

June 2, 2020  
10:00am  
Regular Scheduled Meeting

**Council Members Present:**

Douglas C. Medlin, Mayor  
William J. (Buddy) Fowler  
Donald Helms  
Teresa Batts  
Jeremy Shugarts  
Dwight Torres

**Staff Present:**

Kyle Breuer, Manager  
Ashley Loftis, Finance Director  
Stephanie Hobbs, Town Clerk  
Brian Edes, Attorney  
Amy Kimes, Planner

Mr. Fowler made a motion to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of a closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(5). Mr. Helms seconded the motion and it was carried.

Mr. Helms made a motion to adopt consent agenda as presented. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and it was carried.

Manager Report

Mr. Breuer delivered the FY20-21 managers recommended balanced budget and message. He discussed a mid-year comprehensive review due to the effects of COVID-19 and considerations of the town needs.

Mr. Shugarts questioned the 2% COLA for all employees regarding the amount of time with the town.

Mr. Breuer stated if they are a full-time employee, they would qualify no matter their length of time with the town. The goal is to get everyone in line with the pay classification scale.

Mr. Helms stated he objected to hiring three new police officers. He stated one officer would be suffice. He discussed that is you are cutting vehicles and putting a hiring freeze, but you want to give the police officers three employees. He discussed the need for the new fire trucks and the risk of reliability.

Mr. Torres discussed the police vehicles are more than the officers. There is a need for more officers because every time we try to host a large event there are not enough resources. He

stated that fire trucks are not being denied but rather put off until January. He asked if the current fire trucks passed inspections.

Mr. Wilson, Fire Chief stated yes, they are currently meet inspection standards.

Mayor stated is that the town is still waiting on FEMA reimbursement of \$12.5 million from Hurricane Florence. The beach nourishment project is slated to start in December of 2020. The town has had to take a hard look with us not knowing what the year in going to bring with revenues due to COVID-19. The town is trying to reserve this money for items that have to be done. The fire trucks are not off the list, we are just holding off until January to see where we stand then.

Mr. Fowler stated we still have citizens and the town dealing with Florence and now we have COVID-19. Our citizens have been through enough, we don't want to raise taxes. The finance officer and manager has done a lot of work to get the budget balanced without raising taxes. It is reasonable to re-evaluate the budget in January. We are in a place to answer calls for assistance. He stated he was in favor of the budget as presented.

The Mayor stated the budget would be posted online until the budget hearing on June 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am at the Community Center.

Mr. Kimes discussed the site plan for Triton Village II Phase I, the developer has decided to construct two front buildings. The site is 4.5 +/- acres and is located on NC Hwy 50 and is zoned C3 Commercial. This site plan has been approved by the TRC and Planning Board.

Mr. Fowler made a motion to approve the site plan as presented. Mr. Helms seconded the motion and it was carried.

Mrs. Kimes presented an ordinance amendment for right-of-way dining. As COVID-19 has had many effect on North Carolina, new legislation has passed to allow for right-of-way dining. We have modeled our amendment to mimic Clinton's as theirs was recently passed and accepted by NCDOT district 3. These will have to be permitted use by the town per NCDOT requirements. The ordinances incorporates town and state rights-of-way. Staff is recommending it in the C1 zoning district only.

There was discussion on the fees associated with the permit.

Mr. Torres questioned how long would it take to get this process implemented.

Mrs. Kimes stated it could take a few weeks. We currently have right-of-way dining that needs to be addressed.

Mr. Torres asked if this was a temporary measure?

Mrs. Kimes stated that this is a permanent process.

There was discussion on logos on umbrellas in the right-of-way. The Attorney stated he would work on this with staff.

Mr. Torres made a motion to approve the ordinance with the allowance of logos on umbrellas. Mr. Helms seconded the motion and it was carried.

Mrs. Kimes gave an update on the Waterside project.

Mr. Helms thanked everyone for joining the meeting today. He commended staff for their work on the budget.

Mr. Fowler thanked everyone for joining in the meeting today. He asked that everyone continue to have patience with our visitors and traffic.

Mr. Shugarts thanked the council for their hard work on reviewing the budget. He was pleased with the businesses and that things have really been busy. He stated he appreciated Kyle and his efforts for the town. He spoke on great reviews he has received on behalf of the town from visitors. He thanked the Mayor for all of his efforts.

Mr. Torres thanked everyone for their hard work on the budget and their daily task. He spoke on the diversity in America.

Mrs. Batts spoke on the stress on communities across America, she spoke on how grateful we are for our leadership and community. She thanked staff for the Governmental Update and the hard work that goes with it. She discussed the budget and the importance of the US Army Corps project.

Mayor spoke on the riots across America. He discussed the importance of community. He stated how excited he was for the US Army Corps project to start. Councilman Curley spent many years working towards the US Army Corps project and how important it all was.

Mr. Edes discussed Executive Order 142, regarding utility services and fees. It also required the town to report to utility customers the extension and payment plans. The US Army Corps project beach surveys have been received. The letter going out to oceanfront property owners along with the condemnation notice.

Mr. Fowler made a motion to go into closed session regarding the property acquisitions and NCGS 143-318.11(a)(5). Mr. Helms seconded the motion and it was carried.

Closed Session

Mr. Helms made a motion to go back into regular session. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and it was carried.

Mr. Edes stated there was no action taken regarding the closed session.

Mr. Shugarts made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Helm seconded the motion and it was carried.