the estimate from Steves Paint Company. Commissioner Sawyer made a motion to table action on the estimates until additional clarification and an estimate for the repairs could be received. Commissioner Herring seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

### **2024 Founder's Day**

Commissioner Weaver informed the Board that she had contacted Cumberland County Schools who assured her that they would be a vendor. She also stated that she was working with the Cumberland County Library to secure them as a vendor, and they may be able to issue library cards. She also questioned whether or not electricity should be provided by the Town for the vendors. There was a general discussion

concerning this issue. Board Members also discussed who would contact other vendors. Mayor Lanthorn stated that he had found someone to handle the car show, but he needed contact information for someone that could work with the tractor show. There was a general discussion regarding raffle drawings and possible stage entertainers. Board Members agreed to have a Founder's Day meeting March 18, 2024 at 7:00 PM. Mayor Lanthorn asked Board Members to invite potential volunteers to the meeting as well.

**Announcements**

Commissioner Aekins questioned if the Board would like to consider changing the term of office for the Board to staggered 4-years terms. Board Members discussed the issue. Town Attorney Thomas Neville stated that this standard was set by the Town Charter and would require the Charter to be changed. He stated that he would research the matter.

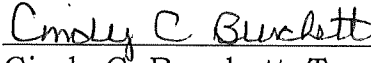
Commissioner Weaver reminded the Board that there had been discussion about the Board attending the meetings of the County Commissioners to make the Town of Wade's presence known. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett stated that the meetings were held the first Monday of each month at 9:00 AM and the third Monday of the month at 6:45 PM. She also suggested resurrecting the end of the year awards for District 7 School. She stressed that this was important because the school was a part of the community and needed support. She stated that the teachers also needed all the support that they could get as well. Board Members held a general discussion of the issue.

**Adjournment**

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

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

  
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Johnny Lanthorn, Mayor

  
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Cindy C. Burchett, Town Clerk