

BOARD OF ALDERMAN

June 21, 2021

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 Ramona Duncan, Alderman Carroll Turner and Alderman Kimberly Sigmon. Also, in attendance were: Attorney Redmond Dill, Town Administrator Tamara Brooks, Deputy Brian Sigmon, WPCOG Planner Johnny Wear, and residents Cloise Berry and Bobby Tomlinson. 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: Since the invocation was previously given in the public hearing, Mayor Berry asked those in attendance to rise and give the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES: Alderman Smart made a motion to approve the minutes from the Board of Aldermen's regular meeting and public hearing on June 07, 2021, as presented. Alderman Sigmon seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDS: Administrator Brooks presented Resolution No. 2021-01, Resolution to Accept Federal Funds Under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). These funds are distributed by the federal government to municipalities for expenditures associated with Coronavirus recovery and relief. Alderman Smart made a motion to adopt the resolution as presented. Alderman Duncan seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022: Alderman Phillips made a motion to adopt the proposed budget as presented for fiscal year 2021-2022 (see attached). Alderman Turner seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

BUDGET AMENDMENT ORDINANCE- FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 / ORDINANCE 2021-02: Alderman Smart made a motion to approve the Budget Amendment Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 as presented (see attached). Alderman Phillips seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

RESOLUTION – AD VALOREM TAX RATE / RESOLUTION 2021-03: Alderman Smart made a motion to approve the Ad Valorem Resolution for fiscal year 2021-2022, which would set the town's tax rate at five cents (\$.05) per one hundred-dollar (\$100) valuation. Alderman Turner seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

ORDER FOR TAX COLLECTION: Alderman Smart made a motion to approve the Order for the Tax Collector for 2021 taxes allowing the County of Burke to bill and collect taxes for the Town of Connelly Springs. Alderman Turner seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

BONUS/ADMINISTRATOR & DEPUTY: Alderman Smart made a motion to pay Town Administrator Brooks and Deputy Sigmon the second half of their annual bonus. Alderman Duncan seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Administrator Brooks reminded everyone that town hall would be closed Monday, July 5th for the Independence Day holiday. There will be no meeting in July.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Berry reported that attended VEDIC Executive Committee Meeting on June 16th, the Regular VEDIC Board Meeting on June 17th, the WPCOG Mayor/Manager's Meeting on June 19th and the WPCOG Executive Committee Meeting on June 22nd.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Attorney Dill said he would have a bill turned in before the end of the fiscal year.

FINANCE: Alderman Smart presented the financial reports and said they are available for review. The town continues to well this fiscal year with income received being two hundred thirty-eight thousand dollars (\$238,000) more than what was budgeted and expenses are thirty-four thousand dollars (\$34,000) less for this fiscal year to date. By the end of the fiscal year, the town should be able to move approximately sixty to one hundred thousand dollars (\$60,000 - \$100,000) into a money market account.

GOVERNMENT SERVICES:

POLICE: Since this is mid-June, there is no police report.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Deputy Sigmon stated the code enforcement issue at 6802 Berea Avenue and 2950 Coldwater Street, where numerous vehicles are parked on a residential lots, is still ongoing, with no resolution from Code Enforcement.

WATER/SEWER: None.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Alderman Duncan reported that the next concert is scheduled for Saturday, July 10th with Dirty Grass Soul. The food trucks serving for the evening are Anywherez' Fine BBQ, Urban Flavor and Blue Moose.

PERSONNEL: None.

PROPERTY:

OUTDOOR BUILDINGS: Alderman Phillips said the installation for the new storage building is 2-3 weeks out, so the old buildings need to be removed. Alderman Turner said he had spoken with John Cannon and he could not take the buildings because it was going to cost fifteen hundred dollars (\$1500) or more to have them moved. Administrator Brooks said she had talked with Johnny Abernathy and he had expressed interest in one or both of the buildings if Cannon didn't take them. Abernathy said he could have them moved within 1-2 days after they are cleaned out. Alderman Smart asked Administrator Brooks to contact Republic Services to bring a 10-15 yard container to discard items as the old buildings are cleaned out and he will bring a CONEX storage container to hold items we keep until the new storage building is built. Alderman Smart asked the board members to meet Saturday, June 26th from 7:30 – 10:30 am to clean out the old storage buildings and move things into the CONEX. Alderman Carroll Turner said he would not be able to help, he would be out of town.

TRANSPORTATION: None.

CLOSED SESSION: Alderman Smart made a motion to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel issues. Alderman Phillips seconded the motion.

OPENING FROM CLOSED SESSION: Alderman Childers made a motion to go back into open session. Alderman Sigmon seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. No action was taken as a result of closed session.

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

Johnny E. Berry, Mayor

Tamara Brooks, Town Administrator/Clerk