



**TOWN OF LONG VIEW
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, February 13, 2023**

The Town of Long View Board of Aldermen met in the Council Chambers of Long View Town Hall on Monday, February 13, 2023 at 5:31 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: The following members of the Board were present: Mayor Marla Thompson, Mayor Pro Tempore / Alderman Randall Mays, Alderman Gary Lingerfelt, Alderman Phyllis Pennington, Alderman Allen Bumgarner

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Alderman David Elder

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: The following members of staff were present:
Town Manager Danny Hips, Finance Director James Cozart, Deputy Finance Director Denise Collins, Town Planner Charles Mullis, Public Works Director Chris Eckard, Fire Chief James Brinkley, Deputy Chief Tyler Keener, Fire Captain Greg Erikson, Police Chief TJ Bates, Major Justin Reid, Town Attorney Jimmy Summerlin.

OTHERS PRESENT:

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Mayor Marla Thompson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

INVOCATION: Alderman Gary Lingerfelt

Pledge of Allegiance: All in attendance

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays made a motion to approve Special Meeting Minutes from December 21, 2022. Alderman Gary Lingerfelt seconded this motion. The vote was unanimous.

AYES: Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays
Alderman Gary Lingerfelt
Alderman Phyllis Pennington
Alderman Allen Bumgarner

NOES: None

Alderman Gary Lingerfelt made a motion to approve Regular Meeting Minutes from January 9, 2023. Alderman Phyllis Pennington seconded this motion. The vote was unanimous.

AYES: Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays
Alderman Gary Lingerfelt
Alderman Phyllis Pennington
Alderman Allen Bumgarner

NOES: None

AGENDA ITEMS

No Thru Trucks- Public Works Director Chris Eckard

Public Works Director Chris Eckard stated he was approached by a resident on 40th St. NW several weeks ago. She asked that we make 40th St. NW from Wilson Road to Cape Hickory Road a No Thru Trucks area. With assistance from the police department, it was determined that this area is sufficient for a No Thru Trucks area. Public Works Director Eckard stated that it is not wide enough for transfer trucks. With the boards approval, Public Works Director asked that the No Thru Truck Road be adopted.

Mayor Marla Thompson asked if there were any questions. There were none. Mayor Thompson called for a motion.

Alderman Gary Lingerfelt made a motion to approve the no thru trucks on 40th St NE a No Thru Truck zone. Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays seconded this motion. The vote was unanimous.

AYES: Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays
Alderman Gary Lingerfelt
Alderman Phyllis Pennington

NOES: None

Finance Report- James Cozart Finance Director

Finance Director James Cozart stated we would be looking at the general and utility fund through January 31, 2023 with 58% of the fiscal year completed. Revenues in the general fund total \$4,964,801.30 which was 83.91% of our budgeted revenues. Expenditures in the general fund totaled \$2,654,231.95 expending 44% of the budget at the end of January. Revenues exceeded expenditures by \$2,310,569.35. If ARPA funds are taken from that amount, revenues exceeded expenditures by \$739,569.35.

Finance Director Cozart stated some highlights from the general fund we that we had collected 99.64% of our taxes, our investment earnings were 8,137.97% of our original budget estimate. This was the reason why we changed from Peoples Bank to Truist. Also, the North Carolina Capitol Management Trust where the majority of our funds are invested, have become more competitive, so that has worked in our favor, as well. Our interest earnings totaled \$28,482.89 at the end of January. Our overall expenditures in the general fund remain below the percentage in the general fund. All debt services payments in the general fund have been made for the year.

The utility fund revenues at the end of January were \$1,270,053.20 which was 59.91% of our budgeted revenue. Expenditures totaled \$1,206,204.92 which was 56.9% of our budgeted expenditures. Revenues over expenditures were \$63,848.28 at the end of January. Interest income is at 9,487% of what was originally budgeted. Highlights from the utility fund are as follows: revenues are on target for the percentage of our budget complete. Also, expenses remain below the budgeted percentages. We mailed out 2,461 utility bills in the month of January totaling \$201,599.95. We had 53 accounts disconnected for nonpayment. We applied 269 late fees. We processed 23 applications for new service and had 11 requests for termination of service.

Finance Director Cozart stated that he included the Powell Bill in the agenda to give the board an overview of where we are. We've received \$158,164.25 in total allocations this year which exceeded state estimates by \$575.25. Our year-to-date expenses for Powell Bill are \$42,285.23 and total Powell Bill cash on hand at the end of January was \$678,308.46. Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays asked if we would receive one more installment from the Powell Bill. Finance Director Cozart stated that we have received all that we will receive. The state has split the payment up into two. We receive one payment in September and one in the end of December.

Administrative Report- Town Manager Danny Hipps

Town Manager Danny Hipps stated that just a reminder, the 2023 annual meeting will be at the Hickory Metro Center on Wednesday, April 5th at 6:00pm. Mr. Hipps stated there is typically a good turn out and a good meal. Mr. Hipps stated that he has been speaking with Finance Director James Cozart and Deputy Director Denise Collins regarding the 2023 Property Revaluation and are working to present the board with all of the facts at the budget retreat. Mr. Hipps stated that at this time he has not received any data from Burke County but he would anticipate that that is coming out soon, however, we do have Catawba County numbers. Mr. Hipps stated that there is a time frame that people can request their homes to be looked at again. Town Manager Hipps stated that they will bring options to the board of alderman for them to review and look at. The increase on residential is about 79% on average and is a lot larger on the industrial side, as well. Mr. Hipps asked if there were any questions regarding that. There were none.

Town Manager Hipps stated Long View was awarded a grant for a study to be done by the DOT to connect the trails from Long View to Hildebran. The total grant was \$2.06 million dollars. 19 communities received this grant and Long View was one of them. Town Manager reminded the council about the public meeting on Tuesday, February 28th from 6pm-7pm. Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays stated there were two options looking at the trail coming through Long View that were to go up 1st Ave into Hildebran or Wilson Road going into Hildebran.

Town Manager Hipps stated that we switch from Hickory Daily Record to Observer News Enterprise for legal ads which saved us approximately \$1500-\$2000.

Town Manager Hipps stated that we are scheduled to start our department head meetings on Monday, February 20th. Town Manager Hipps reviewed the budget schedule with the Board of Alderman.

Town Manager stated there are department reports are also in the agenda packets.

Mayor Marla Thompson asked what the housing violation was that Code Enforcement Charles Mullis sent out. Mr. Mullis stated this was for the raid on 13th Ave SW. The house had electrical problems, folks were living in out buildings and these were the violations. Mayor Thompson asked what "White Goods" are. Mr. Mullis stated that White Goods would be washer, dryers, refrigerators, and things of that nature. They cannot be sitting out in your yard.

Fire Chief James Brinkley stated that on last months stats, their response time was 4:08. This has been a decrease in previous response times. A few notable calls the Fire Department had was a concrete truck was overturned and they rendered mutual aid to help get the driver out, a unit fire on top of KFC in Hildebran. Mayor Thompson asked what a "Hot Call" was. Fire Chief Brinkley stated that was when they run emergency traffic to a call.

Police Chief Bates stated it was a busy month for the police department as they answer 287 calls for service. Chief Bates called the boards attention to the Domestic Violence portion of the report, as they had 12 of these, which are the most dangerous calls for the police department to go on. Chief Bates stated that 12 in one month is pretty extreme. Chief Bates stated that they're seeing an uptick in vehicle B & E's (breaking and entering) so be sure to lock your doors and don't leave anything valuable in your car so your windows don't get busted.

Town Manager Hipps stated that last night was the Super Bowl and that is one of the top 3 party nights in the year. Town Manager Hipps asked Chief Bates how many incidents they had on Super Bowl Sunday. Chief Bates stated for the first time, they only had one call, which was impressive. Mayor Thompson asked if any of the officers were hurt during any of the domestics. Chief Bates stated they did have a brush up or two, they had to pull the taser on one, and had a few scuffles but no one was seriously injured.

Town Manager Hipps stated that in this report, there was a lot of interaction with our public via the Police Department. We appreciate those activities. Town Manager Hipps stated he would just like to share a few more things and then he would be finished. Last week, we recognized our first Employee of the Month for the Month of January, who was Ms. Angie Waldeck. Town Manager Hipps stated that we had our first employee chili cookoff contest and he appreciated the board members that came by to eat with the employees. He stated that the winning submission for that will enter into the Long View Lions Club Chili contest on April 1st.

Other Business/Public Comment:

None

Board Member Closing Comments

- Comments by Alderman Randall Mays
None
- Comments by Phyllis Pennington
None
- Comments by Alderman Gary Lingerfelt
None
- Comments by Mayor Marla Thompson
None

Adjournment

Motion was made by Alderman Gary Lingerfelt, seconded by Alderman Phyllis Pennington to adjourn the meeting at 5:56 pm. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

AYES:	Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays Alderman Gary Lingerfelt Alderman Phyllis Pennington Alderman Allen Bumgarner
NOES:	None