

MINUTES

The Rural Hall Town Council held their agenda briefing & council meeting on May 2, 2022, at 3:00 PM in the Town Hall Council Chambers. The following members were present: Mayor Timothy M. Flinchum - presiding; Mayor Pro Tempore Susan H. Gordon; Councilman Norman E. Horn; Councilman Terry M. Bennett; Councilwoman Janet M. Carithers; Town Manager Misty A. Meadows; and Town Clerk Lynette Hendrick.

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by Manager Misty Meadows.

A moment of silence was held.

Adoption of Amended Agenda:

Councilman Terry Bennett added an item to the agenda Historic Society Building, Mayor Tim Flinchum added Discussion of Outside Consulting – Strategic Planning. Mayor also mentioned the Interim Attorney would not be at the meeting did the Council want to continue the closed session on personnel...Councilmember Bennett answered yes.

Mayor Pro Tem Susan H. Gordon made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Janet M. Carithers to adopt the agenda as amended, and motion passed unanimously.

Announcements and Meeting Updates:

- Dawg with a Deputy Kings Hotdogs - May 17, 6:30 pm – Community Watch will be promoted at this event.
- June 9, 2022, Concert at the Hall – Food Trucks - Triad Community Band and Ryan Newcomb 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM
- July 3 Fireworks – Food Trucks set up 6:00 PM Fireworks start at 9:00 PM
- Recognition of Representative Kyle Hall member of NC General Assembly – Mike Simone – Fire Chief asked Representative Kyle Hall about money the Fire Department in Clemmons received, Representative Hall explained that the State had a lot of money to spend from covid relief and Representative Zinger requested funds on behalf of Clemmons and Clemmons was awarded some funds. Representative Kyle Hall stated it is possibility this could happen again and if the Town is interested to call him.

Department Head Update

- Public Works – Park hours close at dusk and ballfield at 10:00. Sign has not been updated yet. In the winter it is closed at 6:00 pm. The strip of land by the tree line is owned by Buckeye Homeowners Association.
- Misty asked who she could get in touch with from the Buckeye Homeowners Association- Councilman Terry Bennett said Ricky Spear (works at Patterson/Smith Oil). Eddie Gordy takes care of the property, or Dwight Nelson is on the board.
- LPA- Dawn Tysor familiarized the council on how the LPA is operated. Service procedures are dictated by NCDMV and we go by their guidelines. Councilwoman Janet M. Carithers asked if a capacity study had ever been completed on the building. Mike said it was not needed because it is not an assembly meeting place. Mayor Pro Tem Gordon asked if the LPA had a sign telling the customers the materials needed for the different services. Councilman Bennett asked if the LPA was completely staffed? Dawn answered yes three part time and two full time. Dealer work drop off sign for titles. Mayor requested we research having an ATM in the LPA building. The LPA is audited every month, and it generates a report that the Manager receives (handout). Councilman Terry Bennett asked

if the LPA was making money? He would like to see a breakdown of financial report for the LPA. He disagrees this business should only be a town service...it is a business and should be making money. Most of the expenses are absorbed by Raleigh. The only thing the Town pays for are the salaries, benefits, insurance, retirement alarm system, Duke Energy, and Spectrum bill. Councilman Bennett said if Jason – Public Works comes to the building and fixes something it is an expense. Mayor Pro Tem said the broke down report is what is needed because the contract for the LPA will be coming up for renewal and it is up to the people on the council to renew it.

- Fire Department Mike Simone - May 16 is the date for interview for 2nd swing shift employee. Seven people applied, and they will interview five. May 4, 2022, Misty, Mike and Captain Hooker will meet with Bobbett Construction on the building to get a better grasp on a new building vs renovation. July 1, 2022, Forsyth County overlay will start. All trucks will be back to baseline within the next couple weeks. Rip packs have been ordered, just waiting for them to come in. Ordered a thermal imaging for the ladder truck and saved money. Councilmember Bennett wanted to know about the rescue pumper. Maybe can convert one of our trucks but more inhouse discussion needs to be done. Chief Mike had three different companies come out to repair the cracks in the wall and no one will repair it. Council took a break at 4:15 PM – Reconvened at 4:30 PM
- Finance Department – Wade Gilley had two items of business: One we are near end of budget waiting on tax-based estimate to come in, once that comes in the budget will be finalized for review. Councilmember Carithers wanted “Contracted Services” to be broken down with a list and how much budgeted. Two, ARP funds first deadline has been met-complex report.

New Business:

Outside Consultant – Mayor Flinchum reported having Ron Niland come in and work with the Town on Strategic Planning, and Personnel guidance. Councilwoman Carithers said it was time to put our plans on paper and work on getting things done.

Budget Amendment of the 2021 -2022 budget Ordinance 835. This budget amendment is for the purchase of the other part of the pond at Covington Park. Mayor Flinchum mentioned this was a generational investment and the Town was in good financial shape to make this purchase. Councilman Terry Bennett made the motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gordon to adopt the budget amendment, motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Horn made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Carithers to accept the survey map, and move forward with survey.

Personnel Policy Revision – Manager Meadows:

Section 13 Longevity Pay. The change is to retain and attain employees. Her request is to put first level of longevity to two years would get 2%, 5-10 years 3%, 10-15 years 3%, 15-20 years 4% and 20 + 5%. Mayor Pro Tem Gordon said a lot of governments have done away with this because it is such a financial burden, the smaller towns could not afford. Manager Meadows said this could be changed to whatever percentage the council would like. The council decided to move brackets 3-5 years 1%, 5-10 years 2%, 10-15 years 3%, 15-20 years 4% and 20 + 5% and not exceed \$3000.00. Five hundred being the minimum.

Section 6 Pay Rate – Manager Meadows proposed if an employee receives their raise and COLA goes over his salary range and meets or exceeds expectations, they will get a lump sum. Instead of over 12 months.

Social Media Policy – Mayor Flinchum proposed changes be made because of inappropriate comments that violate the current policy, we would like the manager to draft up and amendment to the policy to deactivate public comment and it just to be information only with no option of comments to post.

Historic Society – Councilman Bennett mentioned the Historic Society building has been locked and the items are still there. Councilwoman Carithers stated items in the museum belong to the Town with exception of a few items. The items belong to the Town not the Historic Society. This area could be used as a meeting area once the items are moved.
Is there anything on file that says the Historic Society Museum is the Town's? Staff will research.

Councilman Terry Bennett mentioned a policy needed to be made for the firefighters to not lose their holiday time.

There was no motion made to go into closed session therefore no closed session was held.

Councilwoman Janet M. Carathers made a motion to adjourn, motion passes unanimously at 6:06 PM.

Lynette E. Hendrick
Town Clerk