

TOWN OF MAIDEN
February 9, 2021
MINUTES OF REGULAR E- MEETING

The Maiden Town Council met on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. for their regularly scheduled meeting, held electronically, streamed on Facebook and in the Town of Maiden Community room.

Present for the meeting were, Mayor Max Bumgarner Jr., Mayor Pro Tem Danny Hipps, Councilmembers Trina Michael, Beth Rudisill, Bob Sigmon, and Ronnie Williams.

Also, present were Town Manager Todd Herms, Town Attorney Scott Conrad, Director, Planning and Zoning Director Blake Wright, Interim Director Keaton Miller and Town Clerk Wanda Barnes.

Others attending: See attached sheet.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Max Bumgarner Jr.

The invocation was given by Bob Sigmon

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bob Sigmon

4. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BOB SIGMON TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5-0.

5. Citizens Request & Comments

Samantha Saunders from the Maiden Business Association states that the Maiden public parking lot sign is damaged and direction signs leading to the public parking area needs to be posted. Maiden Business Association will host an event March 27, 2021, the Saturday before Easter. The event will feature an egg hunt for prizes.

Mayor Pro Tem Danny Hipps inquiries about the Parking lot damaged signs. Town Manager Mr. Todd Herms states that signs were order for the entire Town about two weeks ago. Mayor Pro Tem Danny Hipps states that the Parking lot is at capacity about four or five nights a week.

Councilmember Beth Rudisill inquiries about scheduled dates for the food truck vendors. Mayor Pro Tem Danny Hipps states that the schedules dates are February 13, 18 and March 6. Councilmember Rudisill states that she would like to see food vendors downtown around lunch time. Planning and Zoning Director Blake Wright agrees to the lunch time vendors. Mayor Pro Tem Danny Hipps acknowledges Mr. Wright for scheduling the vendors dates and his hard work. He also inquiries about the Town helping advertise for the Business Association event. Mr. Herms states that the Town assist with all Business Association advertising including printing of event flyers.

Mrs. Mary Henry inquiries about the Town leaf truck and states that her sister has concerns about the truck damaging the grass. Mr. Herms states that the leaf truck is being serviced for warranty updates. Mrs. Henry also inquiries about the traffic interchange. Mr. Herms states that DOT reviews the interchange annually. Mr. Wright states that it did not score high enough in the review to make any changes.

Mayor Pro Tem inquiries about the Parks and Recreation status. Mr. Herms states that the hiring process was completed and Keaton Miller was hired as the Parks and Recreation Director. His first day was February 1, 2021. He was the Interim Parks and Recreation Director for eight months. He is overseeing the hiring of the Programmers and the new Maintenance position. This is the last week to sign up for springs sports before late fees. Currently there is enough to have a team, but still looking for additional participants. Councilmember Ronnie Williams acknowledges Parks and Recreation Director for his efforts on the tournaments. Mr. Herms states that the first tournament is February 27th and 28th. The tournaments will be held in the spring and summer. The tournaments will be baseball and softball. Councilmember Ronnie Williams would like to know if all four fields will be use for the tournament. Mr. Herms states, that will be determined by the Director. Maiden will not be running the tournament, but Top gun and additional companies will be running the tournament. We will rent the fields and we will operate the food concessions. Mr. Hipps suggests adding a food truck during the tournament. Mr. Herms states that Mr. Miller and his staff painted the upstairs of the Parks and Recreation center and they will be hanging Jody's plaque. The Electrical department also changed out some of the lights to LED. They took advantage of the down time. Mayor Pro Tem Danny Hipps recommends allowing the Roger's family to view and approve of the plaque before it is open to the public. Mr. Herms states that it will be mounted this week and Mr. Miller will invite the Rogers Family over to view it. Councilmember Bob Sigmon states that a citizens sends their appreciation to the Mayor, Councilmembers and staff for the Recreation Activity Bags. Mr. Herms states that the Citizens love the Activity Bags, including his daughter. Councilmember Williams inquiries about the availability of the Activity Bags. Mr. Herms states that the bags are available monthly and advertised on Social Media when they are available. They are age appropriate for kids under the age of twelve. Mayor Pro Tem acknowledges the Public Works Department for coming in on Sunday to clear the roads of snow. Mr. Herms states that they do a great job. The Recreation Center have four of the Activity Bags left over for the month, if anyone would like to stop by and pick up one.

Mrs. Annie Ramseur states that she has concerns about the racial indifference. She would like for people to have an understanding about African Americans. Mrs. Ramseur recommends a programs to discuss the concerns. She states that African Americans feel and hurt just like anyone else. She feels as if things are going backwards and ask that the Council take time to understand African Americans. She would like to get everyone together so we can understand each other. She has worked for a lot of wealthy people and have gone through a lot. We are in the Bible Belt and think everyone should be held accountable. Mayor Pro Tem Danny Hipps states that the fact that Maiden isn't on the news shows that they have done a lot of work already. The Town have taken time to build relationships. He understands the people have issues and concerns, but it's hard to meet and do things during the pandemic. He hopes and pray that one day when people come to a Maiden council meeting people will not be seen as white, black or Hispanic, but citizens of Maiden. Mrs. Ramseur states that she has addressed this at prior council meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Hipps states that it isn't an easy fix and he also like for people to bring solutions with their problems. He is all ears and willing to hear anything she would like to discuss. She states that no one ever came to her after she mentioned it before. She

will not use this council meeting as a platform. She states that may God bless and keep everyone. Mayor Max Bumgarner states that he will contact Mrs. Ramseur this week and maybe they can put a small committee together. Mrs. Ramseur states that she appreciates the Mayors efforts and think that is a start. She loves the Mayor and Councilmembers. Mayor Pro Tem Danny Hipps inquires about the fire Department. Mr. Herms have received the final draft, but havent had an opportunity to sit down with the new Fire Chief. Mayor Pro Tem Danny Hipps request that Mr. Herms schedule a meeting and try to have an update by the next council meeting. Mr. Herms agrees to the update. Councilmember Ronnie Williams ask that we take a look at the capital projects and the budget before we make a decision to finance the fire department. Mayor Pro Tem Danny Hipps ask if that will be a part of the budget project. Town Manager Mr. Herms states that it has been difficult to sit down and work through projects. The pandemic numbers are going down, therefore we may be able to schedule something soon. Mayor Pro Tem Danny Hipps states that the Town has a room large enough to social distance and conduct some business safely. Mr. Herms states that we should be able to schedule something early April. Town Manager Mr. Herms agrees to schedule a meeting.

6. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR PRO TEM DANNY HIPPS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS TO APPROVE THE 1/12/2021 MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5-0.

7. Agenda

A. Finance Officer's Report

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BOB SIGMON TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS DECEMBER AND JANUARY FINANCE REPORT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5-0.

8. Public Hearing

A. Consideration of Annexation Petition

Town Manager Mr. Herms states that Mr. Miller and Lee Hancock is present for the public hearing. Mr. Blake Wright states the virtual meeting statues requires that the vote must be postpone for 24 hour to give citizens time to submit any comments. The council will need to schedule a date for the vote. Any rezoning question must be held off until the next public hearing meeting. This public hearing is consideration of annexation petition for Duke Energy property. It is roughly 80 acres off of Biggerstaff and Startown road and it meets the statue requirements. This is the last step prior to voting. The petition was received and certified by the Town Clerk. Currently they do not have water and sewer on the property. That will need to be extended for an operations center. Mr. Herms states that the Council cannot vote on the annexation at this meeting. The council can have a special call meeting or vote at the next meeting. Councilmember Ronnie Williams confirms that Mr. Wright is only discussing agenda item #8 A. Town Manager Mr. Herms confirms Mr. Williams question. Town Attorney Scott Conrad also on confirms the public hearing process. Councilmember Williams would like to know if the Councilmembers do not approve the annexation what would be the consequences for Duke

Energy? Mr. Wright states that if we do not approve the annexation, they would remain out of city limit and be charge a higher rate when they connect to the Town utilities. They would also petition the county for rezoning of the property. Councilmember Williams confirms Mr. Wright statement about the county rezoning the property for Duke Energy use. Mayor Max Bumgarner confirms that all Councilmember received the citizens letters that had concerns about the annexation. Letters were received from Bobbette and Al Pyne and Evan Rowe. Attorney Scott Conrad states that Council must wait 24 hours before voting on virtual petitions items for additional written citizens comments. Mayor Max Bumgarner inquiries about the voting being held at the next meeting. Mr. Herms confirms the voting taking place at the next meeting and not delaying the project. Council closes the Consideration of Annexation Petition Public Hearing.

B. Consideration of Amendment of Town of Maiden Zoning Maps

Mr. Wright states that the Town would need to choose a designation, if they decide to rezone the property. The designation would be 321 and development industrial. He would like the acknowledge that citizen concern letters were received from Bobbette and Al Pyne and Evan & Robert Rowe. The first thing to consider is if the property is compatible with the Towns long range plan. The property is not compatible within the Towns long range development plans, but it is within the 321 district. The property has an economic development overlay. Is it lateral with State and Federal law? Can the Town supply the property and currently they do not have water and sewer? Those services will need to be extended at the cost of Duke Energy. Is it beneficial to health, safety and welfare of the public? It would receive the Towns most intense zoning designation. The Town Council have received the planning board recommendation. The planning board of adjustment recommended approval. The landscaping and the lighting area have been discussed. The Town designation is stricter than most areas. Councilmember Ronnie Williams asks if it would be more beneficial for the area property owners, it the Town annex and rezone the property, since the Town have stricter guidelines than the county. Mr. Wright confirms Mr. Williams question. Councilmember Trina Michael asks if the rezoning would be for the entire 182 acres and how would it affect the residents in the area. Planning and Zoning Director Blake Wright states that they would be able to use the land under the restricted usage for the property in that area and they may only use a portion of the property. Mayor Max Bumgarner states that additional citizens comments will be received until 7:00 PM February 10, 2021 and voting will be held on March 9, 2021 at the regular council meeting 6:00 PM.

9. Ordinance/Resolutions

A. Ordinance #1-2021 An Ordinance to Amend The FY 2020-2021 Budget To Record The Donation of Money From Lawrence Lumber In The Police Department Budget.

Town Manager Mr. Herms states that Lawrence Lumber donated \$1000.00 to the Police Department.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BETH RUDISILL. TO APPROVE ORDINANCE #1-2021 TO AMEND THE BUDGET. WITH MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 5 – 0

B. Ordinance #2-2021 An Ordinance To Amend The FY 2020-2021 Budget In the General Fund Council.

Town Manager Mr. Herms request an additional \$25,000.00 to complete project for the year.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM DANNY HIPPS. TO APPROVE ORDINANCE # 2-2021 TO AMEND THE BUDGET. WITH MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 5 – 0

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER BOB SIGMON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS. TO APPROVE THE RECUSE OF MAYOR PRO TEM DANNY HIPPS. WITH MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 4 – 0

C. Ordinance #3-2021 A Capital Project Budget Ordinance For Duke Energy Water lines And Sewer Mains Project.

Town Manager Mr. Herms states this is a 1.5-million-dollar check for Duke Energy's on Biggerstaff and Startown Road project for Water lines and Sewer. The check will be returned, if the project isn't approved and it is a true cost project.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER RUDISILL. TO APPROVE ORDINANCE #3-2021 TO AMEND THE BUDGET. WITH MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 4 – 0

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER BOB SIGMON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL. TO APPROVE MAYOR PRO TEMP DANNY HIPPS BACK INTO THE COUNCIL MEETING. WITH MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 4 – 0

D. ADA Action Plan

Town Manager Mr. Herms states that ADA Action plan is required to receive any Federal funding. The minimum requirement is a transition plan. The final plan should be completed in August. Most of Town buildings meet the minimum requirement, since they were built after the introduction of the ADA Plan.

Public Works Director Bryan Duckwork states this is an ADA Action Plan it is a part of the ADA transition plan. The Council will receive that plan in August for adoption. Part of the Federal requirements is that you must have an ADA transition plan in progress or in place. This Action Plan puts it in place. The plan looks at building, facilities, sidewalks, programs, public meetings. A major part of the plan is a self-assessment. Mr. Herms states that it isn't required that every repair be in place, but a plan and schedule must be in place. Mr. Duckworth states that they can be repaired as funding become available. Mayor Pro Tem Danny Hipps inquiries about the self-assessment. Mr. Duckworth states that the self-assessment will be conducted by a committee made up of Town staff and citizens in the community. Mayor Pro Tem Danny Hipps inquiries about outside resources to assist with the Transition plan. Mr. Duckworth states that Western Piedmont Government is a resource. Mr. Herms states the plan will initially be completed by the Town staff. The plan is expensive, if completed by outside contractors. Mr. Hipps inquiries about the timeline to have the plan finalized. Mr. Duckworth states the final plan will be presented at the August meeting after the self-assessment in May. Mayor Pro Tem Danny Hipps ask that we be proactive about the ADA plan

projects for budget planning. Mr. Duckworth states that the self-assessment does not lock you in to the project. The plan just identifies the Town projects. Councilmember Ronnie Williams asks about any project that needs to be completed immediately. Mr. Duckworth states that the new facilities should be up to code. Mr. Herms states that the insurance company comes in and conduct an audit on the facilities and they would notify us of any required changes. Example: The removal of the large slide in the park.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR PRO TEM DANNY HIPPS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS. TO ACCEPT THE ADA ACTION PLAN. WITH MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 5 – 0

10. Adjourn (Motion)

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS ADJOURN AT 7:15 PM MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 5-0

Respectfully Submitted:

Wanda Barnes, Town Clerk

Max Bumgarner Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Wanda Barnes, Town Clerk