



**TOWN OF ELM CITY
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
February 14, 2023, at 6:30 PM
Town Hall Office 117 S. Railroad St.**

In attendance:

Mayor Tawanda Moore (hereinafter, Mayor Moore)
Mayor Pro Tem Tammie Atkinson (hereinafter, Commissioner Atkinson)
Commissioner Gil Wheeler (hereinafter, Commissioner Wheeler)
Commissioner David Greene (hereinafter, Commissioner Greene)
Commissioner Zackery Mercer (hereinafter, Commissioner Mercer)

Also in Attendance:

Public Works Administrator Theresa Whitley (hereinafter, PWA Whitley)
Zoning Officer Shawn Lucas (hereinafter, Zoning Officer Lucas)
Office Assistant Ashley Bass (hereinafter, Ashley Bass)

Absent

Commissioner Tim Bridgers (hereinafter, Commissioner Bridgers)

Call To Order: Mayor Moore called the regular council meeting to order on February 14, 2023 at 6:30pm. Mayor Moore invited those with citizens' concerns or special comments for the honorary to sign the sign-in sheet to make their concerns and comments heard.

Invocation: Mayor Moore

Pledge Of Allegiance: Mayor Moore

Approval of Agenda: Mayor Moore asked for a motion to approve the agenda for February 14, 2023 council meeting. Commissioner Wheeler made the motion to approve the agenda and Commissioner Mercer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Mayor Moore asked for a motion to approve January 10, 2022 regular council meeting minutes. Commissioner Wheeler made the motion to approve the January 10, 2022 minutes and Commissioner Atkinson seconded the motion. Motioned passed unanimously.

Public Hearings/Comments: Mayor Moore read the instructions of the Public Hearings/Comments, and opened the floor for public comments.

Presentations/Discussions:

- A. Willie Williams: Spoke on behalf of the Frederick Douglas Alumni Association acknowledging their application for ARP funding to repair their house in town. Was said they would have their answer to their application in 7 days.
- B. Brooks Barkley: Spoke and explained about the trees being cut down at Second Blessings. Commissioner Wheeler made a motion to get right on it, Commissioner Atkinson seconded the motion, vote was unanimous.
- C. Mike Tolson: Spoke on needing the resolution from November accepting the grant so the project can accept monies. Also mentioned that monies must be encumbered by the end of 2024 and they will go away by 2026 if not used. Checks have been previously approved and need to be written.
- D. Phillip Briley: Suggested that lack of maintenance caused Cedar Ridge Well to fail. Pump is out at the primary lagoon. Would like for rotating assembly to be approved. Commissioner Wheeler wants a written quote on Cedar Ridge- 1 pump. Will take 12-14 days to get quote. Quote for turtle lagoon has already been sent.
- E. Charles Kirby: Spoke about the neighbor's driveway that has a cement portion that is across his property line. Wants the town to pay for removal. Showed pictures of it to different commissioners. Was said we would get back with him.
- F. Travis Clarke: Spoke on the big leak on Cobb Drive. Asbestos was found in the line. It was repaired, but needs to be replaced with grant money. When lines are replaced, ditches need to be graded.
- G. A.W. Poole: Recommended yield test for school house well. That well needs to be working. Pipe was installed in October 2019. Recommended well to be tested and pump replaced. Out of 5 wells, we only have 1 working. We are currently using 160k gallons of water per day with City of Wilson. We are only contracted for 100k per day. Mr. Poole says he will honor the price of the previous quote he gave. Commissioner Wheeler thinks we should do the test. Commissioner Wheeler made the motion to test the ballfield well using ARP funds, Commissioner Mercer seconded the motion, vote was 3-1.
- ❖ We will be using Carolina Pump and Sewer instead of Ray Bostic. Notice was sent to Mr. Bostic informing him of our notice. Commissioner Greene made the motion to accept, Commissioner Mercer seconded the motion, vote was unanimous.
- ❖ Quote of \$2,914 was given for 204 S. Branch St to repair sidewalk. City is responsible for this repair, state won't touch it. More estimates will be collected. DOT need to clean storm drains on state roads.
- ❖ We spoke about selecting an advisory committee from the school system and ask children ideas to redesign Spivey Park as a civic activity. Commissioner Greene made the motion to accept, Commissioner Mercer seconded the motion, vote was unanimous. Idea was mentioned to install

the poles with blue lights around the city. The Mayor and Theresa are supposed to contact schools about the advisory committee.

- ❖ Spoke on buying swings for the S. Parker St park. Going to buy the low end 3 pack and 2 from RB Outdoor. Commissioner Greene made the motion to approve, Commissioner Mercer seconded the motion, vote was unanimous. They are to use funds from the budget and public works is to install. Also, holes need to be filled in at the end of the slide.
- ❖ Commissioner Greene wants Zoning Officer Lucas to find out if controlled burns want to sell the land for new owners.
- ❖ Spoke about possibly partnering with Wilson about contract and rates.

Action Items:

- a. Fire hydrant repair: Commissioner Mercer made a motion to accept, Commissioner Wheeler and Commissioner Atkinson seconded the motion, vote was unanimous.
- b. Tree cut and removal at Spivey Park: \$6,500 ARP funds used, Commissioner Greene made the motion to accept, Commissioner Wheeler seconded the motion, vote was unanimous.
- c. Elm City Library using \$2,100 ARP funds: amount was updated to \$3,100, approve application pending table amount, Commissioner Greene made a motion to accept, Commissioner Mercer and Commissioner Wheeler seconded the motion, vote was unanimous. Want multiple quotes on everything.
- d. Vote to petition the Wilson County Commissioners to allowing Wilson County tax office to collect our Toisnot Fire District taxes: Commissioner Wheeler made the motion to accept, Commissioner Greene seconded the motion, vote was unanimous. Mayor is to talk with County Manager.
- e. Budget Amendment #2: Commissioner Wheeler made a motion to approve, Commissioner Mercer seconded the motion, vote was unanimous.

Unfinished Business: NONE

New Business: NONE

Town Staff Reports:

Public Works Report: Ms. Whitley gave the monthly update on Public Works

Zoning Code Enforcement: Zoning Officer Lucas gave the monthly update on Code Enforcement and Zoning-related topics.

Mayor & Commissioner's Reports:

Mayor Moore gave her report on updates with the Town.

Closed Session: Commissioner Wheeler motioned to go into a Closed Session; Commissioner Mercer seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.