

July 10 2023 Regular Meeting

Meeting minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order (Mayor Marla Thompson)

Mayor Marla Thompson called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

Mayor Marla Thompson conducted the roll call. Alderman Allen Bumgarner, Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall May, and Alderman Phyllis Pennington were present. Alderman Gary Lagerfeld was absent.

3. Invocation (Alderman Allen Bumgarner)

Alderman Allen Bumgarner led the invocation.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1. June 12th, 2023 Regular Meeting

The minutes from the June 12th, 2023 regular meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays and seconded by Alderman Phyllis Pennington.

The vote was unanimous.

4.2. June 30, 2023 Special Meeting

The minutes from the June 30, 2023 special meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Alderman Phyllis Pennington and seconded by Alderman Allen Bumgarner.

The vote was unanimous.

5. Items for Discussion

5.1. Planning Board Appointment

Town Planner Charles Mullis stated the terms of office expired on July 1st, 2023 for planning board members, Ronnie Stillwell, Wayne Inger, and Harold Duckworth. All three are interested in serving another three-year term. A motion to reappoint these members to the Longview Planning Board was made by Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays and seconded by Alderman Allen Bumgarner.

The vote was unanimous.

5.2. Proclamation for Hilltop

There was a discussion about the Longview Board of Alderman approving the City of Hickory Public Housing Authorities issuance of up to \$12 million in bonds for the acquisition and rehabilitation of Hilltop apartments. A motion to accept the proclamation was made by Alderman Phyllis Pennington and seconded by Alderman Allen Bumgarner.

The vote was unanimous.

5.3. Adopting Ordinance CO-01-23-24 Amending the Code of Ordinance

Town Manager Cozart that the State Board of Elections needed our Town Charter to match our Town Code of Ordinances. A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays. The motion was seconded by Alderman Phyllis Pennington.

The vote was unanimous.

5.4. Manager's Report: Update on Finance Director Search, Sidewalk update, Sweet Bay Lane update

Town Manager Cozart stated that the application process for the Finance Director search closes on July 13 and the WPCOG should have the applications all to us by the 20th of July. Once we have received the applications, we will begin the interview process once we've picked out our top 5 to 6 people. Town Manager Cozart stated his hope is to have someone hired by September 1st.

Regarding the sidewalk update, Town Manager Cozart called on Public Works Director Chirs Eckard to update the board on the Sidewalk Project. Public Works Director Eckard stated that Jeff with Unifour Concrete has quoted \$30,000 for 1000 linear yards of concrete.

Town Manager Cozart stated that McGill and Associates was accepting bids on the Sweet Bay Lane water and sewer infrastructure project from July 20, 2023 through August 8, 2023 at 2pm where they would meet in our council chambers to review the bid results, then present to the board.

5.5. Public Comment

Resident Genita Hill of 1317 21st SW Hickory, NC 28602 stated it appears that the system is over pressurized when the city of Hickory fills their towers, causing overflows. It was also mentioned that they are currently working on a solution to this issue, but so far, they have not found a satisfactory solution. Public Works Director Chris Eckard stated that we are aware of the issue and are looking for a solution.

Motion to go into closed session was made by Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays and seconded by Alderman Allen Bumgarner at 5:48pm.

Motion to open closed session was made by Alderman Allen Bumgarner and seconded by Alderman Phyllis Pennington at 5:49pm.

5.6. Closed session to discuss a potential legal matter regarding the sell of town owned property.

The discussion in the closed session centered around the sale of town-owned property, namely, the water plant.

Motion to close the closed session was made by Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays and seconded Alderman Allen Bumgarner. A motion to go back into open session was made by Alderman Phyllis Pennington and seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned with unanimous consent at 6:05pm.

Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Allen Bumgarner and seconded by Alderman Phyllis Pennington.

Staff Present: Town Attorney Jimmy Summerlin, Town Manager James Cozart, Town Clerk Heather Minor, Police Capt. Dennis Hardin, Fire Chief James Brinkley, Deputy Fire Chief Tyler Keener, Public Works Director Chris Eckard, Police Major Justin Reid, Police Chief TJ Bates, Town Planner Charles Mullis.

Public Present: Genita Hill, Millie Drum,