



ELM CITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2018
ELM CITY TOWN HALL
CONFERENCE ROOM

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order**

Mayor Grady Smith (hereinafter "Mayor Smith") called to order the regular meeting of the Elm City Board of Commissioners (hereinafter "Board") at 7:30 pm, on June 12, 2018.

2. **Roll Call**

Mayor Smith conducted a roll call. The following were present:

Commissioner, Dale Childress (hereinafter "Comm. Childress")
Commissioner, Melvin Cooke (hereinafter "Comm. Cooke")
Commissioner, John Edwards (hereinafter "Comm. Edwards")
Commissioner, Marsha Wells (hereinafter "Comm. Wells")
Commissioner, Gil Wheeler (hereinafter "Comm. Wheeler")
Town Administrator, Jonathan Russell (hereinafter "Admin. Russell")

3. **Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting**

Mayor Smith gave the Board opportunity to review the proposed minutes from the May 15, 2018, meeting.

MOTION: Comm. Cooke made motion to approve the May 15, 2018 meeting minutes; seconded by Comm. Wheeler. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. **Public Hearing Budget FY 18/19**

MOTION: Comm. Cooke made motion to move into the public hearing for the FY 18/19 Budget; seconded by Comm. Edwards. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Admin. Russell presented the FY 18/19 Budget Message to the Board and citizens. There was not much change to the proposed budget from the previous fiscal year. The tax nor utility rate changed. Although county wide the tax values of properties decreased, the Town held steady with Solar Farm tax monies. The Town will be working with two capital projects, the waterline replacement and sewer expansion. The Town operates on a 1.5 million day to day operating budget. There was no need to raise the water and sewer rates as the Town stayed within the previous budget with expenditures.

There were no questions or concerns posed by the public nor commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Cooke made motion to move out of public hearing; seconded by Comm. Wheeler. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

MOTION: Comm. Childress made motion to approve the FY 18/19 budget, seconded by Comm. Cooke. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

5. Administrator's Report

- A. FY 18/19 Budget Approval: There are no proposed increases to utility and property tax rates for the upcoming fiscal year. The wastewater expansion project will be the largest expenditure for the year, while also focusing on reducing expenditures where possible.
- B. Water Filtration Project: The preliminary engineering report is under review by the department of water infrastructure. They are analyzing the proposed technology and its effectiveness for lowering iron and manganese levels. Additional information has been provided by McGill Engineering to further illustrate the improvement of the overall system. Once the report is approved, the Town will have the ability to approach LGC for approval of loan funds.
- C. Wastewater Expansion Project Update: Both the Raleigh central and regional office will provide a formal response regarding their technical review of the updated soils and hydrogeologic report. The report will provide additional clarification on the anticipated daily flow rate in order to move forward with project design. Once a letter of response is received, Admin. Russell will forward to the Board.
- D. CDBG-I Project Update: Completion is nearing for the CDBG-I project. There are a few remaining meters to install along with road repair and cleanup. The connecting loop was made along Vine Street within the project scope to complete the connection through the neighborhood. The loop took two dead ends out of the water system. The 300 feet along West Nash Street, to increase line size from two to six inches, is not located within the survey area and CDBG will not fund the work. Cost would be nearly \$45,000 plus \$20,000 in engineering and permitting. Admin. Russell will check with Haddock for a quote. A progress meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 13 at 10:30. Admin. Russell encouraged available Board members to attend.
- E. Bank Recruitment Update: Admin. Russell has remained in contact with Mike Bryant of Southern Bank, regarding the possibility of placing a satellite branch in Town. There is some concern about the close proximity to the branch located in

Sharpsburg, and the bank is seeking some type of incentives from the Town to limit their liability. Admin Russell has spoken with the current owner of the building, who is also actively seeking a bank that would be willing to occupy the space.

F. Street Resurfacing Project: Weaver's Asphalt staff is having some health-related issues that have caused additional delay in the resurfacing project in Town. They have assured Admin. Russell that they will begin work in the upcoming weeks, however a defined timeline has not been provided.

G. Sanitary Sewer Debt Service Payment: The annual debt service payment for the USDA sanitary sewer project was paid on June 1, 2018, in the amount of \$168,440.

H. Additions:

1. Mark Ivey, with Aire Communication Group, has met with Admin. Russell and would like to bring internet service to the Town. The company is interested in leasing space on the water tank to place their receiver. Lease would bring in \$400. Motion is needed by the Board for Aire Communications to move forward with design.

MOTION: Comm. Cooke made motion that Aire Communication Group move forward with design, as well as the Town agreeing to the \$400 monthly fee; seconded by Comm. Wheeler. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

2. *MOTION: Comm. Childress made motion that the Town adopt the water supply plan; seconded by Comm. Cooke. Motion passed by unanimous vote.*

3. Admin. Russell presented Budget Amendment Three to the Board for approval.

MOTION: Comm. Edwards made motion that Budget Amendment Three be approved; seconded by Comm. Cooke. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. Admin. Russell mentioned that he felt it would be a good idea to place information on the Town's Facebook page regarding the Weatherization Program giving guidelines and restrictions, to make more information available to the Town citizens.

6. Invoices

Admin. Russell presented the Board with the monthly Town invoices in the agenda packet.

MOTION: Comm. Cooke made motion to pay bills; seconded by Comm. Edwards. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

7. Comments from Public Floor

Shirley Barron, of 101 David Lane, mentioned her interest in having the paving work done.

The owner of property at 320 Beauvue Road was present at the meeting. He addressed the Board with questions regarding grants that may be available to help secure another home, due to a fire that took place at the property a few years ago. Admin. Russell will provide him of information available.

George Deering, of Wilson Communications, was at the meeting and was seeking information as to whether or not more solar farms will be coming to the area. The solar panels and cell towers react against their reception. He mentioned his excitement about the upcoming Elms Festival.

8. Commissioner Concerns

Comm. Edwards mentioned concerns for nearby properties adjacent to the Family Dollar located just outside of the Town limits. The store continually over-fills their dumpster, which inevitably blows into neighboring properties. He questioned if it was feasible for the Town Office to reach out to correct the issue. Admin. Russell mentioned that the office has made contact with the store manager and district manager in the past and will do so to correct the issue.

The PARTF grant was submitted on May 1st, hoping to utilize the existing building for restroom purposes. Admin. Russell feels the Town turned in a worthwhile application.

Sherry Peele, with the Wilson County Health Department, was at the meeting with interest in moving the barn located on Town property on Homestead Road. It is her intentions that the barn be moved to the migrant camp adjacent to the property to be used for storage.

MOTION: Comm. Wheeler made motion that the Town give permission to have the barn removed from the Town-owned property, donating it to the migrant camp for storage; seconded by Comm. Cooke. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

9. Adjournment

Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:40 pm, June 12, 2018, upon motion of Board.

MOTION: Motion was made to adjourn by Comm. Edwards; seconded by Comm. Childress. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Minutes submitted by Dena H. Owens, Town Clerk