

**TOWN OF MAIDEN**  
**July 14, 2020**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

The Maiden Town Council met on Tuesday, July 14, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. for their regularly scheduled meeting, held electronically via Zoom and at the Maiden Town Hall.

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

Also, present were Town Manager Todd Herms, Town Attorney Scott Conrad 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 Councilmember Danny Hipps.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Hipps.

4. Approval of the Agenda

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS TO APPROVE THE REQUEST OF COUNCILMEMBER RUDISILL TO AMEND THE AGENDA AND ADD OF NEW AND OLD BUSINESS AS PRESENTED 7/14/2020. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5-0.**

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER SIGMON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BETH RUDISILL TO APPROVE THE AMENDED AGENDA WITH THE ADDITION OF NEW AND OLD BUSINESS AS PRESENTED 7/14/2020. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5-0**

5. Citizens Requests & Comments

Planning and Zoning, Director, Mr. Blake Wright confirms no citizens in the chamber room. Madam Clerk Barnes confirms no citizens comments prior to the meeting.

Mayor Bumgarner suggests the town honor and a dedication for Jody Rogers and ask Councilmembers to make recommendations at the next Council meeting.

Councilmember Williams inquiries about the July Jive After Five event.

Mr. Herms confirms that the July Jive After Five event was canceled and the Governor extended the phase Two safer at home. It was extended to August 14, and the next Jive after Five is scheduled for August 14. The entertainment group agreed to use the deposits for next year.

Councilmember Hipps inquiries about the Fall sports activity at the Recreation Center. Mr. Herms said he is expecting an update from the High School association in a few days. Their decision will drive the decision for Fall sports. The Recreation Center should be able to provide football and volleyball, if the schools offer those sports. The only concern is getting volleyball and soccer uniforms and a shorter season, if fall sports is offered. Councilmember Williams inquiries about the splash pad. Mr. Herms states he do not want to make a decision about the splash pad at the moment. It will only take Public Works a week to get the splash pad operating. Mr. Herms confirms that playground equipment will not open until phase three.

Mr. Herms states there is no deadline date, but they are working on a plan for the Fall sports. Any child that played sports or registered with the Town of Maiden in the past two years the parents will receive an email updating them on the Recreation Department current status. Councilmember Hipps ask if the Recreation Department open to the public. Mr. Herms said that the Recreation Department is not open to the public and the part-time staff that normally works isn't working. Currently, the full-time staff is answering the phone, mowing the grass and keeping the grounds up. We will follow the guidelines of the Governor.

#### 6. Approval of Minutes

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES 6/9/2020 MEETING; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 5-0.**

#### 7. Consent Agenda

##### A. Finance Officer's Report July

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BOB SIGMON TO APPROVE THE FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 5-0**

#### 8. Old Business

Councilmember Rudisill ask Planning and Zoning Director, Mr. Blake Wright about the update on the development of Cancelors Crossing. Mr. Wright states that the residential project fell through. He had questions about commercial development for the property, but nothing in formal writing. Councilmember Rudisill inquiries about the development of the property at Carolina's Nonwovens. Mr. Herms states that the Town Attorney have contacted Nonwovens attorney, but information is limited due to negotiations. Currently, we are to hear back from their attorney, since there were changes in the initial negotiation. Attorney Scott Conrad confirms Mr. Herms statement. Councilmember Hipps asks about the waiting period timeframe. Attorney Conrad confirms the on going communication with Nonwovens attorney. Councilmember Michael inquiries about the number of houses in the project. Mr. Herm agreed to give updates about the project at a later date.

Councilmember Williams inquiries about curbside pick-up. Curbside pick-up is behind due to Covid-19 guidelines, staff illness and a 37% increase with residents being home more. Councilmember Williams had a citizen's concern, but he would like to acknowledge on their hard work.

Councilmember Rudisill request an update on the development of the new fire department. Mr. Herms states that the Fire Chief and the architect are still working on the plans. Councilmember Michael request information on what was eliminated from the new fire department plans. Mr. Herms agrees to provide the requested information.

Councilmember Rudisill inquiries about the patriotic contest. Mr. Herms states he was waiting on contact information for the contestant but will announce the winner.

Councilmember Sigmon states that the cemetery is below standards. Mr. Herms and Madam Clerk Barnes confirmed that the they would address the cemetery concerns.

## 9. New Business

Councilmember Rudisill states that the Town needs another dine in restaurant and grocery store. She would like for us to work with Scott from Catawba County economic development. Mr. Herms states that Catawba County economic development works with industrial for job growth. We have worked with the EDC for Electricities, but the town population and the location to Lincolnton and Newton works against us. Councilmember Hipps supports Mr. Herms about the town's population. Councilmember Hipps states that we need to take a look at independent grocery stores like IGA in Buffalo Shoals. Councilmember Williams said IGA and Galaxy were sponsored by NBI. Councilmember Hipps states that is a numbers game. Councilmember Williams said Mayor Smyers had little success when trying to get restaurants and grocery stores. Mayor Bumgarner states that an independent business may work. Councilmember Sigmon said the mail delivery numbers is the Town potential. Maiden post office serves about seven thousand people and that could be the selling point. Mr. Herms states they do a one, three- and five-mile radius count and the population have decreased. The Town need more housing developments to increase those numbers for recruiting companies. The hotel on 321 would have helped with attracting restaurants, but it fell through for different reasons. Mr. Herms said other things will need to take place before we can recruit nice dine in restaurants. Councilmember Rudisill asks if they would consider a traffic study in Maiden. Mr. Herms said a 5000 population and 30,000 for traffic count was needed when recruiting McDonalds. At that time the Town was at 3200 for population and 15,000 for traffic count for 321. The Town is also two exits down from the Lincolnton with a wide variety of restaurants. Mr. Herms states that Covid-19 will affect how people eat out in the future. He will reach out to Charity with EDC Electricites and see if she will attend the next in person meeting to discuss some of the business development questions. Councilmember Michael inquiries about why the prior restaurants like Hardee's and KFC closed. Mr. Herms said he does not have that information because it's been a long time. Councilmember Sigmon stated that Hardee's closed because of poor service. Councilmember Williams said that Hardee's made money but did not meet their profit goals. Councilmember Hipps states that Blake can recruit a quality restaurant for the Town. Mr. Herms states that the Town has 12 restaurants. Mr. Herm states it will be difficult to recruit a chain restaurant for downtown Maiden. The Council needs to decide on what type of restaurant they would like to see downtown. Councilmember Hipps recommends offering grant money like the town of Lincolnton. Councilmember Rudisill states that has been the Town of Newton and Conover success. Mr. Wright said he is looking at available State grant money for downtown and he spoke with the COG also. Councilmember Rudisill would like for the Council to develop a plan on how the Town will move forward with future businesses. Councilmember Sigmon asks who looks for commercial businesses and would that be Blake. Mr. Herms states that we rely on Electricities's, since they focus on small commercial business. Other cities have an economic developer or they hire a consultant. The dues to Electicites help cover that cost. Mr. Hipps inquiries about the

new code enforcement program. Mr. Wright states that he was in town this morning and he have not received any complaints. He is in town about two or three times a weeks.

10. Ordinances/Resolutions/Recognition

A. Resolution #2 - 2020 Adoption of the Unifour Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Mr. Wright explains that the Local Government has to pass a local mitigation plan with the surrounding governments for funding through the Federal Government. It was hosted in Caldwell County. It allows the Town to receive FEMA funds when we declare a disaster.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BOB SIGMON TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 2 – 2020 WITH MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 5 – 0**

B. Resolution # 3- 2020 Support of Public Health and Well Being of the Citizens of Maiden During the COVID -19 pandemic.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 3 – 2020 WITH MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 5 – 0**

11. Adjourn (Motion)

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL TO ADJOURN at 6:57 pm. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 5-0**

Respectfully Submitted:

Wanda Barnes, Town Clerk

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**Max Bumgarner Jr., Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

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**Wanda Barnes, Town Clerk**