

## **BOARD OF ALDERMAN**

**June 13, 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 Members Debbie Pelick, Bobby Tomlinson and Joe Dempsey, as well as residents Johnny and Cloise Berry, Sophia Greene and Elaine Shook. 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:** Since the invocation was previously given in the public hearing, 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 Smart made a motion to approve the minutes from the Board of Aldermen's regular meeting on May 02, 2022, as presented. Alderman Childers seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**BUDGET AMENDMENT ORDINANCE- FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 / ORDINANCE 2022-01:** Alderman Smart made a motion to approve the Budget Amendment Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 as presented (see attached). Alderman Sigmon seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**RESOLUTION – AD VALOREM TAX RATE / RESOLUTION 2022-06:** Alderman Smart made a motion to approve the Ad Valorem Resolution for fiscal year 2022-2023, which would set the town's tax rate at five cents (\$.05) per one hundred-dollar (\$100) valuation. Alderman Duncan 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 2022 taxes allowing the County of Burke to bill and collect taxes for the Town of Connelly Springs. Alderman Sigmon seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

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

**BOARD ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Administrator Brooks mentioned other counties and towns adopting an attendance policy for their Board members and asked if they would like to do the same. Attorney Dill said he felt it would be beneficial. Administrator Brooks said she would have a draft policy to present at the next regular meeting.

**DIRECT DEPOSIT:** Administrator Brooks gave each Board member a form to complete if they wanted to receive their monthly stipend via direct deposit rather than paper check.

**SEWER BILLING:** Beginning August 2022, town residents will no longer receive a separate sewer bill from Burke County General Services. Both sewer and water services will be billed and collected by Icard Township Water Corporation.

**POSSIBLE ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING ACCESS TO TOWN-OWNED PROPERTY:** Administrator Brooks asked the Board to consider adopting a policy to establish boundaries governing access to certain areas of town property. After a brief discussion, Administrator Brooks was instructed to prepare a draft policy for the next regular meeting.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT:** Attorney Dill said he had attended each of the concerts and suggested the pavilion and picnic areas be made smoke and tobacco free. The Board discussed options and felt it would be better to designate an area for people to smoke since it is an outdoor venue. Administrator Brooks was asked to order signs to mark those areas for future events.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Seagle gave his update for the month of May.

**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 one hundred seventeen thousand dollars (\$117,000) or twenty-four percent (24%) more than what was budgeted for this fiscal year to date.

**GOVERNMENT SERVICES:**

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

Larceny of Motor Vehicle – 1

Domestic Disturbance -- 1

Breaking and Entering – 1

**TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE: 89**

**FLOCK CAMERA SYSTEMS:** Deputy Sigmon presented information on the Flock Camera System that other neighboring municipalities are considering installing within their districts. These cameras allow law enforcement to network with other agencies to collect critical information to obtain evidence and solve crime, such as license plate reading capability. More information will be gathered for another presentation. No action was taken.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** Administrator Brooks discussed each of the following cases Burke County currently has on file for code enforcement:

Wyatt / 2370 Israel Chapel Road – active

Auton / 698 US Hwy 70 – closed

Marcum / 1209 Shirley St – closed

Auton / 7118 Wandering Pl – active

Henize / 1210 Shirley St – active

Phillips / 910 US Hwy 70 - active

Wilcox / 2712 & 2642 Rocky Knob Rd – closed by county – litigated by town

**WATER/SEWER:** None.

**PARKS AND RECREATION:** Alderman Duncan reported that the next concert is scheduled for Saturday, July 9th with 80z Nation. The food trucks serving for the evening are Big Byrd's Smokehouse and Dig n Dogs.

**PERSONNEL:**

**BONUS/ADMINISTRATOR & DEPUTY:** Alderman Sigmon 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.

**PROPERTY:**

**1170 TOMLINSON LOOP:** Alderman Turner spoke with Tyler Watts about another quote for clearing the Tomlinson Loop property. He gave an hourly rate for using equipment but not an estimate for completing the job. Alderman Smart made a motion to give Alderman Turner discretion to approve the project if he felt the estimate was reasonable. Alderman Sigmon seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**VETERANS MEMORIAL:** Alderman Turner asked Alderman Beck if he had any more information or concept drawings for the Veterans Memorial. Alderman Beck said he emailed the information to Alderman Smart. Alderman Smart said he had not received the information. Alderman Beck was asked to send the information to Administrator Brooks so she could include it in the Board packets for the next meeting.

**ADOPTION OF PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023:** Alderman Turner made a motion to adopt the proposed budget as presented for fiscal year 2022-2023 (see attached). Alderman Smart seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**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 Sigmon seconding the motion. The vote was unanimous.

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Dennis Seagle, Mayor

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Tamara Brooks, Town Administrator/Clerk