

06/18/24

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Wade held a public hearing June 11, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. at the Wade Town Hall for the purpose of receiving public comment on the 2024-2025 budget.

Board Present

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

Visitors

Town Attorney Thomas Neville
4 Wade Citizens

Mayor Lanthorn called the public hearing to order, and Commissioner Herring opened with prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Agenda Adoption

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

2024-2025 Budget

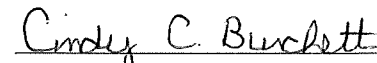
Board Members reviewed the Budget information and held a general discussion. Mayor Lanthorn informed the Board that no one had signed up to speak for or against the proposed 2024-2025 budget. There were no comments.

Adjournment

Commissioner Herring made a motion to adjourn the public hearing. Commissioner Aekins seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.



Johnny Lanthorn, Mayor



Cindy C. Burchett, Town Clerk

06/18/2024

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Wade met in regular session June 11, 2024 following the adjournment of the budget public hearing.

Mayor Lanthorn called the regular session to order.

Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance

Board Members reviewed the proposed 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance. There was no discussion. Commissioner Herring made a motion to adopt the 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance as presented. Commissioner Ritchie seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

Commissioner Aekins made a motion seconded by Commissioner Herring to approve the Minutes of the May 14, 2024 regular session. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Reports

Board Members reviewed the financial reports and Commissioner Ritchie made a motion to approve the Reports as presented. Commissioner Herring seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Water Department

Board Members reviewed the May Water Report. A discussion was held regarding the unaccounted-for water loss. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett informed the Board that there were many different variables that affected the overall water loss numbers. Commissioner Aekins made a motion seconded by Commissioner Ritchie to approve the Report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Business Items

Speakers from the Floor

Mayor Lanthorn informed the Board that two individuals Kim Loyd who resides on Main St. & Justin Woodward who resides on Lee Ave. had signed up to address the Board under the Speakers from the Floor agenda item. Mrs. Loyd informed the Board that she lived in the house across from the Medical Center next to the Park. She explained that she had walked her dogs at the Park daily until the lock was changed on the gate nearest to her. She stated that she was not able to get her dogs to the front gate because of their age. She informed the Board that a Parks & Recreation employee had seen her struggle with her dog and gave her a key to the gate so that she could access the Park more easily. Ms. Loyd stated that she had the key for 6 months, that she had even used it to allow the Sheriff's Department into the Park after hours at least twice and that she was a good steward of the Park. Ms. Loyd requested that the Town give her a key to the gate so that she could be a part of the community in a positive manner. Mayor Lanthorn informed Ms. Loyd that the issue would have to be discussed by the Board and looked at from a legal perspective.

Mr. Justin Woodward addressed the Board regarding the removal of the speed bumps on Lee Ave. He stated that they served no purpose and were a nuisance. A discussion was held regarding the fact that the speed bumps were put in when children lived in the area and now there were no children in the immediate area. Mr. Woodward requested that the Board consider taking action to have the speed bumps removed.

Committee Reports

Beautification – No report was presented.

Park– Commissioner Ritchie stated that there were lots of memorial trees that needed replacing. Mayor Lanthorn stated that he had talked to Parks & Recreation who recommended planting flowering cherry trees instead of dogwoods and to do the planting in the fall. He also stated that the roots from a river birch tree were causing damage to the walking trail and needed to be removed. He explained that low growing shrubs could be used to landscape the area. Mayor Lanthorn stated that the Park looked good for the Founder's Day Celebration. Commissioner Weaver stated that the coating on the picnic tables near the playground was damaged and that she was concerned that the Park needed some updating. She also stated that she had been approached about the Town adding frisbee golf to the Park. She explained that it was not expensive and that there was adequate space for the course.

Streets – Commissioner Aekins stated that the streets were in good condition. Mayor Lanthorn stated that he needed to look at New St. & Lodge Dr. to see if there were areas of concern.

Approval of Audit Contract

Board Members reviewed the Contract to Audit from S. Preston Douglas & Associates. Commissioner Herring made a motion to approve the contract to perform the audit for the 2023-2024 fiscal year in the amount of \$11,500. Commissioner Aekins seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Founder's Day

Commissioner Weaver thanked Dwight Washington for his assistance during the Founder's Day event. Mayor Lanthorn stated that the event showed community engagement and that he was pleased with the attendance numbers. Commissioner Weaver stated that there were 74 vendors and many of them had already requested to come back in 2025. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett stated that there were 39 cars in the car show. Mayor Lanthorn stated that the organizer of the show stated that he could have more cars next year. Commissioner Ritchie stated that the groups that performed had also requested to perform again in 2025. She also stated that Town employees Darryl Wade and Mike Dayton did an excellent job preparing the Park for the event. Commissioner Aekins thanked the other Board Members for their hard work. Commissioner Weaver expressed concern with a safety issue with one of the entries in the parade. Commissioner Ritchie stated that she had people volunteer to hand out candy during the parade as opposed to throwing it out to keep children from running out in the road. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett stated that Norma Lanthorn had shared lots of pictures with her and she would post some of them to Facebook for everyone to see. Commissioner Lanthorn thanked everyone for their hard work.

Announcements

Commissioner Weaver stated that she had received calls from citizens concerned about the equipment that was shot near the Wade city limit sign as well as about an individual that was going door-to-door asking for money. She stated that due to the changes coming to the Town, the Board needed to consider using a third party to accept payments online.

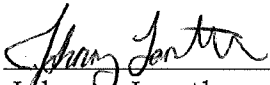
Mayor Lanthorn informed the Board that Johnny Pounder had reached out to him about the area churches reviving the fall festival at the Park on October 26th. Board Members agreed to allow the Park to be used for this event.

Town Attorney Thomas Neville stated that he would gather information to report back to the Board on the issue of the gate key & the Junk Car Ordinance.

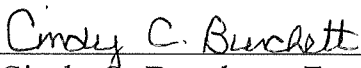
Adjournment

Commissioner Ritchie 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