

Maiden Town Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, November 8, 2022, 6:00 PM
Council Chamber, Maiden Town Hall

The Maiden Town Council met on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. for their regular scheduled meeting, held in the Town of Maiden Council Chamber.

Present for the meeting were, Mayor Max Bumgarner Jr., Mayor Pro Tem Beth Rudisill, Councilmembers Bob Sigmon, Danny Hipps, Cameron Ramseur, and Holly-Crafton-Lay.

Also, present were Town Manager Todd Herms, Town Attorney Tim Wallace and Town Clerk-HR Officer 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 Mayor Max Bumgarner, Jr.
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Max Bumgarner Jr.

4. Approval of the Agenda

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

5. Approval of Meeting Minutes

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER BOB SIGMON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER HOLLY CRAFTON-LAY TO APPROVE THE REGULAR SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5-0.

6. Citizen Requests & Comments

A. Town Manager Mr. Todd Herms states, I would like to welcome Attorney Tim Wallace, with the Deaton law firm. Attorney Scott Conrad is out campaigning for judgeship. Attorney Tim has been gracious enough to fill in for Attorney Conrad.

Citizen Mrs. Mary Henry states, I am concerned about the Union Street and Rosenwald parks. When are you going to start working on the parks? The Rosenwald park is standing in water. The water standing there isn't safe for the kids. Who picks out the equipment and designs the parks? Town Manager Mr. Todd Herms states, there is money in the up-and-coming budget for relocation and new playground equipment for both parks. We will remove the equipment out the water and Public Works will go in and work on the drainage issue. The Recreation Advisory Committee selected the equipment. Mrs. Henry states, we are concerned about the smaller kids. Do you pick out the equipment by age? Mr. Herms states, they have

selected equipment that will serve both age groups. We are removing the Union Street basketball court and relocating it. We are also relocating the Rosenwald's court.

Councilmember Mr. Danny Hipps states, we had a great deal of positive feed back about the Halloween Movie in the park. I also had a citizen suggest the town paying for the Veteran bricks for the wall. After research with Wanda and visiting the wall, there are a lot of bricks being purchased for family members. There are bricks for residents and nonresidents. I think it would be tough for the town to purchase the bricks for the Veterans. I would suggest another organization like the American Legion, VFW, or the Veteran Administration in the County. Maybe they can sponsor some of the bricks. Town Manager states, we have worked with residents that could not afford the bricks. Town Manager states, Joe Duckworth has planned a Veterans Day event for the town. His last day with the town will be Friday. He has taken a job as an Accountant for the City of Shelby. This is a promotion for him. It is on Friday, November 11, 2022, from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm.

Mayor Pro Tem Beth Rudisill state, we had a great turnout for the Hunger Walk. Our goal was to raise \$15,000.00, but we raised \$33,000.00. It was a very successful event. It was suggested to block off the streets and possibly moving it around to different towns and cities. Councilmember Hipps states, I appreciate Wanda organizing the town's participation. Town Manager Mr. Todd Herms states, the Christmas parade is November 26, 2022, at 3:00 pm. I will be sending out information to Council if you will be participating and would like to be picked up from the middle school. Mayor Pro Tem Beth Rudisill states, I had several people at church ask, if we will be able to throw candy this year. Town Manager, Mr. Todd Herms states, we are going to convert back to the same rules he had before COVID. Councilmember Holly Crafton-Lay states, do you have any update about parking on the streets? Town Manager, Mr. Todd Herms states, that is a lengthy process and once we have the plan of action, we will bring it before council. Councilmember Cameron Ramseur states, I have a citizen concern about the lighting on main street. Mayor Max Bumgarner states, are we allow streetlights on main street? It is dark on main street at night. The area from Mae's on down main street. Town Manager states, we will look into the main street lighting. Councilmember Holly Crafton- Lay states, I thought the store at the end of West Maiden and Startown road was a grocery store. It is clearly a Dollar General. Mr. Herms states, they call it DG fresh. Councilmember Crafton-Lay states, the sign matches a regular Dollar General. Do we know for a fact that it is a DG Fresh? Councilmember Danny Hipps states, that is what we were told. Town Manager Todd Herms states, Blake is that on the permit? Planning and Zoning Directors, Blake Wright states, that is what their developer indicated. Councilmember Crafton – Lay states, from what I have seen that is a Dollar General not a grocery store. This goes back to what I said, we need more grocery stores. Town Manager Todd Herms states, we must do a walk through, and we will know at that point. Mayor Max Bumgarner states, Blake do you know when they will open? Mr. Wright states, we must address their erosion control, we should know something in the next two weeks.

7. Presentation

- A. Police Chief, Tracy Ledford states, Mr. Charles Mackey is here to present Safe Communities Initiative presentation. It has been about two years since he has been here. We have been a part of the Safe Communities Initiative for about six years. There are several municipalities in Catawba County that participate in this program. He does an excellent job. We have call in coming up and you are welcome to attend those. If you have never attended one, it is an eye opener. Mr. Charles Mackey states, the Catawba County Safe Communities Initiative started in 2010. The program addresses the growing gang activity in Catawba County. It is a collaboration of the law enforcement and the community to address group violence. After a two-year Governor grant the government decided to continue funding the program. I enjoy coming

out and thanking the Council for continuing the initiative. It is based around a call in or notification. It is a strategy to address the crime and gives them access to resources and training. The goal of the program is to reduce violence. We have history and numbers to show that we have affected some of the gang activity in the community. It has been a very successful program. Councilmember Danny states, Kudos to you and your team.

8. Consent Agenda

A. Finance Officer's Report (Motion)

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER HOLLY CRAFTON-LAY AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM BETH RUDISILL TO AMEND THE FINANCE OFFICERS REPORT. A CHECK RECEIVE IN THE MAIL FOR \$5740.00, PROPERTY MAINTENANCE AND BACK TAXES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5-0.

9. Public Hearing Open – 6:38 Closed 6:46

A. Crosswalk – 14 E Boyd Street

Public Works Director, Bryan Duckworth states, we looked at DOT requirements and what it will take to complete a midblock crosswalk. It meets DOT requirement, of 300 ft from the intersection. I looked at some flashing solar power beacons. They will be activated on either side of the road to give traffic additional notification of kids crossing the road. Councilmember Hipps states, is there a difference in price for the one that has the streetlight, and it comes on when it is triggered. Mr. Duckworth states, there is a streetlight at the crosswalk. Mayor Pro Tem Beth Rudisill states, is it triggered by oncoming traffic? Mr. Duckworth states, when pedestrians crossing, and it is push button. Town Manager Mr. Todd Herms states, there is one on elbow road for construction workers. Mrs. Mary Henry states, I think there is a lot of traffic and adding the sign for the kids is going to be dangerous. Councilmember Hipps states, I think it is already dangerous. The kids will not be there in the morning traffic, they will be in school. To do nothing is more dangerous.

10. Old Business

A. Master Park Plan Marty Beal (Motion)

Engineer Marty Beal state, you have before you the Master Plan drawing that was submitted. We are submitting the probable cost and what it will take to implement the plan. We divided the project into three phases. Phase one being the amphitheater, stage, restrooms, and parking. Phase two picnic shelter and restrooms for the splash pad area and the playground expansion. Phase three is the community expansion. The probable cost is a quick overview that is base upon projecting prices. It is difficult to project price, because of how they are now. They are changing so rapidly. We are trying to forecast what prices are now, knowing they are always moving and project price for one, two and three years out. Phase one is approximately \$4.8 million. Phase two is approximately \$800,000.00. Phase three \$6.5 million. Approximately \$12 million to implement all three phases if they are implemented in a year. The last three columns show a 10% inflation increase, for 2023 and 2024, if it is implemented to be phased over time. Town Manager, Mr. Todd Herms states, no one expects this to be completed in three years. This is a multiple year project. Councilmember Hipps states, is this project cost for down the road or current? Mr. Beal states, we will call this current cost, but I have project for one and two years in the last two columns.

For each year it is a 10% inflation cost. Not knowing what that rate will be, that is what it is based on. Councilmember Crafton-Lay states if we pull the trigger today the cost will be \$11,889,255.00. Mr. Beal states, yes. Councilmember Hipps states, how much would that save us if we did it today as opposed to three years. Mr. Beal states, it would save about \$14 million. Mr. Herms states, it is important to understand that we are doubling the community center. That is something we are looking at in the way future. Councilmember Crafton-Lay states, I think all of this is in the way future. I don't know where the \$11million will come from, when we just split hair over a \$8 million fire department. Mr. Herms states, I am not talking about completing all three phases at one time. I am not recommending any of it. Council asked me to put together the project, I got Marty to help me, and this is what the findings are. Councilmember Crafton-Lay states, its hard to digest the \$11 million. I call them nice to have items, not true necessities. We have two other parks that don't have restrooms. Councilmember Hipps states, I think your points are valid. We discuss everything with money. We as a group came to a consensus to build the fire department. Currently, we do not have the recreation facilities for the programs that we a putting out there. We must do something for our youth programs. Town Manager states, you are approving the plan, and not the funding. The plan is a base model we can use moving forward. Councilmember Hipps states, I am going to challenge staff, council, and manager to seek grants.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BOB SIGMON TO APPROVE THE MAIDEN MASTER PARK PLAN. MOTION CARRIED 4-1. HOLLY CRAFTON-LAY – NO

B. Vehicle Lease

Town Manager Mr. Todd Herms states, last meeting we wanted to look at the entire lease. We ran into an issue where we cannot find any police department that have sold their vehicles after they have put in the equipment. We are hesitant until we get more data. I ask that council allow me to negotiate a contract with enterprise on the four vehicles for public works and the one administration vehicle. This will be less than what we put in the capital budget. Mayor Pro Tem Beth Rudisill states, can you sell the vehicles to another police department? Town Manager Mr. Herms states, you can, but they are looking to sale it to the public. You must take all the equipment out before they sale it. Mayor Max Bumgarner states, we have donated a few cars to other towns.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER CRAFTON-LAY AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS TO APPROVE GIVING THE TOWN MANAGER THE AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE A CONTRACT WITH ENTERPRISE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5-0.

11. New Business

A. Council Meeting Schedule 2023 (Motion)

B. Holiday Schedule 2023 (Motion)

Town Manager Mr. Todd Herms states, there are three date changes. We moved February 14, to the 7th and we have two meetings in the morning for people that work second shift. May 9th and November 14, in the fall. Mayor Pro Tem Beth Rudisill states, will November 14, 2022, be election day? Town Manager Mr. Todd Herms states, election is the week before. Council will run for election, and they will

have the result that Wednesday. They are not certified until 14 days. No Councilmember will take a seat until December.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM BETH RUDISILL TO APPROVE THE BID FOR THE COUNCIL AND HOLIDAY SCHEDULE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5-0.

12. Ordinance/Resolution

- A. Ordinance #9-2023 An Ordinance To Amend The FY 2022-2023 Budget in The Electric Department (Motion)

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR PRO TEM BETH RUDISILL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BOB SIGMON TO AMEND THE FY 2022-2023 BUDGET. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5-0.

- B. Ordinance #10-2023 An Ordinance To Amend the Maiden Code of Ordinances pedestrian crosswalk (Motion)

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM BETH RUDISILL TO AMEND THE MAIDEN CODE OF ORDINANCES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5-0.

- C. Resolution # 4 -2023 A Resolution To Amend the Employee Group Insurance plan January, 1, Fiscal Year 2023. (Motion)

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BOB SIGMON TO AMEND THE EMPLOYEE GROUP INSURANCE PLAN. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5-0.

13. Adjourn

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER BOB SIGMON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER HOLLY CRAFTON LAY TO ADJOURN AT 7:32. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted:
Wanda Barnes, Town Clerk

Max Bumgarner Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Wanda Barnes, Town Clerk