

BOARD OF ALDERMAN

March 07, 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 Ramona Duncan, Alderman Carroll Turner and Alderman Kimberly Sigmon. Also, in attendance were: Attorney Redmond Dill, Town Administrator Tamara Brooks, Deputy Brian Sigmon, Planning Board Member Bobby Tomlinson, as well as residents Johnny and Cloise Berry and Sophia Greene. 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 Turner 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 Childers 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 on February 07, 2022, as presented. Alderman Childers seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Johnny Berry invited all in attendance to the Annual Ham Day Fundraiser for the Rutherford College Lions Club on Saturday, March 26th, from 7 am – 5 pm.

NEW BUSINESS:

STATE CAPITAL AND INFRASTRUCTURE FUND (SCIF) GRANT: Administrator Brooks reported that the town had been awarded a twenty-five thousand dollar (\$25,000) grant from the state to use on parks and trails. The grant was initiated by Representative Hugh Blackwell. Since being advised of the grant, Administrator Brooks has met with Alison Adams, of WPCOG, and Beth Heile to discuss options on how the grant funds can be used. WPCOG has been given monies through the SCIF program to assist local governments with grant administration and reporting. One suggestion given was to use twelve thousand five hundred dollars (\$12,500) for a feasibility study for a future park or trail for the town. Alderman Smart made a motion to accept the SCIF grant monies and determine a use at a later time. Alderman Turner seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

AUDITOR'S CONTRACT FOR 2022-2023: Alderman Smart presented the auditor's contract from Boggs, Crump & Brown for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. He made a motion to accept the contract as presented. Alderman Turner seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

REQUEST FOR REZONING: Administrator Brooks received a request to rezone a vacant lot behind the post office, located on Shady Grove Road, further identified as a 0.17 acre lot and GIS PIN# 2753744174, from Highway Business (H-B) to Residential-2 (R-2). The property owner wishes to combine this lot with the adjacent residential lots and cannot do so without all being zoned the same. Alderman Smart made a motion to schedule a public hearing prior to the next regular Board of Aldermen meeting on April 4, 2022. Alderman Childers seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

DONATION: Administrator Brooks received a request from Rutherford College Lions Club for a donation of one hundred dollars (\$100). Alderman Smart made a motion to approve the donation of one hundred dollars (\$100) to the Rutherford College Lions Club. Alderman Turner seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Administrator Brooks presented the calendar for the month of March. There will be a fundraiser for Banks Hinceman on March 26th, as well as Crystal Carpenter on April 4th here at Town Hall. She reminded everyone of the Annual WPCOG Meeting on Thursday, March 31st at the Hickory Metro Convention Center at 6 pm.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Attorney Dill said until the GIS addressing issue on Sophia Avenue is resolved, the petition cannot move forward. He will continue to follow for progress.

He also reported on recent legislative changes that require municipalities to decriminalizing certain ordinances. He recommended working with WPCOG under our current contract to task them with making the necessary changes.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Seagle attended the NC Mayors Association Winter Meeting in Lexington on February 23rd and 24th. He also went to an open house for ZroDelta in Rutherford College.

FINANCE: Alderman Smart presented the financial reports and said they are available for review. A budget workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, March 15th at 6:30 pm.

GOVERNMENT SERVICES:

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

Motor Vehicle Theft – 1

Recovered Property – 1

Warrant for Arrest – 2

Order for Arrest – 2

TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE: 71

WATER/SEWER: None.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Alderman Duncan said the planning for the Summer Concert Series and Town Day Festival is going well. The Catalinas are scheduled to perform for the first concert on May 14th.

Alderman Duncan also reported on meeting with WPCOG Director Anthony Starr to discuss her duties as Policy Board Member. She said the meeting was very informative.

Alderman Sigmon asked about having food trucks here at town hall on Fridays during lunch hours. After a brief discussion, Alderman Sigmon made a motion to begin "Food Truck Fridays." Alderman Duncan seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Administrator Brooks asked about sending out sponsorship letters for the festival and upcoming concerts. Alderman Smart made a motion to approve sending out sponsorship letters. Alderman Sigmon seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

PERSONNEL: None.

PROPERTY - OUTDOOR BUILDINGS: Administrator Brooks said the shelves for the storage building have been delivered. Alderman Smart suggested everyone stay after the budget workshop and work together to move everything from the conex into the new storage building. He asked Administrator Brooks to schedule a 10-yard roll-off container from Republic Services for any items that need to be discarded.

TRANSPORTATION - ABEE PARK DR: The paving at Abee Park Drive has been completed with an additional cost of six hundred dollars (\$600) due to a culvert being placed for stormwater run-off.

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

OPEN SESSION: Alderman Sigmon made a motion to return to open session. Alderman Smart 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 Seagle called for a motion to adjourn. Alderman Turner made a motion to adjourn with Alderman Childers seconding the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Dennis F. Seagle, Mayor

Tamara Brooks, Town Administrator/Clerk