

BOARD OF ALDERMAN

September 13, 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 Ramona Duncan, Alderman Carroll Turner and Alderman Kimberly Sigmon. Alderman Steve Smart was absent, excused. Also, in attendance were: Attorney Redmond Dill, Town Administrator Tamara Brooks, Deputy Brian Sigmon, Planning Board members Debbie Pelick and Bobby Tomlinson, as well as residents Joseph and Joyanne Downing and Katharine Campbell. 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: An invocation was given by Alderman Turner and 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 Turner seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES: Alderman Turner made a motion to approve the minutes from the Board of Aldermen's regular meeting on August 02, 2021, as presented. Alderman Duncan seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

CONTERRA FIBER OPTICS:

Administrator Brooks said she received a second email from Conterra regarding the installation of the fiber network. Conterra is still waiting on permits from NCDOT in order to proceed with the installation.

PARADISE HARBOR ZONING:

Administrator Brooks spoke with a property owner in Paradise Harbor concerning the zoning and Burke County's GIS listing for their property. After doing some research and speaking with Peter Minter, there are several parcels within Paradise Harbor that have dual zonings listed for both residential and neighborhood business use. However, the town's zoning map and the properties are legally recorded for neighborhood business only. If the individual property owners wish to use them for residential purposes, each property will have to be rezoned. Administrator Brooks spoke with Debbie Pelick, of Paradise Harbor HOA, about several parcels still owned by their organization to ask what their wishes were going forward. Attorney Dill suggested rezoning all the effected properties in bulk if it were feasible. Administrator Brook said she would continue to work with the parties involved to move forward with the rezoning requests and process.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Attorney Dill said he had reviewed and approved the petition form for bringing a private road into the town's Powell Bill system. He nor Administrator Brooks have received any petitions requests to date.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Berry said he participated in an interview through the WPCOG with Meteorologist Brad Panovich regarding a radar weather station for our area. Funding for a study has been approved. He attended a four (4) hour training session for campaign financing in Lenoir on August 23rd, a VEDIC meeting at McGalliard Falls on August 26th and a WPCOG Mayor/Manager's Meeting on August 30th. He said VEDIC plans to meet here at Town Hall's picnic shelter on September 23rd.

FINANCE: Alderman Phillips presented the financial reports and said they are available for review.

GOVERNMENT SERVICES:

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

Damage to Property – 1

Stolen Motor Vehicle – 1

Homicide – 1

Vehicle Stop – 1

Warrant for Arrest – 2

Order for Arrest – 8

TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE: 116

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Deputy Sigmon continues to work on several code enforcement issues: 6802 Berea Avenue, 7118 Wandering Lane, 2950 Coldwater Street and Old Lail Avenue. A letter of violation has been sent out to Randy Phillips at 6802 Berea Avenue. Phillips has installed a privacy fence, but this does not bring the property into compliance and is still an active case. No response has been received from Auton at 7118 Wandering Lane. Deputy Sigmon has asked if 2950 Coldwater Street would qualify for nuisance abatement. He will continue to pursue options for the Coldwater property. Deputy Sigmon said NCDOT had cleaned up Old Lail Avenue but someone has since dumped old chairs and furniture off and will need to be cleaned up again.

WATER/SEWER: None.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Alderman Duncan reported the last concert of the season was cancelled due to COVID-19. Administrator Brooks said The Catalinas had agreed to hold their deposit over to next year.

PERSONNEL: Alderman Sigmon asked Administrator Brooks to send the calendar for the Community Room along with the minutes and agenda each month.

PROPERTY:

OUTDOOR BUILDINGS: Alderman Phillips said installation of the new storage building should be about 5-6 weeks out.

PAVING BEHIND VETERAN’S MEMORIAL: Lovelady Fire Department has asked that the town look at paving or installing an additional drain behind the Veteran’s Memorial to prevent stormwater runoff into their parking lot. Administrator Brooks was asked to contact David Poore, with West Consultants, to look at what the best options would be and give estimates for each.

TRANSPORTATION: Alderman Turner said streets maintained by the town would begin right-of-way work such as ditches being cleaned out beginning in October.

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 Sigmon seconding the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Johnny E. Berry, Mayor

Tamara Brooks, Town Administrator/Clerk