

## TOWN OF MAIDEN

September 17, 2018

### MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

The Maiden Town Council met on Monday, September 17, 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 Marcus Midgett and Ronnie Williams.

Councilmember Trina Michael 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 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Robert L. Smyre.

The invocation was given by Mayor Pro-Tem Max Bumgarner Jr

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Pro-Tem Max Bumgarner Jr.

#### 4. Approval of Agenda

Mayor Smyre stated item 8D needed to be removed.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARCUS MIDGETT TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### 5. Citizens Requests and Comments

Samantha Sanders addressed Council about ways merchants and business owners could work with the town to bring more foot traffic and business to the down town district. Her ideas included a coupon book featuring local businesses, small businesses featured on the town website, vendors downtown for the Fall Festival and host more sport tournaments.

As a business owner she stated she has never seen so many young people in the town. She asked if the county or town offered incentives to bring business into towns. Mr. Herms said there were incentives, but those were focused on creating jobs. Mr. Herms stated there were building re-use grants from the State and some funds from the Economic Development Corporation.

Mayor Smyre said the merchants could start their own organization such as a merchant commission. He also mentioned the town was meeting with the Catawba County Arts Council to have musical events within the town. Mr. Herms added that he and the Council had toured other downtowns and Maiden was considering joining the NC Main Street Program.

Ms. Sanders mentioned Greenville, South Carolina's down town. Mr. Herms said he believed there were grants and donations from corporate sponsors to revitalize the downtown. He also stated that Hickory is modeling their plans after Greenville and to raise funds there was a bond referendum which resulted in a tax increase.

Councilmember Danny Hipps thanked Ms. Sanders for bringing her ideas. He agrees with the Town Manager that the Town and business owners need to work together. Councilmember Hipps said he was very impressed with Belmont. They brought more people down town with activities.

Mayor Smyre said he spoke with the Valdese Mayor and the music they sponsor every week is paid for by business and industries within the town.

Councilmember Ronnie Williams stated that these are long-term projects.

Mayor Smyre said we need something for pull power like a festival.

Annie Ramseur asked the council what had been taking them so long to get more business into the town.

Penny Howe who owns Rose Hill Antique Store said she was told her business would fail if she opened it in Maiden because people in Maiden do not support local businesses. She said she has grown her business despite few customers from town. Ms. Howe is disappointed in the lack of retail space down town and the condition of the buildings in down town. She stated building codes had not been enforced which resulted in the deterioration of the buildings. Ms. Howe sends customers to other local businesses. Ms. Howe said the town needs to do something to bring in more business. She says the town needs to force people to keep up their buildings. She would like to see Maiden as a destination.

George McClellan spoke on the down town. He said Maiden does not have a down town, the buildings are beyond repair. Mr. McClellan is planning to use property he has to construct two buildings. He believes that sooner or later the buildings on Main Street are going away.

#### 6. Approval of Regular Meeting and Closed Session Minutes 8/6/18

**MOTION MADE BY MAYOR PRO TEM MAX BUMGARNER JR AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING AND CLOSED SESSION MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 6, 2018 MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### 7. Consent Agenda

A. Finance Officers Report-July

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED MAYOR PRO TEM MAX BUMGARNER JR TO APPROVE THE FINANCE OFFICERS REPORT FOR JULY. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8. New Business

A. Recreation Advisory Committee

Tonia Starr and Scott Carpenter's term is expiring, and they would like to serve again.

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER MARCUS MIDGETT AND SECONDED COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS TO REAPPOINT TONIA STARR AND SCOTT CARPENTER TO THE REC ADVISORY COMMITTEE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. Uniform Guidance and Conflict of Interest Policy

Mr. Herms explained this was required to be adopted if the town wished to apply for federal money such as grants or disaster relief. This policy mirrors the purchasing policy we already have. This is required if we apply for federal dollars.

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM MAX BUMGARNER JR TO ADOPT THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE AND CONFLICT OF INTERST POLICY. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

C. Maiden Delivery Service Agreement with Duke Energy

Mr. Herms said this agreement had been in the works for about a month. It will allow Duke Energy to serve building 1 of GKN through our lines. It's called willing. The contract will last 20 to 24 months; Duke should complete their substation by November 2020. If the substation is not completed on-time, the agreement changes to a month to month basis. Duke will be paying about \$4,000 a month. Mr. Herms asked the Council to excuse Councilmember Danny Hipps from voting on this item as he is a manager with Duke Energy.

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY MARCUS MIDGETT TO EXCUSE COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS DUE TO A CONFLICT OF INTEREST. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM MAX BUMGARNER JR APPROVE THE AGREEMENT WITH DUKE ENERGY. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Herms said that while it would be ideal for Duke to start the project tomorrow, they will be a bit delayed due to Hurricane Florence and the outages down east. They will start as soon as there is a crew available.

Mr. Herms reminded everyone the grand opening of the Police Department would be held on Monday September 24<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 to 5:30.

## 9. Resolutions/Ordinances

### A. Resolution 2-2018 Authorizing Application for Wastewater Asset Inventory and Assessment Grant

Mr. Herms explained this was a grant the town was wished to apply for. It will allow us to contract with someone to evaluate our sewer lines. Mr. Herms it doesn't state that we have to fix lines but helps with long term planning. If we receive this grant we will use this more in the rights-of-way which are most expensive to assess.

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS TO ACCEPT RESOLUTION 2-2018 TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN TO APPLY FOR THE WASTEWATER ASSET INVENTORY GRANT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### B. Ordinance 16-2018 To Amend the Capital Project Budget Ordinance for the Water Plant Dam Project and Water/Sewer Fund

Mr. Herms stated this budget amendment was due to all the rain we have been having. The town needs to pump the water out of the pond at the dam. This budget amendment is to pay for the pumps we are using to pump the water out. This was an unforeseeable event. There is money in the fund balance to cover this expenditure.

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER MARCUS MIDGETT AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS TO APPROVE ORDINACE 16-2018. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### C. Ordinance 17-2018 Road Closure Maiden High School Homecoming Parade

An entity at MHS is holding a Homecoming Parade, we need to pass this ordinance because this is a DOT road. The closure is on October 7<sup>th</sup> from 2:30 to 4:30.

Councilmember Hipps asked if we do this for other events. Mr. Herms said we pass one that covers all the events for a year.

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM MAX BUMGARNER JR TO APPROVE ORDINACE 17-2018. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## 10. Closed Session

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS TO APPROVE TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION FOR NCGS 143-318.11 (5) PROPERTY ACQUISITION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

With no further comments...

**MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR PRO TEM MAX BUMGARNER JR AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:07 PM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth Yokley-Krige, Town Clerk

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**Robert L. Smyre, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

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**Elizabeth Yokley-Krige, Town Clerk**