

## **BOARD OF ALDERMAN**

**January 10, 2022**

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 Dennis Seagle, Alderman Terry Childers, Alderman Steve Smart, Alderman Jeffrey Beck, 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 residents Johnny and Cloise Berry, Lonnie and Sophia Greene, Ann Seagle, Riccardo Bruzzese, Carl Greene and other members of the community (see guest sign-in sheet for record). The Board meeting was recorded in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 160A-72, 171.

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

**INVOCATION:** An invocation was given by Alderman Childers and Mayor Seagle asked those in attendance to rise and give the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES:** Alderman Childers made a motion to approve the minutes from the Board of Aldermen's regular meeting on December 06, 2021, as presented. Alderman Smart seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Alderman Smart said at the December meeting when he asked Alderman Beck about previous comments being made, that he did not give Alderman Beck opportunity to apologize to former Mayor Johnny Berry and Administrator Brooks. Alderman Beck responded by saying in retrospect he should have done more research before making those remarks in public and he apologized to both Mayor Berry and Administrator Brooks.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**WPCOG POLICY BOARD AND ALTERNATE:** Administrator Brooks asked the Board to appoint a delegate and alternate to the WPCOG Policy Board. Alderman Duncan volunteered to serve as the board delegate. Alderman Smart made a motion appointing Alderman Duncan to serve as the WPCOG Policy Board delegate and Mayor Seagle as alternate. Alderman Duncan seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**RECORDS RETENTION SCHEDULE:** Administrator Brooks presented the new records retention schedule from the NC Division of Archives and Records for approval. Alderman Duncan made a motion to approve the record retention schedule as presented. Alderman Childers seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

Administrator Brooks reported that the conversion from cable to fiber with Conterra has been completed. The import for the phone lines is scheduled for later.

Administrator Brooks received a formal request for rezoning 1160 W. Paradise Harbor (PIN # 2754943150) from Neighborhood Business (N-B) to Residential-1 (R-1). She asked that a public hearing be set for the February 7th meeting. Alderman Childers made a motion to proceed with a public hearing for rezoning on February 7th as requested. Alderman Turner seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Administrator Brooks made note of two (2) items on the calendar for February: 1) the Annual Water Meeting with Icard Water Corporation is scheduled for Monday, February 7th at 6:30 pm, prior to the regular Board of Aldermen meeting. 2) Administrator Brooks is scheduled to attend the NC Association of Zoning Officials Winter Conference in Cary on February 13th -15th. As a result, the office will be closed Monday, February 14th and Tuesday, February 15th.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT:** Attorney Dill has received petitions from property owners on Sophia Street and Sophia Avenue requesting the town incorporate their roads into the town's Powell Bill street maintenance program. He has researched the deeds and the additional signatures have been received. He said the Board would need to approve the petitioner's request to then proceed with surveying and engineering both roads to see if they meet statutory requirements for the Powell Bill system.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Seagle said he had spoken with NCDOT about paving Shady Grove Road. There are no immediate plans for paving.

He said he looked into the Dollar General property and was told the lease is in effect until September 2022. Administrator Brooks said she had emailed and phoned Daniel Holt, of Holt Connelly Springs, LLC; to speak with him about future plans for the building. She has also spoken with WPCOG about the possibility of a reuse/repurpose grant for possible development.

**FINANCE:** Alderman Smart presented the financial reports and said they are available for review. He said the town's income is fifteen percent (15%) higher than what was anticipated for the year.

**GOVERNMENT SERVICES:**

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

Larceny – 1

Warrant for Arrest – 2      Order for Arrest – 2

**TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE: 77**

**WATER/SEWER:** None.

**PARKS AND RECREATION:** Alderman Duncan said the planning for the Summer Concert Series and Town Day Festival has begun. She is going to ask Shady Grove UMC and Oak Ridge Baptist Church if they would like to sell food during the festival.

**PERSONNEL:** None.

**PROPERTY:**

**OUTDOOR BUILDINGS:** Alderman Turner said he is looking at options for wall-mount shelving. He said there is an issue with water coming into the back left corner that will need to be repaired.

**EXIT SIGNS:** Administrator Brooks said the illuminated exit signs above the front and side entry doors need to be replaced.

**TRANSPORTATION:**

**PAVING BEHIND LLVFD:** Alderman Turner made a motion to approve paving the section behind the veteran's memorial adjacent to Lovelady Fire Department as quoted by Evans Construction for eleven thousand five hundred dollars (\$11,500.00). Alderman Smart seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**ABEE PARK DR:** Alderman Smart made a motion to approve milling and repaving Abee Park Drive as quoted by Evans Construction for thirty-nine thousand five hundred sixty dollars (\$39,500.00). Alderman Turner seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**BLESSINGS BOX:** Administrator Brooks said the Rutherford College Lions' Club asked about replacing the current Blessings Box at Town Hall. The current blessings box was a 4-H project and is no longer being maintained by their group. Alderman Smart made a motion allowing Rutherford College Lions' Club to replace the Blessings Box. Alderman Sigmon seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Attorney Dill asked the Board if they wish to approve the petitions to proceed with surveying and engineering to continue the Powell Bill process. Alderman Smart made a motion to proceed with surveying and engineering Sophia Street and Sophia Avenue. Alderman Turner seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. Alderman Sigmon recused herself from the vote.

**CLOSED SESSION:** Alderman Smart made a motion to go into closed session. Alderman Turner seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**OPEN SESSION:** Alderman Smart made a motion to return to open session. Alderman Duncan seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. Each board member was given a copy of NCGS 143-318.11 regarding closed session law. They were asked to read and sign a copy stating their understanding of closed session rules which will be placed in their individual personnel files.

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

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Dennis F. Seagle, Mayor

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Tamara Brooks, Town Administrator/Clerk