

May 8, 2023 Regular Meeting

The Town of Long View Board of Aldermen met in the Council Chambers of Long View Town Hall on Monday, April 10, 2023 at 5:30 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, Alderman David Elder

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: The following members of staff were present: Interim Town Manager James Cozart, Police Chief TJ Bates, Major Justin Reid, Town Planner Charles Mullis, IT Alan Bumgarner, Fire Chief James Brinkley, Deputy Fire Chief Tyler Keener, Public Works Director Chris Eckard, Deputy Finance Director Denise Collins, Lieutenant Davey Anderson, Captain Dennis Hardin, Town Attorney Jimmy Summerlin, Town Clerk Heather Minor.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Millie Drum, Genita Hill

1. [Call Meeting to Order](#)
2. [Invocation](#)
3. [Approval of Meeting Minutes](#)
 - 3.1. [March 13, 2023 Regular Meeting](#)
 - 3.2. [March 27, 2023 Budget Retreat](#)
 - 3.3. [April 10, 2023 Regular Meeting](#)
 - 3.4. [April 18, 2023 Emergency Meeting](#)

The board reviewed the meeting minutes from the March 13th, March 27th, April 10th, and April 18th meetings. The board members found the minutes to be accurate and complete.

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Alderman Gary Lingerfelt and seconded by Alderman Allen Bumgarner. The vote to approve the minutes was unanimous.

4. Recognition of Lt. Davey Anderson

Major Justin Reid advised the board that Lt. Davey Anderson had obtained his Advanced Law Enforcement Certification. This is the highest certificate you can receive in law enforcement, and it requires a lot of time, school hours, and training hours to achieve. The Police Department were very proud of Lt. Anderson and his accomplishment.

5. Public Safety Training Facility Update

The board discussed the progress and plans for the Public Safety Training Facility. The discussion focused on the grading work needed for phase one, the potential for future expansions, and the benefits the facility would provide to the town's departments. The board members expressed their support for the project and discussed the available funding for the facility.

Motion to start phase one of the Public Safety Training Facility made by Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays and seconded by Alderman Gary Lingerfelt. The vote was unanimous.

6. Hickory Brands 100th Anniversary Proclamation

The board reviewed the proclamation for Hickory Brands' 100th anniversary celebration. The board expressed their appreciation for Hickory Brands' contributions to the community and their commitment to the town. The proclamation will be read at a ceremony on Monday morning at Union Square.

Motion to approve the Hickory Brands 100th Anniversary Proclamation made by Alderman Gary Lingerfelt and seconded by Alderman David Elder. The vote was unanimous.

7. 7th Ave SW Hickory Property

The board discussed a 0.96-acre tract of land that a property owner had offered to donate to the town. After an assessment, it was determined that the property was not suitable for use due to its wooded terrain, the lack of access, and the fact that it is partially located in both Hickory and Longview. The board decided to decline the offer.

Motion to decline made by Alderman Allen Bumgarner, seconded by Alderman Gary Lingerfelt. The motion to decline was approved unanimously.

8. Finance Report

8.1. Budget Amendment #6

The board approved Budget Amendment #6, which reappropriates \$10,000 in grant funds received for the Burke River Trail. These funds were received last fiscal year but were not spent.

Motion to approve Budget Amendment #6 made by Alderman David Elder, seconded by Alderman Gary Lingerfelt. The vote was unanimous.

8.2. Budget Amendment #7

The board approved Budget Amendment #7, which increases the salaries and wages line in the fire department by \$15,333 and in the police department by \$16,013, for a total of \$31,346. This amendment is to account for the payout of comp time and vacation leave for employees who have retired or accepted positions with other agencies.

Motion to approve Budget Amendment #7 made by Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays, seconded by Alderman Allen Bumgarner. Motion passed unanimously.

8.3. Budget Amendment #8

The board approved Budget Amendment #8, which increases the JAG grant expense line in the police department by \$6,030. This is to account for the grant funds received from the police grant.

Motion to approve Budget Amendment #8 made by Alderman Gary Lingerfelt, seconded by Alderman Phyllis Pennington. Motion passed unanimously.

9. Manager's Report

9.1. Sidewalks

The board discussed the need for sidewalk repairs and improvements. The initial proposal was to replace the entire sidewalk, but the board requested quotes for just repairing the areas in poor condition. The board plans to revisit the issue with updated quotes in June or July.

9.2. ATM

The board discussed the proposed location of an ATM near the fire department's building. Concerns were raised about the potential for vehicular damage and safety issues due to the congested area. The board decided to not install the ATM at the proposed location, and instead consider an alternate site across the street from town hall, which was previously discussed but never agreed upon.

9.3. Financial Software Update

An update was provided on the progress of the financial software implementation. The go-live date for the financial package is set for December 1st, with training scheduled between October 23rd and November 17th. The utility software is scheduled to go live on March 1st, with training occurring in January and February.

9.4. Shuford Yarns Health Day

Shuford Yarns requested board approval to bring a therapy horse to their annual employee health fair held at the recreation center. The horse would be contained in a designated area and used only for petting purposes.

Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays made a motion to grant Shuford Yarns' request, and Alderman Gary Lingerfelt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Public Comments:

Millie Drum at 1620 19th St SW expressed concerns about stakes placed along the side of the road with ribbons on 19th Street, indicating a washout area. The resident is worried about the potential for accidents involving the heavy transfer trucks that use the road. The board acknowledged the concern and will look into the issue further.

Genita Hill at 1317 21st St SW advised the board about the poor lighting on the traffic lights at the intersection at Long View Drug. The board advised Ms. Hill that this issue has been noted with the DOT and hopefully would be rectified soon.

10. Closed Session to discuss a legal matter and a personnel matter at 6:30 pm.

The board went into closed session to discuss a legal matter and a personnel matter.

Alderman Gary Lingerfelt made a motion to go into closed session, and Alderman Allen Bumgardner seconded the motion. The motion was unanimous.

A motion was made by Alderman David Elder at 6:55 pm to re-enter open session. The motion was seconded by Alderman Gary Lingerfelt.

11. Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randal Mays made a motion to increase Interim Town Manager Cozart's salary by \$1000.00 making it retroactive to April 18, 2023. The motion was seconded by Alderman Phyllis Pennington. The motion was unanimous.

12. Adjournment

Alderman David Elder made a motion to adjourn at 6:56pm, and Alderman Allen Bumgarner seconded the motion. All in favor.