

Town of Hamilton Monthly Board Meeting
New Hamilton Town Hall
August 4,2022 @7:00 pm

Present: Mayor Williams; Commissioners: Freeman, Goodrich, Spivey, Stewart and Jackson

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Williams at 7:11pm. The prayer was given by Mayor Williams and Pledge to flag was recited by all.

Mayor Williams read the minutes from the July 7th, 2022, board meeting. Corrections were made to Commissioner Spivey's report regarding the discharge line at the wastewater plant. Mike and Anthony will continue to monitor the issue. Motion to approve minutes as read with corrections was made by Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Commissioner Goodrich. Motion carried 5-0.

Old Business

A memorandum of understanding pertaining to the leasing of the old town hall by the EMS was read aloud by Mayor Williams.

Commissioner Spivey suggested that the town, research the current rental potential value of space currently occupied by the EMS. It was also suggested by Commissioner Freeman that the length of lease should be reduced to one year and then revisited every year after that. The difference between the amount that the EMS will pay on the lease and the going lease rate for similar buildings of that size will be considered as a donation from the town.

New Business

A virtual presentation for the Hamilton Veteran's Community Village (site of the former Baptist Home on Railroad St.) was made by Mr.

Wallace Parker and his daughter. This presentation was then followed by Mr. Lee Padrick who gave an overview of the Hamilton Economic Development Strategic Plan that a group of Hamilton residents had been working on for several months. Mr. Padrick presented different grants for the town to apply for to help with some of the upcoming projects that the town would like to complete.

Mayor Williams nominated Commissioner Freeman to serve as a member of the North Carolina Eastern Municipal Power Agency's Board of Commissioners and Commissioner Jackson as 1st alternate and himself as 2nd alternate. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to accept these nominations and seconded by Commissioner Jackson. Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stewart and seconded by Commissioner Spivey for the town clerk to attend the NC Association of Municipal Clerks Annual Summer Conference. Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jackson and seconded by Commissioner Goodrich to confirm the library hours as Monday- Friday 8:00am-4:30 pm. Motion carried 5-0.

Jeff Best, CPA, reviewed the completed 2019-2020 audit. The audit was reviewed and approved by the LGC.

Financials were presented and reviewed by the board. The board had no questions or concerns.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Jackson stated that he was pleased with the improvements that have been made to the streets and ditches.

Commissioner Stewart stated that property on South Street has been completely cleared apart from a tree which will be removed soon.

Commissioner Spivey had nothing to report.

Commissioner Goodrich reported that the maintenance crew has been busy repairing water leaks throughout the town.

Commissioner Freeman reported that the gym floor at the former Edna Andrew School has been stripped and waxed but some of the lines on the floor need to be repainted. He also mentioned that the gym floor should be cleaned and rewaxed every 6 months to preserve the finish. Commissioner Freeman also mentioned that the bathrooms at the gym could be updated as well as improvements should be made at the Morris Lynch Center.

Mayor Williams reported that the town had received about 500 covid test kits for residents to pick up if needed.

Public comments

Ms. Cora Raynor expressed concerns about an old tree near her property. Mayor Williams said he would have Mike Pickle go and assess the situation.

Mr. Jerry Griffin questioned the 10% increase in the utility rates. He also inquired as to how many and by how much are residents behind in their bills. Mr. Griffin also addressed the issue of board members not paying property taxes as was reported in the newspaper.

Motion to enter closed session by Mayor Williams, seconded by Commissioner Goodrich. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion to hire Michael Farmer for maintenance worker made by Commissioner Goodrich, seconded by Commissioner Jackson. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Commissioner Spivey. Motion carried 5-0.