

TOWN OF MAIDEN

January 8, 2019

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

The Maiden Town Council met on Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. for their regularly scheduled meeting, held in the Council Chambers at the Maiden Town Hall.

Present for the meeting were, Mayor Bob Smyre, Councilmembers, Trina Michael, Marcus Midgett, Danny Hipps and Ronnie Williams. Mayor Pro-Tem Max Bumgarner Jr was absent.

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 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Bob Smyre

The invocation was given by Mayor Bob Smyre.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Town Manger Todd Herms.

4. Approval of Agenda

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Citizens Requests and Comments

Councilmember Hipps offered his congratulations to Mary Henry, whose grandson played on the Clemson Tiger Football National Champion team.

Fire Chief Tracy Caldwell addressed Council regarding recognition from the North Carolina Rescue Association. Maiden Fire Department received certifications as a Medical Responder Unit and as a Heavy Rescue Provider. Chief Caldwell said he was very proud of these achievements and he thanked the Council for allowing the fire department to join the NC Rescue Association.

6. Consent Agenda

A. Finance Officer's Report- November and December

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL TO ACCEPT THE FINANCE OFFICERS REPORT FROM NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Approval of the Minutes 12/3/18 Regular Meeting

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 3, 2018 MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. New Business

A. Keep Catawba Beautiful-Amanda Kain

Amanda Kain introduced herself to the Council. She works for Catawba County heading the recycling program. She is also the Executive Director of the non-profit, Keep Catawba Beautiful. Ms. Kain presented a pilot project to the Council that is through Keep Catawba Beautiful. Ms. Kain highlighted some of the projects Keep Catawba Beautiful participates in, which include litter sweeps, recycled art projects and many others. One of Ms. Kain's favorite projects was the dumpster project. Keep Catawba Beautiful works with the Red Leaf Artist Collective to have artwork painted onto dumpsters. The Dumpster Project inspired the pilot project of adding art to signal cabinets. Keep Catawba Beautiful Board of Directors has approved this project. Ms. Kain met with Todd Herms and Billy Price about adding art to the signal cabinet at the gazebo. This cabinet is near the mural. The artwork presented compliments the existing mural. ASR Graphics will make the vinyl wrap for the cabinet. This will be the first signal cabinet beatified in Catawba County. It is low maintenance and the artwork does not interfere with the functionality of the cabinet. The cost is \$600 which would come out of the Downtown Revitalization budget.

Councilmember Hipps said he liked the idea. Councilmember Midgett asked if the heat from the box would cause a problem. Public Works Director Billy Price said it would not.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE KEEP CATAWBA COUNTY BEAUTIFUL PROJECT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Council Approval to Seek bids for demolition of former Police Station and Galaxy Store

Mr. Herms explained the Town would take possession of the Galaxy store in late spring. He would like to seek bids for the demolition of both the Galaxy and former Police Station. This may become a special project budget as it will span two fiscal years.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL TO SEEK BIDS FOR THE DEMOLITION OF THE GALAXY AND FORMER POLICE BUILDING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. Maiden High School Championship Rings

Mr. Herms addressed Council concerning a request from Jon Huffman, Head Tennis Coach to Kaine Houser, Maiden High School Athletic director. They are requesting financial support for the State Champion rings. No one remembers how previous State Champion rings were paid for and Mr. Herms requests the establishment of a policy that would be a set payment per athlete. Mr. Kaine asked for \$100.00 per athlete and Mr. Herms said if that pleased Council it would be the policy going forward. After discussion it was decided that the Athletic Director would need to make the request, the policy only applied to student athletes and the Town will pay 1/3 of the cost of the ring, not to exceed \$75 per athlete.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARCUS MIDGETT TO APPROVE THE POLICY THAT THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR MUST REQUEST FUNDING, THE TOWN WILL PAY 1/3 OF THE COST, NOT TO EXCEED \$75 PER ATHLETE FOR NC HIGH SCHOOL STATE CHAMPIONS AT MAIDEN HIGH SCHOOL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

D. Space Needs Assessment and Plans for Fire Department

Mr. Herms said he would like to begin doing preliminary work on the new Fire Department. CBSA has submitted a proposal on the space needs and will draw a concept for the new Fire Department. Mr. Herms said this will enable the town to apply for a USDA loan or grant in 2019. Also, there was money budgeted within the Fire budget to pay for the study.

Councilmember Hipps asked if the price included a detailed set of drawings. Mr. Herms said it would be detailed but not stamped by an engineer. Typically the cost of stamped drawings is 5% of the project which covers the architect fees, HVAC, everything. Councilmember Williams asked if using CBSA for this assessment would lock us into using that firm for architectural work. Mr. Herms said it would not.

Councilmember Williams asked if the Town could obtain existing blue prints from other departments to save money. Mr. Herms said this is an option however older blue prints may not be in compliance with current building codes. Councilmember Hipps asked when the needs assessment would be completed. Mr. Herms said it was about a four month turnaround. Councilmember Michael proposed that a deadline be set. Councilmember Michael asked when the start date for this project would be and Mr. Herms said he would speak to Mr. Beal. It would start within the next 30-60 days. Councilmember Michael asked about past projects and the time it took to complete those. The Town Hall space analysis took two months and the Police Station took a little longer.

Mr. Herms told Council he would get a definite timeline for them. Mr. Herms also stated he told Chief Caldwell to limit the number of those involved as more participants could make the process longer.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS TO PROCEED WITH THE SPACE NEEDS STUDY WITH STIPULATIONS THAT TIME ELEMENTS ARE INCORPORATED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

E. Council Authorization for Town Attorney to respond to Catawba County Foreclosure filings

Mr. Herms said when the Town is listed on a foreclosure lawsuit the attorney has to ask Council's permission to respond, which requires a closed session meeting. This motion would allow him to respond on the Town's behalf. Mr. Conrad requested it be put on the agenda when he does respond to these filings.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN ATTORNEY TO RESPOND TO CATAWBA COUNTY TAX FORECLOSURE NOTICES MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. Closed Session

A. NCGS 143-318.11 Personnel Matters

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARCUS MIDGETT TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

With no further comments...

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY RONNIE WILLIAMS TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:19 PM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth Yokley-Krige, Town Clerk

Robert L. Smyre, Mayor

ATTEST:

Elizabeth Yokley-Krige, Town Clerk