

4/18/23

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Wade met in regular session April 11, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. at the Wade Town Hall.

Board Present

Mayor Joseph Dixon
Commissioner Johnny Sawyer
Commissioner Jennifer Weaver
Commissioner Kevin Herring
Commissioner Johnny Lanthorn
Commissioner George Strater

Visitors

Mr. Thomas Neville, Town Attorney

Mayor Joseph Dixon called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

Agenda Adoption

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

Minutes

Commissioner Sawyer made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2023 regular session. Commissioner Lanthorn seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Financial Reports

Board Members reviewed the reports and Commissioner Lanthorn made a motion seconded by Sawyer to approve the reports as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Water Report

Commissioner Lanthorn made a motion to approve the Water Report and Commissioner Herring seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Business Items

Speakers From the Floor

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

Committee Reports

Beautification– No report was presented.

Park–Mayor Dixon informed the Board that he had spoken to Parks & Recreation staff about getting up limbs and leaves at the Park. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett stated that new mulch had been put under the playground equipment.

Streets–Mayor Dixon informed the Board that the streets were still in good condition.

Water Fund Budget Amendment

Board Members reviewed Water Fund Budget Amendment 1-23. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett explained that the amendment was needed to take into account the increased revenues and expenses created by the development of the properties on McKeithan St. Ext. Commissioner Lanthorn made a motion seconded by Commissioner Strater to approve the Amendment. The motion passed unanimously.

2023-2024 Budget

Board Members reviewed the current budget vs actual figures for 2022-2023. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett explained that she was looking to the Board for direction as to how to move forward with figures for the new budget year. Commissioner Sawyer questioned if the Town had received an appraisal for the property located near the Park. Mrs. Burchett stated that she did not believe that an appraisal had been done. Commissioner Strater questioned some of the items that were over budget in the Water Fund. Mrs. Burchett explained that this matter was addressed with the adoption of the Budget Amendment. Commissioner Strater also questioned the loan and principal line items. Mrs. Burchett explained that these items were related to the loan that was still being paid on the Water System and that there were approximately two more fiscal years that would include payments.

Board Members agreed that the tax rate of .32 should remain the same for now because rates would have to be adjusted when the change in sales tax distribution occurred. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett stated that the revenues for the Water System were better and the increase in the number of homes would continue to keep the numbers moving in the right direction. Commissioner Sawyer questioned if the 5-year plan for the Water System was still in effect. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett reminded the Board that a .10 per 1,000 gallon increase for each year had been discussed as part of a 5-year plan. Mayor Dixon asked the Board to review the figures and if there were any questions or concerns to reach out to Mrs. Burchett. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett stated that she was not aware of any projects and the maintenance employees did not indicate that there were any equipment needs; however, she hoped to get an estimate for the repair of the walking trail that could be included in the Budget. Mrs. Burchett stated that she would use the current figures to prepare a proposed budget for the May meeting.

Proclamations

Board Members reviewed Proclamations for the 54th Annual Professional Municipal Clerks Week & for National Day of Prayer. Commissioner Lanthorn made a motion to adopt the Proclamations. Commissioner Herring seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

National Day of Prayer/Founder's Day

Mayor Dixon stated that the National Day of Prayer would be Thursday, May 4th and that he was working on getting the local pastors involved. Board Members held a general discussion concerning the National Day of Prayer.

Mayor Dixon stated that efforts were still being made to reach out to different types of vendors. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett stated that she only had payment from three vendors, but other applications had been received without payment. Board Members discussed the issue of vendors. Commissioner Strater stated that the next Founder's

Day Committee meeting was scheduled for May 4th. He also stated he had not been in contact with District 7, but he was going to work on that once school was back in session. Commissioner Herring stated that he was working on getting some of the groups for the entertainment. The Board held a general discussion concerning the different events for Founder's Day.

Announcements

Town Clerk Cindy Burchett informed the Board that there was a new community policing officer for the Towns of Wade, Godwin & Falcon.

Commissioner Strater stated that he attended the Mayor's Coalition meeting in the Mayors absence. He stated that Fort Bragg officials were at the meeting talking about the upcoming name change to Fort Liberty. He also stated that there was an individual from Economic Development at the meeting who explained that the County was trying to find mega sights for the development of large businesses. Commissioner Strater explained that the Rhodes Pond project was near completion and that he promoted Founder's Day at the meeting.

Adjournment

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Cindy C Burchett
Cindy C. Burchett, Town Clerk

Joseph Dixon
Joseph Dixon, Mayor