

09/19/23

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Wade met in regular session September 12, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. at the Wade Town Hall.

Board Present

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

Visitors

4 Wade Citizens

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

Agenda Adoption

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

Minutes

Commissioner Lanthorn made a motion seconded by Commissioner Herring to approve the Minutes of the August 8, 2023 regular session. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Reports

Board Members reviewed the Reports and Commissioner Strater questioned the assigned category for a specific check. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett stated that the category was incorrect, and so she would make the correction. Commissioner Sawyer made a motion seconded by Commissioner Herring to approve the Reports with the correction. The motion passed unanimously.

Water Department

Board Members reviewed the report and Commissioner Lanthorn made a motion to approve the Report as presented. Commissioner Sawyer seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Business Items

Speakers from the Floor

Mayor Dixon informed the Board that Patsy Graham had signed up to address the Board under the Speakers from the Floor agenda item. Ms. Graham explained that she lived on Mill Aekins Drive and that she was concerned about the property adjacent to her home that was being used as a cemetery. Commissioner Strater stated that Ms.

Graham had noticed markings on the ground about the size of a grave that were only 10-ft from her driveway. He stated that in doing research he found that the property was listed by the tax department as a cemetery. Commissioner Strater explained that Ms. Graham merely would like to know what she should do about the matter. Commissioner Herring stated that there were a few graves on the property and that with the current death he was not sure what the family's plans were. Board Members held a general discussion concerning the specifics of the matter. Commissioner Strater stated that it was important that the Town find out about the guidelines regarding private cemeteries from the County for future reference. Commissioner Lanthorn stated that the employees of Fayetteville-Cumberland Parks & Recreation took care of cemeteries in Fayetteville and so he would reach out to them for information. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett stated that she would contact someone with the County Planning & Inspections. Commissioner Herring stated that perhaps the Town should consider some type of ordinance to eliminate problems in the future. Board Members agreed to do further research into the matter and get back in touch with Ms. Graham.

Wade Community Fire Department Contract

Commissioner Lanthorn explained that the information contained in the contract was taken from the County contract that all the departments use. He stated that only the information that would be applicable for Wade was included and nothing had changed from the previous contract except the effective dates. Commissioner Sawyer made a motion to approve the renewal of the contract with Wade Community Fire Department for fire protection within the Town. Commissioner Herring seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Lanthorn stated that the Department was working on improving its ISO Rating which would result in lower insurance rates for residents.

Committee Reports

Beautification – Commissioner Strater expressed concern with the appearance of the house located across from Town Hall as well as the field where the Eagles Bluff subdivision was going to be located. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett stated that the plans for the subdivision were still moving forward and that she would work with the County for assistance to get the areas cleaned up. She also stated that it would be helpful if citizens would also call the County about areas of concern.

Park – Town Clerk Cindy Burchett reported that the maintenance employees were working on cleaning up the Park, but the wind was making it difficult to stay on top of the leaves and limbs. Commissioner Weaver expressed concern with the fact that people renting the Community Center & shelters were renting inflatables and putting them in different areas of the Park. She stated that she was concerned that if a child was injured it could possibly have a negative effect on the Town. Commissioner Lanthorn stated that this issue could be addressed in the rules & regulations for both the Park & Community Center. Board Members held a general discussion concerning the matter. Mayor Dixon stated that he was concerned about people parking in front of the Community Center. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett stated that because of this problem there would be traffic cones placed in front of the building when it was rented. Commissioner Weaver stated that people were parking in other non-designated areas as well. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett stated that this was difficult to enforce on the weekend.

because there was no staff available to help with enforcement. Commissioner Weaver stated that the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office could assist with the problem. Commissioner Weaver also asked that the Community Center be pressure washed prior to the December Tree Lighting Ceremony.

Streets –Mayor Dixon stated that the streets were in good shape.

December Tree Lighting Ceremony & Swearing In

Mayor Dixon informed the Board that it was time to begin working on plans for the annual tree lighting. It was agreed to contact Dalton Melvin again about the music and to reach out to the same Santa Claus. Discussion was held regarding possibly getting someone to sing as well. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett asked Board Members who they would like to be involved with the swearing in. A general discussion was held regarding this issue and the names of Sheriff Ennis Wright, Representative Diane Wheatly, Cumberland County Clerk of Court Lisa Scales & Judge Edward Pone were mentioned for possible involvement. It was agreed that the swearing in would be relocated from the Town Hall to the Community Center. Commissioner Weaver stated that she would like to invite the Garrison Commander of Fort Liberty to the Town events. Commissioner Herring stated that the County Manager should also be invited.

Announcements

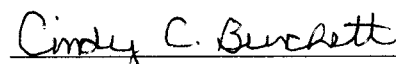
Commissioner Lanthorn stated that the area at the roundabouts was still very dark. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett stated that she had reached out to the DOT and was informed that the lights would not be turned on until near completion of the project. Commissioner Lanthorn suggested that additional streetlights be installed at least to the Duke Energy Operations Center.

Adjournment

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

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.


Joseph Dixon, Mayor


Cindy C. Burchett, Town Clerk