

TOWN OF MAIDEN

October 1, 2018

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

The Maiden Town Council met on Monday, October 1, 2018 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 Max Bumgarner Jr, Councilmembers, Trina Michael, Marcus Midgett, Danny Hipps 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 Councilmember Trina Michael.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Trina Michael.

4. Approval of Agenda

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

5. Citizens Requests and Comments

Roy Jones, CEO of Electricities addressed Council about Public Power Week, which is October 7-13. Mr. Jones said being a public power city gives the Town flexibility in recruiting and retaining businesses. Mr. Jones said Public Power Week is an opportunity to educate our citizens about the value of public power. It is also a great opportunity to recognize the employees who work to keep the power on.

Samantha Saunders from Piedmont Hardware addressed the Council with more ideas about increasing business in the downtown district. She said studies have shown Millennials like to purchase things on their phones, but this generation is also known for wanting to support a local community and small businesses.

Ms. Saunders asked if the Mayor could try to find national chain restaurants to locate in Maiden. The Mayor said he had tried in the past but was willing to try again. Ms. Saunders informed Council that her business and several others were sponsoring a Trunk or Treat on October 20th from 4 to 6 in the parking lot at Mae's Coffee Shop. Mr. Herms said he would like for the Trunk or Treat organizers to complete a Special Events Permit so the event would be covered if they needed services from the Town. This would also allow the Town to advertise the event on social media.

Ms. Saunders also told Council about visiting Belmont where they have events on the weekends including a 50/50 drawing where half goes to a local non-profit, the recipient last weekend was the Downtown Business Association. Councilmember Hipps suggested Ms. Saunders contact Lake Electric for the upcoming Trunk or Treat, he said they like to participate in local events. Mayor Smyre said he thought all the businesses in Town should be invited to join the business association. Mr. Smyre said Annie Ramseur had been bringing these issues up for years and it's time to get moving on them.

Mayor Smyre stated he and the manager had been in meetings with Kathryn Greathouse, Director of the Catawba County Arts Council. They plan to schedule musical acts for the coming year. Mr. Smyre said it was too late to schedule any musical events for 2018. Councilmember Danny Hipps reminded everyone to watch the Maiden High School Band, the Cosmic Cowboys, on Saturday evening.

Ms. Saunders ended her comments by saying she believed people preferred outdoor events with music.

At this time, Mr. Herms asked the Council to recognize Tammy Hawn, IT Director. Tammy earned her Certified Government Chief Information Officer certificate from the UNC School of Government. Mr. Herms thanked Tammy for her dedication to the ten-month course which covers critical issues facing local government.

6. Approval of the Minutes (9/17/18 Regular Meeting and Closed Session):

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM MAX BUMGARNER JR TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING AND CLOSED SESSION MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 17, 2018 MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Consent Agenda-Finance Officer's Report August

Councilmember Ronnie Williams asked about the CDs, he wanted to know if they had been renewed? Finance Officer Dianne Lowe told him they had been renewed. Mayor Pro Tem Max Bumgarner Jr asked Ms. Lowe about the Tax Collector's Report. On one line, there appeared to be 2 cemetery plots sold, but the total amount was reported as \$0.00. Ms. Lowe told Mayor Pro Tem Max Bumgarner Jr that was an error, no plots were sold. Councilmember Midgett asked about splitting the money for a CD and getting higher interest. Ms. Lowe said she did not think they would pay higher interest. She is researching C- however this is a new program and she did not have all the information. Councilmember Williams asked about the late penalties for 2018. Ms. Lowe said that comes from boats, 4-wheelers, trailers, etc.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER MARCUS MIDGETT AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS TO ACCEPT THE FINANCE OFFICERS REPORT FROM AUGUST. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. New Business

A. Appointment of Planning Board Member

Mr. Herms told Council that David Miller had resigned due to moving outside of Town limits. They only name that has been presented is Charlie Bass, brought forth by Councilmember Ronnie Williams. If there are any other names, please bring them forward at this time. At the next Council meeting, the Council will need to appoint a chairperson for the Planning Board of Adjustment.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL TO ACCEPT THE NOMINATION OF CHARLIE BASS TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Combining of Town Owned Lots

Mr. Herms told Council this concerned property at the Gazebo. There are six separate lots that make up the Town's property. This property was recently surveyed. Repairs need to be made on the curb behind Mae's as it is a safety hazard. George McClellan has indicated that he plans to do some construction therefore the Town should not spend a lot to correct the curb. After having the survey completed, it makes sense to combine the lots.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM MAX BUMGARNER JR TO APPROVE THE COMBINING OF TOWN OWNED LOTS INTO ONE PROPERTY. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. Ordinances

A. Ordinance 18-2018 An Ordinance to Amend the FY 2018-2019 Budget in the General Fund

Mr. Herms reminded Council about the Freon leak in our air conditioning system that needed attention. This budget amendment will cover the transfer we did to pay for these repairs. Town Hall is over five years old and most of the warranties have expired.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 18-2018. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Ordinance 19-2018 Road Closure Ordinance for Special Events

Mr. Herms told Council this is the ordinance that closes the roads for Halloween, the Christmas Parade and the Fourth of July Parade.

Mayor Smyre asked about road closure for Merry Maiden and Mr. Herms said the state has been reluctant to do that because of the location and time that Merry Maiden occurs.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 19-2018. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. Closed Session

A. NCGS 143-318.11 (3)

MOTION WAS MADE BY RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY TRINA MICHAEL TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION FOR CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

With no further comments...

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:42 PM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth Yokley-Krige, Town Clerk

Robert L. Smyre, Mayor

ATTEST:

Elizabeth Yokley-Krige, Town Clerk