

TOWN OF MAIDEN

November 20, 2017

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

The Maiden Town Council met on Monday, November 20, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. for their regularly scheduled meeting, held in the Council Chambers at the Maiden Town Hall.

Present for the meeting were Mayor Robert L. Smyre, Mayor Pro-Tem Fore Rembert, Councilmembers Max Bumgarner, Jr., Trina Michael, Marcus Midgett and Ronnie Williams.

Also present were Town Manager Todd Herms, Town Attorney Scott Conrad and Town Clerk Elizabeth Krige.

Others attending: See attached sheet.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Robert L. Smyre.

The invocation was given by Mayor Robert L. Smyre.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Pro-Tempore Fore Rembert.

3. Approval of Agenda

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR PRO TEMPORE FORE REMBERT AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Citizens Requests and Comments

Town Manager Todd Herms told the Council a handicap ramp would be installed in the Council Chambers before the next meeting. This has been a safety concern. NCMPA#1 sent energy kits to the Town, there are several left over. Please see Mr. Herms if you would like one. Mr. Herms reminded everyone the Town Christmas Parade would be held this coming Saturday, November 25th at 3 PM. The Town Christmas Party will be held on December 7th at 6:30. The Luminary Service will be held December 10th at dusk and the Merry Maiden Festival will be held on December 14th.

Mayor Smyre shared he was getting married on December 10 and said it was a joyous time for him.

5. Approval of the Minutes (11/06/17 Meeting):

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER MAX BUMGARNER JR AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 6, 2017 MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Consent Agenda

A. Finance Officers Report

MOTION WAS MADE BY RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY MAX BUMGARNER JR TO APPROVE THE FINANCE OFFICERS REPORT AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Old Business

A. Dogs in Cemetery

Mr. Herms told the Council that currently, the ordinance says dogs are not allowed to be running free, they must be leashed. Mr. Herms said that if Council wants to ban dogs from the cemetery, a text amendment would need to be submitted. Service dogs would be exempt. Staff will proceed and this will come back to Council in late December or January.

Councilmember Ronnie Williams wanted to know if the issue of citizens not picking up after their dogs would be addressed. Mr. Herms said he did not have a good answer at this time. It would be very hard to enforce. Mr. Herms said staff would research the issue and findings would be presented at the same time as the text amendment.

Councilmember Ronnie Williams wanted an update on the Fire Station. Mr. Herms said he had been in contact with the Fire Chief. Councilmember Trina Michael asked what the time frame was and requested a report at the next meeting. Mr. Herms said he was talking to a land owner and was not certain about the asking price.

B. Ordinance 30-2017 An Ordinance to Amend the FY 17-18 Budget in the General Fund-Cemetery

Mr. Herms said the Catawba Historical Association came before the Council in 2016 to develop a road to the old Hass Cemetery. This money was sent aside in 2016, however it took a long time to have all the land owners to sign-off on the agreement. The amount of the budget amendment is \$13,000.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY FORE REMBERT TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 30-2017 TO AMEND THE GENERAL FUND-CEMETERY. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. Special Recognition

The Mayor recognized Mayor Pro Tempore Fore Rembert. Mayor Smyre said it was hard to see Councilmembers leave. Mr. Rembert served admirably. Mayor Smyre asked the Council to pass resolution 13-2017 in appreciation of Mr. Rembert's service. Mayor Smyre thanked Fore Rembert for his leadership on the Recreation Advisory Committee.

Mr. Rembert addressed Council, saying it has been an honor, blessing and privilege to serve with the elected board, leaders and town employees.

MOTION WAS MADE BY RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY MARCUS MIDGETT TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 13-2017, A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. Oath of Office

A. Robert L. Smyre

The Oath of Office for Mayor was administered by Town Clerk Elizabeth Krige.

10. Oath of Office-Council

The Oath of Office for a four-year term for Councilmember was administered by Mayor Bob Smyre to Trina Michael.

The Oath of Office for a four-year term for Councilmember was administered by Mayor Bob Smyre to Danny Hipps.

The Oath of Office for a two-year term for Councilmember was administered by Mayor Bob Smyre to Marcus Midgett.

11. New Business

A. Election Results

Town Clerk Elizabeth Krige announced the election results. For the office of Mayor, Bob Smyre received 374 votes for a two-year term. Trina Michael received 245 votes for a four-year term on Council. Danny Hipps received 235 votes for a four-year term and Marcus Midgett received 198 votes for a two-year term. Bryan Long received 177 votes, Richard Fox received 126 votes and Mike Moore received 102 votes.

The Mixed Beverage Election passed with 258 votes for and 164 votes against the sale of mixed beverages.

B. Delegate/Representative/Committee Appointments

B1. Mayor Pro-Tem

MOTION WAS MADE BY TRINA MICHEAL AND SECONDED BY RONNIE WILLIAMS TO NOMINATE MAX BUMGARNER JR AS MAYOR PRO TEMPORE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B2. NCMPA #1 Alternate Delegate

Currently, Mr. Billy Price is the delegate for the North Carolina Municipal Power Agency #1 and Town Manager Todd Herms is the alternate. It would be best to have a Councilmember serve as a delegate. Trina Michael nominated Councilmember Ronnie Williams.

MOTION WAS MADE BY TRINA MICHEAL AND SECONDED BY MAX BUMGARNER JR TO NOMINATE RONNIE WILLIMAS TO SERVE AS NCMPA#1 ALTERNATE DELEGATE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B3. WPCOG Representative

The Mayor said he has been serving on this committee and if it pleased the Council he would like to continue serving on that committee.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MARCUS MIDGETT AND SECONDED BY TRINA MICHAEL TO NOMINATE BOB SMYRE TO SERVE AS WPCOG REPRESENTATIVE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B4. WPCOG Alternate Representative

Mr. Herms told Council the alternate would travel to one meeting every two months.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY DANNY HIPPS TO NOMINATE COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS AS ALTERNATE WPCOG REPRESENTATIVE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B5. WPCOG MPO Representative

Mayor Smyre recognized Marcus Midgett for his service on this board in the past and nominated him to serve again.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY MAX BUMGARNER JR TO NOMINATE COUNCILMEMBER MARCUS MIDGETT AS WPCOG MPO REPRESENTATIVE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B6. Recreation Advisory Committee

Mayor Smyre recognized Danny Hipps' past experience with recreation.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER MARCUS MIDGETT AND SECONDED BY RONNIE WILLIAMS TO NOMINATE COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS TO THE RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. Mr. Herms addressed the Council and said money was in the budget for this position but it has remained unfilled. There are several good candidates and a new officer will be hired soon. Mr. Herms asked if there were any objections. There were none.

D. Council Meeting Schedule

There are four Council meetings that need to be cancelled for the upcoming year. They are January 1st, April 2nd, July 2nd, and September 3rd. All meetings start at 7 PM except the Budget Meeting May 7, 2018, which begins at 5:30.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER MARCUS MIDGETT AND SECONDED BY TRINA MICHAEL TO APPROVE THE COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

E. 2018 Holiday Schedule

Mr. Herms presented the 2018 Holiday Schedule to the Council for their approval. There are ten holidays.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY MAX BUMGARNER JR TO APPROVE THE 2018 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR EMPLOYEES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. Fire Department By-laws

Fire Chief Tracy Caldwell addressed the Council concerning the Fire Department By-laws. Chief Caldwell said he and his officers had been working on the by-laws for about two years. The by-laws were written by the department. There are policies in place now to make sure officers have more experience before being elected. There are now policies for a waiting period if your membership is not approved initially. Another change is a number of calls requirement to remain an active member. There is a 36-hour education requirement from the State, members who do not meet the requirement will go before the Executive Committee. There are guidelines for Jr. Firefighters. The by-laws mirror the Town's personnel policy in regard to a drug and harassment policies. Chief Caldwell asked that Council approve the Fire Department By-Laws as presented.

Mr. Herms asked if this would need to be voted on every year and Chief Caldwell said yes, the Council would vote every year if there were changes to the by-laws.

Mayor Smyre asked if the Fire Department voted on these by-laws and Chief Caldwell said they had. These were approved in the October meeting. Councilmember Danny Hipps said getting a consensus on the by-laws and getting them presented to Council will be a challenge.

Councilmember Marcus Midgett asked if this was a total replacement of by-laws and Chief Caldwell said this was a complete re-write.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY MAX BUMGARNER JR TO ACCEPT THE MAIDEN FIRE DEPARTMENT BY-LAWS AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

13. Ordinances

A. Ordinance 31-2017 An Ordinance to Amend the FY 17-18 Budget in the General Fund-Recreation

Mr. Herms said this the budget amendment of \$1,700.00 that Jody Rogers presented at the last meeting.

MOTION WAS MADE BY RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY MARCUS MIDGETT TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 31-2017.

THE MAYOR ASKED FOR DISCUSSION AND MARCUS MIDGETT ASKED IF JODY ROGETS RECEIVED ANY COMMENTS REGARDING MOVING CHURCH LEAGUE. MR. ROGERS SAID HE ONLY RECEIVED ONE RESPONSE. MR. ROGERS SAID HE WAS POSTPONING THE START OF THE CHURCH LEAGUE TO FREE UP GYM TIME. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Ordinance 32-2017 An Ordinance to Amend the FY 17-18 Budget in the General Fund-Street

Mr. Herms said we have several water leaks, bringing on leaf crews and the North Main Avenue paving project was over budget. This will move \$25,000 to the Street Fund to cover these costs.

MOTION WAS MADE BY RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY TRINA MICHEAL TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 32-2017 TO AMEND THE FY 17-18 BUDGET IN THE GENERAL FUND-STREET. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. Ordinance 33-2017 An Ordinance to Amend the FY 17-18 Budget in the General Fund-Fire Department

Chief Caldwell addressed the Council. In 2013, we applied for a Federal Grant. The City of Hickory was the host for the grant. Our portion was \$130,000. It was a 90/10 grant; we paid \$13,000. This grant was for radios and mobiles. These radios were purchased for less than was originally agreed upon. This money can only be spent on radios per the letter from the Federal Government. The Town can use this money to replace the batteries and replace the lapel microphones.

Mr. Herms stated we cannot accept these funds until there is a budget amendment accepting it.

MOTION WAS MADE BY TRINA MICHEAL AND SECONDED BY MAX BUMGARNER JR TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 33-2017 TO AMEND THE FY 17-18 BUDGET IN THE GENERAL FUND-FIRE DEPARTMENT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councilmember Trina Michael thanked the Public Works employees for their hard work.

With no further comments...

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY RONNIE WILLIAMS TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:44 PM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth Yokley-Krige, Town Clerk

Robert L. Smyre, Mayor

ATTEST:

Elizabeth Yokley-Krige, Town Clerk