

07/23/2024

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Wade met in regular session July 9, 2024, at 7:00 P.M. at the Wade Town Hall.

Board Present

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

Visitors

Ms. Devon Newton, Cumberland County Community Development
5 Wade Citizens

Mayor Johnny 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

Mayor Lanthorn explained that after the preparation of the Agenda, information regarding updating the lease of the copier had been received. He asked that consideration be given to adding the lease information to the agenda. Commissioner Sawyer made a motion seconded by Commissioner Herring to make the addition to the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

Commissioner Sawyer made a motion seconded by Commissioner Aekins to approve the Minutes of the June 11, 2024, public hearing & regular session. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Reports

Board Members reviewed the Report and Commissioner Weaver expressed a concern with the amount of the fuel charges. She explained that there was a drastic increase in the percentage in the overall gallons used. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett stated that the charges paid in June were for the months of April, May & June which included the Founder's Day time frame when extra mowing was being done. Board Members held a general discussion of this issue as well as the issue of the usage of Town vehicles. Following the discussion, Mayor Lanthorn agreed to talk to Maintenance Supervisor Darryl Wade about the Board's concerns. Commissioner Sawyer made a motion seconded by Commissioner Herring to approve the Reports as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Water Department

Board Members reviewed the June Water Report and Commissioner Sawyer made a motion to approve the Report as presented. Commissioner Ritchie seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Business Items

Speakers from the Floor

Mayor Johnny Lanthorn informed the Board that no one had signed up to address the Board under the Speakers from the Floor agenda item. Ms. Kim Loyd stated that she did not sign up but would like to inquire if a decision had been made in regard to her having a key to the gate at the Park. Mayor Lanthorn read an email from Town Attorney Thomas Neville stating that based on information that had been received from Parks & Recreation and the League of Municipalities it was his opinion that a key not be given to a private citizen.

Community Development

Mayor Lanthorn turned the meeting over to Ms. Devon Newton from Cumberland County Community Development. She stated that her purpose in addressing the Board was to discuss the Urban County Designation Requalification process. She explained that the County entered into a Cooperation Agreement with each of the municipalities to allow CDBG and HOME funding to be spent within their corporate limits. Ms. Newton informed the Board that the Town approved an agreement in 2003 and then there was an amendment in 2005. She stated that in 2006 and 2015 resolutions were adopted by the Town, but there was never an amended agreement signed that incorporated the adopted changes. She explained that the Department of Housing and Urban Development was requiring an update to the cooperation agreement and so a red line version of this agreement was before the Board for their consideration. Ms. Newton explained that if approved a clean copy would be provided for the Mayor's signature. She also informed the Board that 85 projects incorporating emergency repairs or minor housing rehabilitation incorporating \$1,316,000 had been expended in Wade through the program. Ms. Newton explained different aspects and opportunities available through the program including qualification. Following a general discussion, Commissioner Sawyer made a motion to approve the Cumberland County Community Development Block Grant Program and Home Investment Partnership Program Amended Cooperation Agreement. Commissioner Herring seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Beautification – No report was presented.

Park – Commissioner Ritchie stated that she had taken a picture of a parked vehicle that was in the Park for an extended time period. Board Members held a general discussion concerning suspicious vehicles in the Park and how best to handle the matter. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett informed the Board that there was a problem with the most recent Community Center rental. She explained that trash was dumped in the Park, cars were being driven and parked in non-parking areas and loud vulgar music was being played outside the building that interfered with a birthday party at one of the reserved shelters. Mayor Lanthorn stated that perhaps that it was time to revisit the rules for the rental of the Community Center. Commissioner Herring stated that any person or group that violated the rules should not be allowed to rent the facility again or at least have their

rentals suspend for one year. There was a general discussion concerning various aspects of the rules.

Streets – Mayor Lanthorn stated that there was an issue at the entrance of the Old Bluff subdivision that had been temporarily repaired and also there was a problem with roots on New St. and Lodge Dr. He informed the Board that he had asked Maintenance Supervisor Darryl Wade to check the other Town streets for any problems and then contact Jeff Moore with Ace Asphalt Solutions to get estimates for the repairs. Commissioner Sawyer stated that there was an erosion problem on Third St. and that the rocks from the private McKethan Rd. Ext. were becoming a problem on the Town maintained streets. Mayor Lanthorn stated that the Town blower could be used to solve this problem.

Copier Lease

Board Members reviewed the proposal from Systel for the lease of a new copier. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett explained that she was not having problems with the current copier, however she was informed that because of the age of the equipment, parts were not available for repairs. She explained that the current lease was up and that the proposed lease was cheaper and allowed for more copies. Following a general discussion concerning the lease, Commissioner Sawyer made a motion seconded the Commissioner Herring to approve the lease with Systel for a new copier. Commissioners Aekins, Weaver, Sawyer & Herring voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Ritchie recused herself from voting. The motion passed.

Pay-Out of Vacation Days

Mayor Lanthorn explained that as of June 30th, Town Clerk Cindy Burchett was over the allowed total of vacation days by 13.50 days. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett explained that it was difficult to take days off in May & June due to Founder's Day and the end of the fiscal year. She also stated that she did not have anyone that could fill in for her on a regular basis. Mayor Lanthorn stated that this had been an issue in the past and the Board agreed to pay for the days. Commissioner Herring made a motion to pay Town Clerk Cindy Burchett for 13.50 vacation days to get her under the allowed amount. Commissioner Sawyer seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Announcements

No were no announcements.

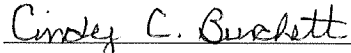
Adjournment

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

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.



Johnny Lanthorn, Mayor



Cindy C. Burchett, Town Clerk