

August 16, 2024 Special Meeting

Meeting minutes

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Marla Thompson at 2:00pm.

Roll Call

Mayor Marla Thompson conducted the roll call: Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Gary Lingerfelt, Alderman Allen Bumgarner, Alderman Tim Hertz, Alderman Phyllis Pennington were all present. Alderman Genita Hill was absent with signed written waiver.

Items for Discussion

Rural Downtown Economic Development Grant

Town Manager James Cozart introduced a grant opportunity through the North Carolina Department of Commerce for \$850,000, which would contribute to downtown development on First Avenue Southwest. The grant is aimed at job retention rather than creation and amounts to \$12,500 per retained job. The town met the quota requirements to apply for the maximum grant amount.

Pictures of the proposed sidewalk improvements were presented and discussed. The project is estimated to cost \$950,292, with the grant covering up to \$850,000. The town's matching contribution (5%) would be \$42,500, leaving a total commitment of \$100,292 which would be taken from power bill funds.

The town currently has \$721,951 in power bill money and expects to receive an additional \$175,000.

Town Manager Cozart discussed the extension of the sidewalk project beyond the grocery store and the possibility of splitting the project into two phases. Future grants for other town areas and enhancements such as facade improvements for businesses were also considered.

Adoption of Resolution

The resolution to apply for the Rural Downtown Economic Development Grant was discussed.

Mayor Thompson: "Do I have a motion to adopt the resolution for the rural downtown economic development grant?" "Motion made by Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Gary Lingerfelt. Seconded by Alderman Tim Hertz. Mayor Thompson: "All in favor: Ayes. Any opposed: None."

The resolution was adopted by unanimous vote.

Adjournment

Mayor Thompson: "Do I have a motion to adjourn?" "Motion made by Alderman Tim Hertz. Seconded by Alderman Allen Bumgarner.

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 2:13 pm.