



**TOWN OF LONG VIEW
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, December 12, 2022**

The Town of Long View Board of Aldermen met in the Council Chambers of Long View Town Hall on Monday, December 12, 2022 at 5:00 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 was appointed at this meeting)

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Alderman David Elder

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: The following members of staff were present:
Town Administrator David Draughn, Town Clerk Heather Minor, Finance Director James Cozart, Town Planner Charles Mullis, Public Works Josh White, Fire Chief James Brinkley, Fire Captain Greg Erikson, Police Chief TJ Bates, IT Alan Bumgarner, Town Attorney Jimmy Summerlin.

OTHERS PRESENT: Anthony Starr, Dallas Tester, Danny Hipps, Rick Hammer, Ashley Young, Don Gwinner

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Mayor Marla Thompson called the meeting to order at 5:27 p.m.

INVOCATION: Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: No Minutes to approve for this meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS

Appointment of Allen Bumgarner as Aldermen for Ward 3- Mayor Marla Thompson

Town Manager David Draughn stated that we have provided the vacancy information, general statute regarding filling a vacant position, and the board will need to make a nomination, vote on the nomination, and then give the oath of office.

Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays made a motion to approve the appointment of Allen Bumgarner as the Ward 3 Alderman. This motion was seconded by Alderman Randall Mays. The vote was unanimous.

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

NOES: None

Oath of Office

Town Attorney Jimmy Summerlin administered the oath of office for Allen Bumgarner to become the Alderman of Ward 3.

I, Allen Bumgarner, do solemnly swear that I will support and maintain the Constitution and laws of the United States, and the Constitution and laws of North Carolina not inconsistent therewith, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of my office as Alderman of the Town of Long View, so help me God.

I, Allen Bumgarner, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States; that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of North Carolina, and to the constitutional powers and authorities which are or may be established for government thereof; and that I will endeavor to support, maintain and defend the Constitution of the said State, not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States, to the best of my knowledge and ability, so help me God.

Signed this 12th day of December, 2022.

Following Alderman Allen Bumgarner's oath, he took his seat with the rest of the board.

FY 2021/2022 Audit Presentation- Lowdermilk, Church, and Company

Rick Hammer with Lowdermilk, Church, and Company presented the audit report for the June 30, 2022 year ending. Mr. Hammer stated that the report has been submitted to the Local Government Commission, it has been reviewed and approved and no issues were found with the report. Mr. Hammer stated that we had an unmodified opinion of the general financial statement which is what we are required to have. Mr. Hammer said that in their opinion, everything in our audit was fairly stated. The only findings in our audit was the segregation of duties, which is what we normally run into due to the size of our staff. Mr. Hammer then reviewed the audit report with the board.

Mayor Thompson asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Land Use Plan- Charles Mullis, Town Planner

Town Planner Charles Mullis stated he provided the board with the final version of the Town of Long View's Land Use Plan that was produced by the Western Piedmont Council of Government (WPCOG). This plan was put together based on citizen input and Land Use Plan Committee members. Mr. Mullis thanked the committee members, as this plan took an entire year to put together. He named the board members, Mayor Marla Thompson, Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays, Alderman Phyllis Pennington, Planning Board Chairman Wayne Heffenger, Planning Board Member Ronnie Stillwell, David Stikeleather of Christ United Baptist Church, Shawn Davis of Open Door Baptist Church, Richard Armstrong who owns Armstrong Cars Incorporated, and Jerry Caldwell who owns Caldwell TV and Appliance.

Town Planner Charles Mullis stated that Ashley Young from WPCOG was here to give a brief presentation.

Ashley Young, a senior planner with the Western Piedmont Council of Government (WPCOG) presented an overview of the Land Use Plan that was composed by the advisory committee.

After the presentation concluded, Mayor Marla Thompson called for a motion to open the public hearing. Alderman Gary Lingerfelt made a motion to open the public hearing regarding the Land Use Plan. This motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore/ Alderman Randall Mays. The vote to open the public hearing was unanimous.

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

NOES: None

Mayor Marla Thompson asked if there were any questions or if Town Planner Mullis had anything to add. Town Planner Mullis stated that this plan would stay on file with his office for any citizen or anyone who wished to view it at any time. Town Planner Mullis stated that the plan would continuously be updated as we rezone properties in the future, adopt other plans, or the demographic information changes.

Mayor Thompson stated if there were no further questions, the public hearing would be closed. Alderman Phyllis Pennington made a motion to close the public hearing. This motion was seconded by Alderman Gary Lingerfelt. The vote to close the public hearing was unanimous.

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

NOES: None

Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays made a motion to adopt the Land Use Plan as present. The motion was seconded by Alderman Gary Lingerfelt. The motion to adopt the Land Use Plan was unanimous.

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

NOES: None

Street Closure of 30th St. Pl. SW- Charles Mullis, Town Planner

Town Planner Charles Mullis stated that he has presented a Street Closing Order to close the unopened portion of 30th Street Place Northwest. This property was for Carolina Container to close a vacant street that only serviced two houses. The public hearing has been held for rezoning, the properties have been rezoned, and the two houses are currently being demolished by DH Griffin. Town Planner Mullis stated if this is adopted, it will be filed with the Catawba County Register of Deeds as required by NC General Statute. He stated that this document will also be notarized and the unopened portion of this street will official be closed. Town Planner Mullis stated the he request that the Board of Aldermen adopt the Street Closing Order to close the unopened portion of 30th Street Place Northwest.

Mayor Marla Thompson called for a motion to open the public hearing regarding closing this street. Alderman Gary Lingerfelt made a motion to open the public hearing. This motion was seconded by Alderman Phyllis Pennington. The vote to open the public hearing was unanimous.

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

NOES: None

Mayor Thompson asked if there were any questions regarding the street closure. Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays asked if this was just a deeded right of way. Alderman Gary Lingerfelt stated this was basically just a driveway. Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays asked if this was ever included on the Powell Bill. Town Manager David Draughn stated that was correct, it was not included in the Powell Bill. Town Planner Mullis stated that this street closure was more of a right of way abandonment, but the process is the same. Town Planner Mullis stated that only one residence was using this street and that residence has since been purchased by Carolina Container, vacated, and demolished.

Mayor Thompson asked if there were any other questions. There were none. Mayor Thompson asked called for a motion to close the public hearing. Alderman Phyllis Pennington made a motion to close the public hearing. This motion to close was seconded by Alderman Gary Lingerfelt. The motion was unanimously approved.

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

NOES: None

Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays made a motion to adopt this street closure of 30th St. Pl. SW as present. The motion was seconded by Alderman Gary Lingerfelt. The motion was unanimously approved.

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

NOES: None

Appointment of the new Town Manager- Mayor Marla Thompson

Mayor Marla Thompson asked if everyone had a chance to read the employee agreement and called for a motion to approve the employee agreement of the new town manager. Alderman Gary Lingerfelt made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Alderman Phyllis Pennington. The motion was unanimously approved.

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

NOES: None

Mayor Marla Thompson stated next was the appointment of the new Town Manager, Danny Hipps. Mayor Thompson called for a motion to appoint Mr. Hipps as the new Town Manager effective December 31, 2022. Alderman Gary Lingerfelt made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Alderman Phyllis Pennington. The motion was unanimously approved.

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

NOES: None

Administrative Report- David Draughn Town Manager

Town Manager David Draughn stated there were two things that the board needed to approve, first of which is the 2023 Regular Meeting Schedule, then the Budget Preparation Schedule as presented in the agenda.

Mayor Marla Thompson called for a motion to adopt the 2023 Regular Meeting Schedule. Alderman Gary Lingerfelt made a motion. The motion was seconded by Alderman Phyllis Pennington. The motion was unanimously approved.

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

NOES: None

Mayor Marla Thompson called for a motion to adopt the Budget Preparation Schedule as presented. Alderman Gary Lingerfelt made a motion to adopt. The motion was seconded by Alderman Phyllis Pennington. The motion was unanimously approved.

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

NOES: None

Town Manager David Draughn stated Police Chief Bates was going to speak on the Governors Crime Commission Grant that the Police Department has received for the second year in a row.

Police Chief TJ Bates advised this was the second year the police department has received this grant. Investigator Davy Anderson secured this grant of \$24,429.00. Chief Bates stated last year's funds were used to purchase each officer a ballistic helmet and a hard body armor from assailant gun fire from a rifle. Police Chief Bates stated laptop computers, digital speed limit signs, optics for rifles, shot gun replacement of the 25+ year shot guns we currently have, and tire deflation or stop sticks which are used to help safely end high speed pursuits have been submitted for the allocation of these funds. Vendors have already been reach out to, orders have been placed, due to the back order timeframe and to be proactive with grant funding. Over the last two years, the Police Department has received over \$49,000 from this Governors Crime Commission Grant.

Police Chief Bates also gave a quick update regarding the gaming ordinance and shutting down of the operations of the illegal gaming establishments. Chief Bates stated that back in August, he presented the board with the scheduled shut down on the two sweepstakes establishments that were in town. Both operations shut down on September 6, 2022. Police Chief Bates stated that Town Manager Draughn directed him on December 9, 2022 to follow back up with the Circle S. There is an employee that is still in the establishment, but they are turning people away and telling them where they can go to play the sweepstake games and gamble until their lease runs out. The owner is making them do some

renovations to the building due to the damage that was done from the long term smoking in the buildings. Spinners beside of the Angus has completely closed and that building is being renovated. Chief Bates stated that he will follow up as needed with these establishments.

Mayor Marla Thompson asked if we are able to trade some of the shot guns in. Chief Bates stated that he would come back to the board with a surplus of shotguns, but with the shotguns being so old, they likely wouldn't get a lot of money back for the ones they currently have, but anything helps.

Mayor Thompson asked if there were any more questions. There were none.

Resolution Honoring David Draughn's retirement- Mayor Marla Thompson

WHEREAS, on this day, December 12, 2022, Town Manager David Draughn attended his last Board of Aldermen meeting after 19 years of dedicated service to the Town of Long View,

WHEREAS, David Draughn began his career with the Town of Long View on May 1, 2003 as the Public Works Director until his appointment to the office of Town Administrator in January of 2016; and

WHEREAS, David Draughn is retiring on December 30, 2022 after over 33 years serving the state of North Carolina in Local Government; and

WHEREAS, David Draughn has maintained a strong working relationship with neighboring municipalities; and

WHEREAS, David Draughn has been active through his leadership in improving the progression of the Town of Long View and equipping his employees with the knowledge and ability to continue the betterment of the Town of Long View even after his retirement; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Town Board of Alderman express to Town Manager Draughn, on behalf of themselves, the Town's employees and the residents of the Town of Long View, their deep respect, appreciation and gratitude for the services rendered by him to the Town of Long View over the past 19 years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Mayor Marla Thompson and the entire Board of Alderman for the Town of Long View, North Carolina, express to David Draughn our deepest appreciation and gratitude for the dedicated service rendered during his 19-year tenure with the Town of Long View and offer him our very best wishes for happiness, prosperity, and good health in his retirement.

ADOPTED this 12th day of December, in the year of our Lord 2022.

Town Manager David Draughn stated that he has truly enjoyed working here. He stated when he came to Long View, he came here to come back home after spending 20 years around the state working in other communities. Town Manager Draughn stated that Long View has been his favorite. Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays has been with him from the start, along with some others. Town Manager Draughn stated that he is so proud of his staff because he couldn't do anything without them or the board's support. God Speed and all the best.

Other Business/Public Comment:

None

Board Member Closing Comments

- Comments by Alderman Randall Mays
Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays stated he appreciates David Draughn for all the years that they have worked together. Town Manager Draughn developed a good foundation as they worked together as the public works and as the leader of this town. He stated that he was grateful to become good friends with David Draughn and to establish trust that they had built between each other.
- Comments by Phyllis Pennington
Alderman Phyllis Pennington welcomed Danny.
- 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 6:19 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