

BOARD OF ALDERMAN

February 03, 2020

The Board of Aldermen of the Town of Connelly Springs met at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall Board Room in Connelly Springs, North Carolina. The following board members were present: Mayor Johnny E. Berry, Alderman Terry Childers, Alderman Josh Phillips, Alderman Steve Smart, Alderman Carroll Turner, Alderman Ramona Duncan and Alderman Kimberly Sigmon. Also, in attendance were: Attorney Redmond Dill, Town Administrator Tamara Brooks, Deputy Brian Sigmon, and Planning Board members Joe Dempsey, Debbie Pelick, Bobby Tomlinson and Johnny Wright. The Board meeting was recorded in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 160A-72, 171.

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME: Mayor Berry called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and welcomed all in attendance.

INVOCATION: The invocation was given previously during the Annual Water Meeting with Icard Township Water Corporation. Mayor Berry asked all those in attendance to stand and give the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Alderman Turner made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Alderman Phillips seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES: Alderman Duncan made a motion to approve the minutes from the Board of Aldermen's regular meeting on January 6, 2019, as well as the minutes from the Annual Water Meeting from February 4, 2018, as presented. Alderman Turner seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

RESOLUTION 2020-01/ HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN: Administrator Brooks presented for approval the Resolution of Adoption, Hazard Mitigation Plan (Resolution 2020-01) for the Town of Connelly Springs, in conjunction with the Burke County Emergency Management Team which would allow the town and the county to be eligible to receive reimbursement from FEMA and other grant program funds in the event of a disaster. Alderman Smart made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Alderman Phillips seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Administrator Brooks reviewed the calendar for February. She said she would be out of the office the week of February 10th through February 14th.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Attorney Dill said the deed for the Tomlinson property had been recorded by the county on January 6th. The purchase price given by the county is twenty thousand nine hundred seventy-four dollars and ninety-two cents. Alderman Smart made a motion to make an offer to the county to purchase the property for that price. Alderman Turner seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. Attorney Dill was asked to move forward on behalf of the town with the purchase of the Tomlinson property.

Alderman Childers stated that the town needed to have a plan for the property after it is purchased. Administrator Brooks said she had been asked about the possibility of leasing it as a canine training facility. A brief discussion about clean up options followed but no other action was taken.

ANNEXATION OF PROPERTIES – SOPHIA AVENUE: Mayor Berry asked if Attorney Dill had an update on the annexation of the two properties on Sophia Avenue. He said there is no need for a bill to be presented through legislation and that the process will not take a year as previously suggested by Attorney Saunders. The two property owners will need to sign documentation stating that they voluntarily wish to be annexed into the town limits as part of the process. An update will be given at next month's meeting.

Alderman Smart asked if Attorney Dill had received any files or records from Attorney Saunders. He responded that he had not. Alderman Smart asked that he send a formal letter to Attorney Saunders requesting that she send all of the town's files to us.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Berry reported that he attended the WPCOG Executive Committee Meeting and the VEDIC Committee Meeting on January 23rd. He and Administrator Brooks attended the WPCOG Policy Board Meeting on January 28th which was hosted by the Town of Sawmills. He reminded everyone mark their calendars for Thursday, April 23rd for the WPCOG Annual Meeting.

FINANCE: Alderman Smart presented the financial statements for review and said the revenue income is at an increase of approximately one hundred twelve thousand dollars (\$112,000.00) for projected budget this year. He asked each chairperson to be thinking about their budget for next fiscal year. He said he plans to schedule the first budget workshop for mid-March.

GOVERNMENT SERVICES:

POLICE: Alderman Childers asked Deputy Sigmon to give his report for January

Breaking and Entering – 1 Assault – 1 Drugs – 1 Stabbing or Gun Shot -- 1

Warrant for Arrest – 3 Order for Arrest – 1

TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE: 113

WATER/SEWER: None.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Alderman Duncan reported that all of the bands had been secured for the summer concert series. She also said that Shady Grove would be available for food at the festival and Oak Ridge would be available for food at both the festival and the concert on May 9th.

PERSONNEL: None.

PROPERTY:

STAGE PROJECT: Alderman Smart and Alderman Phillips gave an update on the stage project. The concrete pad has been poured and the metal framework had been delivered.

TRANSPORTATION: Alderman Turner reported that the repairs to Berea Avenue and Berea Avenue Extension have been completed by Evans Construction and the final cost was six thousand one hundred dollars (\$6,100.00).

He also said that once the stage construction was complete the parking lot at town hall would need to be repaired or possible repaved.

1170 TOMLINSON LOOP: Alderman Childers mentioned that Evans Construction was not interested in pursuing the project at 1170 Tomlinson Loop at this time. Alderman Childers and Alderman Phillips said they would request quotes from other contractors and present those at next month's meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business before the Board of Aldermen, Mayor Berry called for a motion to adjourn. Alderman Turner made a motion to adjourn with Alderman Duncan seconding the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Johnny E. Berry, Mayor

Tamara Brooks, Town Administrator/Clerk