

TOWN OF ELM CITY PUBLIC HEARING MEETING MINUTES June 25, 2024, at 6:00 PM Elm City Train Depot 101 Nash St.

In attendance:

Mayor Tawanda Moore (hereinafter, Mayor Moore)

Mayor Pro Tem Tammie Atkinson (hereinafter, Commissioner Atkinson)

Commissioner Gil Wheeler (hereinafter, Commissioner Wheeler)

Commissioner Bridget Wimberley (hereinafter, Commissioner Wimberley)

Also in Attendance:

Town Attorney Slade Rand (hereinafter, Slade Rand) Customer Service Administrator Melissa Younger (hereinafter, Melissa Younger)

Absent

Commissioner Tim Bridgers (hereinafter, Commissioner Bridgers)

Commissioner Zachary Mercer (hereinafter, Commissioner Mercer)

Zoning Officer Shawn Lucas (hereinafter, Zoning Officer Lucas)

Public Works Supervisor Wilbur Etheridge (hereinafter, Wilbur Etheridge)

Call To Order: Mayor Moore called the Public Hearing Meeting to order on June 25, 2024 at 6:00pm.

Invocation: Mayor Moore

Pledge Of Allegiance: Mayor Moore

Approval of Agenda: Mayor Moore asked for a motion to approve the agenda for the June 25, 2024 Public Hearing Meeting. Commissioner Wheeler asked to add Heritage Cemetery to action items. Commissioner Wheeler made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Heritage Cemetery. Commissioner Wimberley seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously**.

Public Hearings/Comments:

Mayor Moore asked for a motion to go into Public Hearing. Commissioner Atkinson made a motion to into public Hearing. Commissioner Wheeler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Toni Merando was not happy with the presentation of the budget. She stated that the budget should have been made available for 10 days for the public to review.

Robin Savoie inquired about the town's checking account and spoke about a leak on her property.

Joshua Robinson was pleased to see \$20,000 listed in the budget for Parks & Recreation, and has asked in the past to invest in things for the youth to do in town.

Teresa Summerlin inquired about several line items on the budget, including the Sherrif Department. She also stated that the budget should have been made available to the public for 10 days before the public hearing.

Gabe Merando was concerned about the money allotted in the budget for several line items; including salaries, the Public Works building and vehicle maintenance.

Mayor Moore asked for a motion to come out of Public Hearing. Commissioner Wheeler made a motion to come out of Public Hearing. Commissioner Wimberley seconded the motion. <u>The motion passed unanimously</u>.

Mayor Moore asked for a motion to go into closed session. Commissioner Atkinson made a motion to go into closed session. Commissioner Wimberley seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously**.

Mayor Moore asked for a motion to readjourn. Commissioner Wimberley made a motion to readjourn. Commissioner Atkinson seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously**.

Action Items:

- Mayor Moore asked for a motion to adopt the Budget Ordinance for FY 2024-2025 with
 the property tax rate of 55 cents and the increase of 15 cents each for both water and
 sewer fees. Commissioner Wimberley made a motion to adopt the Budget Ordinance for
 FY 2024-2025 with the property tax rate of 55 cents and the increase of 15 cents each for
 both water and sewer fees. Commissioner Atkinson seconded the motion. Commissioner
 opposed the motion. The motion passed 2-1.
- Mayor Moore asked for a motion to approve end of year employee bonuses for FY 23.
 Commissioner Atkinson made a motion to approve end of year employee bonuses.
 Commissioner Wimberley seconded the motion. Commissioner Wheeler opposed the motion.
 The motion passed 2-1.

- Mayor Moore asked for a motion to retain and promote Melissa Younger from Customer Service Administrator to the position of Interim Town Clerk. Commissioner Wheeler made motion to obtain and promote Melissa Younger from Customer Service Administrator to the position of Interim Town Clerk. Commissioner Wimberley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Mayor Moore asked for a motion to retain current Town Administrator with additional hours and pay. Commissioner Wimberley made a motion to retain current Town Administrator with additional hours and pay. Commissioner Atkinson seconded the motion. Commissioner Wheeler opposed the motion. The motion passed 2-1.

Adjournment: Mayor Moore asked for motion to adjourn the Public Hearing Meeting. Commissioner Atkinson made the motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting. Commissioner Wimberley seconded motion. The motion passed unanimously.