The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Wade met in regular session November 14, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. at the Wade Town Hall.

#### **Board Present**

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

#### **Visitors**

Mr. Thomas Neville, Town Attorney 2 Wade Citizens

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

## **Agenda Adoption**

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

# **Minutes**

Commissioner Sawyer made a motion to approve the Minutes of the October 10, 2023 regular session. Commissioner Strater seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Financial Reports**

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

# <u>Agenda Business Items</u>

# Speakers from the Floor

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

## **Committee Reports**

**Beautification** – Mayor Dixon reported that overall the Town and Park looked good. **Park** – Commissioner Weaver reported that the side gate to the Park was broken again.

Mayor Dixon stated that the maintenance employees had been informed about the problem. There was a general discussion about the gate. Commissioner Strater reported

that the walking trail asphalt near the playground equipment was breaking up bad. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett stated that Parks & Recreation had been informed about the walking trail; however, no action had been taken. Commissioner Lanthorn stated that the Town may have to take care of the repairs using funds from the Park budget. There was a general discussion concerning the tree roots and how to best solve the problem. Commissioner Sawyer questioned who should be contacted about problems at the Park. He stated that he would approach Mr. Michael Gibson about the utility field that had not been completed and the issues with the walking trail as well as problems with the Community Center.

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

# **Employment Agreement**

Board Members reviewed the proposed contract between the Town and Cindy Burchett for employment for the position of Town Clerk. Commissioner Sawyer questioned why the agreement was renewed for only 2 years. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett stated that this coincided with election year and the possible change in Board Members. Commissioner Lanthorn made a motion seconded by Commissioner Herring to renew the 2-year agreement. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Well Repair

Town Clerk Cindy Burchett explained that this estimate was for the repair of one of the tandem wells at the Park. She informed the Board that the maintenance employees may be able to make the repairs but because of the uncertainty of the complications involved she felt that the Board should approve the estimate. She explained that if they were able to complete the repairs, the Town would still have to buy a new meter. Commissioner Lanthorn offered to assist with the repair. Commissioner Lanthorn made a motion to approve the estimate from Titan Environmental Solutions for \$4,385.00 for the repair of Well #8 if needed. Commissioner Sawyer seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Announcements**

Town Clerk Cindy Burchett informed the Board that the annual Christmas dinner would be December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. at Heath's Steakhouse.

Commissioner Weaver informed the Board that two different people had been contacted for catering for the Swearing In Ceremony and only one responded with an estimate of \$965.00 for 75 people. She stated that just buying the food would cost over \$600 if the Town did the event on its own. Commissioner Weaver volunteered to provide a cake for the event. Board Members discussed the matter and agreed that the event should be catered for the given estimate. No vote was necessary because the amount was under the Mayor's spending allowance.

There was a discussion concerning who would sing at the Tree Lighting. Commissioner Herring agreed to assist with this part of the program. Town Clerk Cindy Burchett reminded the Board that there would be a band there as well.

Town Clerk Cindy Burchett reminded the Board that the Swearing In would be December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. at the Community Center. A general discussion was held, and it was agreed that all needed parties were in place for the different aspects of the event.

Commissioner Strater stated that he was contacted about the Community Watch event for November being cancelled. Commissioner Weaver stated that the meeting did not need to be cancelled because there was interest in attending the meeting following disturbing events that had taken place around Town. Commissioner Strater stated that November was time for election of officers and so he would reach out to get the meeting back on the calendar. Commissioner Weaver stressed the importance of having members of the Sheriffs office at the meeting.

Commissioner Lanthorn reported that the generators were finally installed and ready to be used.

Commissioner Strater congratulated Commissioner Lanthorn for his election as Mayor and to Commissioners Weaver & Herring for their reelection. He stated that he enjoyed working with the members of the Board and that he had confidence in the Members that things would continue to move forward.

# <u>Adjournment</u>

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

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Joseph Dixon, Mayor

Cindy C. Burchett, Town Clerk