

TOWN OF HAMILTON BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Hamilton Town Hall

February 3rd, 2022 @ 7:00PM

PRESENT: MAYOR WILLIAMS, COMMISSIONERS SPIVEY, FREEMAN, STEWART, JACKSON AND GOODRICH

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR WILLIAMS AT 7:02 PM. PRAYER WAS GIVEN BY COMMISSIONER STEWART AND PLEDGE TO FLAG WAS RECITED BY ALL.

THE BOARD MINUTES FROM JANUARY 2022 WERE READ BY ALLISON ROEBUCK. BEFORE THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED MAYOR WILLIAMS ASKED FOR SEVERAL UPDATES. BECAUSE OF THE AMOUNT OF TIME THAT HAD PASSED SINCE BIDS WERE SUBMITTED ON THE DEMOLITION OF THE HOUSE ON 104 SOUTH SOUTH STREET AND BECAUSE ONE BID INCLUDED THE REMOVAL OF A TREE AND THE OTHER HAD NOT, COMMISSIONER STEWART MADE A MOTION TO ASK FOR NEW BIDS TO BE SUBMITTED ON THIS PROPERTY WITHOUT THE REMOVAL OF THE TREE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GOODRICH. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

MAYOR WILLIAMS ASKED COMMISSIONER FREEMAN FOR INFORMATION ABOUT CHAIRS THAT ARE MISSING FROM THE GYM AT THE FORMER EDNA ANDREWS SCHOOL. COMMISSIONER FREEMAN REPORTED THAT HE ASKED MARVIN HILLIARD IF HE KNEW ANYTHING ABOUT THE MISSING CHAIRS WHICH HE DID NOT. MAYOR WILLIAMS SUGGESTED SETTING UP A TIME TO LOOK FOR THE CHAIRS.

MAYOR WILLIAMS ASKED THE COMMISSIONERS TO REVIEW MS. WARD'S REQUEST FOR PLACING TRAILERS ON HER PROPERTIES ON PUGH STREET AND FRONT STREET. MAYOR WILLIAMS STATED THAT A DOUBLE WIDE TRAILER COULD BE PLACED ON THE PROPERTY FACING PUGH STREET PROVIDING IT HAD BRICKS AS A FOUNDATION AND PROPER DISTANCE FROM ADJACENT PROPERTIES. HE ALSO SAID NO TRAILER COULD BE PLACED ON FRONT STREET.

MS. WARD ALSO ASKED THAT PROPERTY LOCATED ON RAILROAD STREET NEAR HER MOTHERS'S HOUSE BE CLEARED OF ALL THE HEAVY BRUSH. THE PROPERTY IS COMPLETELY OVERGROWN AND IS AN EYESORE AND IS BRINGING THE PROPERTY VALUE OF ADJACENT PROPERTIES DOWN. COMMISSIONER SPIVEY SUGGESTED THAT A REQUEST FOR CLEANING UP THE AREA BE MADE TO THE OWNERS OF THAT PROPERTY.

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER JACKSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SPIVEY. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

NANCY WINSLOW, PRESIDENT OF THE HAMILTON HISTORIC COMMISSION, SPOKE TO THE BOARD ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING A MURAL DEPICTING HAMILTON'S HISTORY PAINTED ON THE FORMER GROCERY STORE LOCATED ON THE CORNER OF LIBERTY STREET AND FRONT STREET. THE COST OF THE MURAL WOULD BE APPROXIMATELY \$11,000. MRS, WINSLOW ASKED IF THE TOWN WOULD BE INTERESTED IN CONTRIBUTING 1/2 OF THE COST WITH THE HISTORIC COMMISSION PAYING THE OTHER 1/2. MAYOR WILLIAMS REQUESTED A LETTER BE SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD ON WHAT IS NEEDED FROM THE TOWN AND THE PROPOSED PLAN DEPICTING THE MURAL.

MEMBERS OF THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ASKED THE TOWN FOR A DATE WHEN THEY COULD MOVE INTO THE OLD TOWN HALL. MAYOR WILLIAMS STATED THAT HE WOULD CONTACT THE TOWN ATTORNEY TO DRAW UP A LEASE. COMMISSIONER SPIVEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MOVING OF THE TOWN'S MEDICAL SERVICES TO THE OLD TOWN HALL WITHIN 10 DAYS (FEBRUARY 14) PROVIDED THAT A LEASE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED. MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER JACKSON. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

COMMISSIONER FREEMAN WAS CALLED ON TO REVIEW THE HAMILTON'S RECREATION DEPARTMENT. QUESTIONS WERE RAISED ABOUT THE TOWN'S INVOLVEMENT WITH THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT AND IF IT WAS INCLUDED IN THE TOWN'S AUDIT. COMMISSIONER FREEMAN STATED THAT THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION. COMMISSIONER FREEMAN STATED HE WOULD SUBMIT A SPREADSHEET OF RECEIPTS AND SPENDING AT THE NEXT BOARD MEETING.

MAYOR WILLIAMS DISCUSSED HIS RECENT MEETINGS WITH FORTILINE IN REGARD TO THE INSTALLATION OF NEW DIGITAL WATER METERS. MONEY HAS BEEN RECEIVED TO START THE PROJECT WITH THE SECOND PORTION OF THE MONEY COMING IN AUGUST. THE CONSENSUS OF THE BOARD WAS TO START THE PROJECT NOW AND COMPLETE SEVERAL OF THE BOOKS. BY THE TIME THESE ARE COMPLETED, THE REMAINING MONIES WILL BE HERE SO THAT THE OTHER BOOKS CAN BE COMPLETED.

MR. LEE PADRICK PRESENTED INFORMATION ON THE HAMILTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC PLAN WHICH IS SPONSORED BY ELECTRICITIES OF NORTH CAROLINA. HE DISCUSSED RURAL TOWN RECOVERY FUNDING THAT IS AVAILABLE IN OUR AREA. A COMMITTEE WAS FORMED MADE UP WITH SEVERAL COMMISSIONERS, SEVERAL RESIDENTS, THE MAYOR, AND MR. PADRICK TO DISCUSS IDEAS FOR USING THE FUNDING THAT THE TOWN WILL RECEIVE. THE FIRST MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 22 AT 3 PM.

THE FINANCIALS WERE REVIEWED AND A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER SPIVEY AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER JACKSON TO APPROVE THE FINANCIALS. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR THE SOUTHERN SOFTWARE UPGRADE TO FMS WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER GOODRICH AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STEWART. THE MONEY WILL BE MOVED FROM THE WATER/SEWER FUND, THE ELECTRIC FUND AND THE GENERAL FUND. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

A MOTION TO APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENT TO ADJUST SLUDGE DISPOSAL BUDGET TO COVER REMAINING DISPOSALS THROUGH THE FISCAL YEAR WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER GOODRICH AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STEWART. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

COMMISSIONER JACKSON STATED THAT HE WAS VERY PLEASED WITH THE RECENT DITCH PROJECTS DONE BY SYNDER LANDSCAPING.

COMMISSIONER STEWART HAD ALREADY DISCUSSED THE PROGRESS ON THE DEMOLITION OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT S. SOUTH STREET.

COMMISSIONER SPIVEY REPORTED THAT HE WAS PREPARING THE ANNUAL PRE-TREATMENT REPORT WHICH WILL BE MAILED TO THE STATE IN MARCH.

COMMISSIONER GOODRICH REPORTED THAT THE MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT HAD REMOVED THE TREE AT THE TOWN HALL WHICH WAS CAUSING DAMAGE TO THE AREA LEADING TO THE DRIVE THRU. THE THREE DITCH PROJECTS HAD BEEN COMPLETED. GRAVEL HAD BEEN PLACED BY THE SYCAMORE CHURCH. 9 TRANSFORMERS HAVE BEEN REPLACED WITH 2 LEFT TO BE CHANGED. THE LED LIGHTS THAT HAD BEEN ORDERED MONTHS AGO FINALLY ARRIVED AND THE MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT WILL BE REPLACING STREET LIGHTS AS NEEDED. TREE TRIMMING WILL BE TAKING PLACE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

COMMISSIONER FREEMAN HAD NO REPORT AT THIS TIME.

MAYOR WILLIAMS ANNOUNCED THE PASSING OF FORMER COMMISSIONER MAMIE STATON'S HUSBAND. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT A LETTER OF RESPECT WOULD BE GIVEN TO THE STATON FAMILY ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN.

MOTION TO GO TO CLOSED SESSION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER SPIVEY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FREEMAN. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

MOTION TO COME OUT OF CLOSED SESSION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER STEWART AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GOODRICH. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE AT 10:35 PM BY COMMISSIONER SPIVEY AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER JACKSON. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

Mayor

Town Clerk