

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

December 20, 2022

The Clarksville Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, December 20th, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. Council members present were Mayor Kevin Allgood, Vice-Mayor Bruce Woerner, Chris Clarke, Carolyn Hite, Robert Dennis, Tammy Mulchi, and Danny Pittard. Staff Members present were Town Manager Jeff Jones, Treasurer/Clerk Tara Murphy, Town Operations Director Richard Elliott, and Police Chief Ricky Wilkinson.

Call to Order

Mayor Kevin Allgood called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of silence for the loss of Chief Joe Carey. He provided the invocation.

Swearing-In of Town Council & Mayor for 2023 by Clerk of the Court – Honorable Michelle Gordon

The Honorable Michelle Gordon, Clerk of Court swore in Mayor elect Bruce Woerner and Council Members Chris Clarke, Robert Dennis, Rick Buchanan, and Danny Pittard.

Swearing-In of Police Officers

Mayor Allgood swore in the new police officers, Darrick Dillon and Matthew Flora.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the October 15th, 2022 meeting were approved with no additions, deletions, or corrections with a motion by Council member Hite, seconded by Council member Clarke, and approved by all.

The minutes of the November 15th, 2022 meeting were approved with no additions, deletions, or corrections with a motion by Vice-Mayor Bruce Woerner, seconded by Council member Pittard, and approved by all.

Presentation of the List of Vendors Paid

The list of vendors paid for October 2022 was presented to Council. Council member Hite motioned to approve the list of vendors paid for October 2022, seconded by Council member Pittard, and approved by all.

The list of vendors paid for November 2022 was presented to Council. Vice-Mayor Woerner motioned to approve the list of vendors paid for November 2022, seconded by Council member Pittard, and approved by all.

Presentation of Financial Statements

The financial statements for September 2022 were presented to Council. Vice-Mayor Woerner motioned to approve the financial statements for September 2022, seconded by Council member Hite, and approved by all.

The financial statements for October 2022 were presented to Council. Council member Mulchi motioned to approve the financial statements for October 2022, seconded by Council member Dennis, and approved by all.

Presentation of Town Operation Reports

The Town Operations report was presented to Council.

Director Richard Elliott stated that the water line on Carol Avenue is done and passed inspection and the customers have been connected except one. He stated that the crew has been around Town several times getting up leaves and was caught up today. He stated that the cemetery has also been cleaned up.

Presentation of the Police Activity Report

The Police Activity Report was presented to Council.

Chief Wilkinson informed Council that the visitation service for Joe Carey was tomorrow and the memorial service will be held Thursday at the Mecklenburg County High School. He stated that he and part-time Officer Kenny Johnson took the in-service training for the year. He stated that the Grand Illumination went well and the parade was good with 5 bands. He stated that there were no problems.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Main Street Application Update

Town Manager Jones stated that the Town is waiting to hear the results from the Main Street Tier 2 application that should be happening any day. He stated that Tara Tuck is meeting with clients and the businesses in Town to get acquainted with the business owners and managers.

Sewer Plant Improvement Project Update

Town Manager Jones stated that Rural Development approved the bid specifications and the PER, and the staff feels the Town can go out for bid next month. He stated that in anticipation of the bids coming in higher than budgeted, Dewberry and Southside Planning District Commission are searching for additional funding sources for the project. Town Manager Jones stated that there is grant funding available through DEQ that they will apply for and Rural Development may have some additional funding sources to help with the possible higher bid costs.

Update Search Grant – Water Plant Expansion

Town Manager Jones stated that he was informed that Rural Development approved the PER and ER and Southside Planning District Commission will help the Town file for the grant reimbursement. He stated that the conditional assessment has been done. He stated that the Town staff has reviewed the assessments and provided feedback. He stated that Mecklenburg County and Microsoft were meeting today on this matter.

Financial Software Implementation Update

Town Manager Jones stated that the staff started training for the Utility Billing module and that went well. He informed the Council and the public that there have been some issues with printing the tax bills, but the printers are working on the issues. He stated that the tax bills are normally printed and mailed in November, but that is delayed. Town Manager Jones informed the Council that the Town now has a credit card swipe device as well as a bar code scanner to enter information from invoices and an online payment portal has been added to the website.

Planters Warehouse Update

Town Manager Jones stated that the contractors have not been able to work the last couple of weeks due to the weather. He stated that the contractors are working with now with VDOT regarding the underground drainage and moving that away from the ABC Store building. He stated that VDOT's approval is required before any work can be done on that issue.

Smart Scale Project Update

Town Manager Jones stated that the staff will hear from VDOT in January 2023 if the project will be funded.

Marina Lease

Town Manager Jones stated that the RFP bid opening was held at 2 p.m. 12/15/2022 and there were two bids. He stated that the 4-person team will evaluate the proposals and conduct any competitive negotiations. Town Manager Jones stated that the agreement for the Marina building is also a lease with the Town in addition to the sub-lease with the Corps of Engineers and they will be tied together. He stated that once a proposed sub-lease and lease are determined, they will have to be approved by the Corps of Engineers. He stated that upon COE approval, the lease will have to be publicized and the Town hold a public hearing to see who will satisfy the best needs. Town Manager Jones stated that the suggested recommendation will be brought to the Town Council at the January meeting.

Urban Slide Update

Town Manager Jones stated that he spoke with Tina Morgan and she received grant approval for the event and she is working with the Chamber and the County on the plans for the event.

NEW BUSINESS

Property Purchase Proposal

Town Manager Jones stated that he was approached by the YMCA regarding the Town's interest to purchase the property located behind the Clarksville Police Department and beside the old YMCA building. He stated that the proximity to current Town properties makes this property important to the Town's interest. Town Manager Jones stated that after reviewing the property and consulting with staff, the attorney, and discussing the issue with members of the Town Council, I approached the YMCA with a verbal offer of the appraised value of \$27,000 with the understanding that this would still need a formal approval by the Town Council. He stated that the YMCA accepted the verbal offer. Town Manager Jones stated that the staff is requesting permission to move forward with the YMCA, legal Counsel and survey companies to formalize a sales contract, survey, legal review, and construction of a resolution for formal approval by the Town Council for the purchase.

Council member Hite motioned to give Town Manager Jones approval to move forward with the documentation for the purchase of the YMCA property next to the Clarksville Police Department, seconded by Council member Clarke, and approved by all.

Verizon Water Tower Lease Arrangement

Town Manager Jones stated that Verizon started a lease arrangement with the Town in 2014 to place some of their equipment on the water tower off of Burlington Drive and the lease term was for 10 years. He stated that the lease was for a set amount that would increase by 3% each year for the term of the lease. He stated that he was contacted by Verizon about wanting to renegotiate the terms of the lease. Town Manager Jones stated that he will inform Council more as the process goes forward.

Seasons Greeting & Happy New Year

Town Manager Jones stated that the Town Hall and offices will be closed for the Christmas holidays 12/23/22 and 12/26/2022. He stated that all garbage will be picked up on 12/22/22 and again on 12/27/22. He also stated that the Town Hall and offices will be closed on 01/02/2023 for the New Year and business garbage will be picked up on 01/03/23. He wished the Mayor, Council, the staff and all in attendance a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Recognition of Mayor Kevin Allgood & Council member Carolyn Hite

Town Manager Jones presented outgoing Mayor Kevin Allgood and Council member Carolyn Hite with a wooden clock box from the Town in recognition of their years of service to the Town on the Town Council and as Mayor. Council member Clarke stated that he truly enjoyed working with both people on the Town Council and he thanked Council member Hite for all of her encouragement during his run for Council.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Bruce Woerner, Mayor

Tara Murphy, Treasurer/Clerk