

TOWN OF COATS
Board of Commissioners
May 9, 2019
OFFICIAL MINUTES

I. ABSTRACT:

A scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners held on May 9, 2019 in the Board of Commissioners' Meeting Room at Coats Town Hall.

II. ROLL CALL:

Mayor Chris Coats, Mayor Pro-Tem Jerry Beasley, Commissioner John Raynor, Commissioner J C Allen, Commissioner Allen Mosby and Commissioner Bob Hedrick were present.

Attorney Alton Bain was present.

III. CALL TO ORDER:

A quorum being present, Mayor Coats called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Coats delivered the invocation and led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

RESOLVED, to approve Agenda.

**MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER JOHN RAYNOR: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER ALLEN MOSBY
APPROVED, AYES (5), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS HEDRICK, ALLEN, MOSBY
AND RAYNOR
NOES (0)**

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

RESOLVED, to approve Consent Agenda.

**MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER JOHN RAYNOR: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER BOB HEDRICK
APPROVED, AYES (5), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS HEDRICK, ALLEN, MOSBY
AND RAYNOR
NOES (0)**

V. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Close PW Building Capital Project Ordinance

Nick Holcomb Town Manager informed the Board that the Public Works Building Project has been completed and will be adding back to General Fund around thirteen hundred (\$1,300). Mr. Holcomb asked approval from the Board to close the Public Works Building Project.

RESOLVED, to approve closing the Public Works Building Project.

**MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER JOHN RAYNOR: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER BOB HEDRICK
APPROVED, AYES (5), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS HEDRICK, ALLEN, MOSBY
AND RAYNOR
NOES (0)**

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Open Downtown Improvement Capital Project Ordinance

Nick Holcomb Town Manager presented a Downtown Improvement Capital Project Ordinance. Mr. Holcomb informed the Board that the monies from the tax foreclosures and surplus property sale will fund the proposed Downtown Improvement Capital Project at forty thousand dollars (\$40,000). Mr. Holcomb stated that this is the first step to accomplish recommended community development goals which was provided by the NC Commerce on economic development. The project would cover as:

- a. \$34,000 – re-design the parking lot to include a performance area
- b. \$4,000 – improving landscaping at gateway/entrance into the Town from the Buies Creek direction
- c. \$2,000 – planning and design (**Reference #1**)

RESOLVED, to approve Downtown Improvement Capital Project Ordinance.

**MOTION BY: MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER JOHN RAYNOR
APPROVED, AYES (5), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS HEDRICK, ALLEN, MOSBY
AND RAYNOR
NOES (0)**

B. Option to Allow Police Department Office for use by State Department

Chief Hall introduced Special Agent David Register with Secretary of State Financial Crimes Division. Agent David Register spoke to the Board concerning the need to have a space available for his Southeastern territory. Mr. Register stated that he would not be in need of a space daily but was asking for the space to avoid having to travel to Raleigh headquarters.

Mayor Pro-Tem Jerry Beasley questioned what the Town would need to supply him with and Mr. Register stated that there was nothing that he would need access to from the Town, just a space.

Commissioner Allen Mosby questioned Chief Hall if we had the room available for Mr. Register and Chief Hall stated that there was room in the back part of the Police Department.

RESOLVED, to approve space for Special Agent David Register with State Financial Crimes Division.

**MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER ALLEN MOSBY: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER JOHN RAYNOR
APPROVED, AYES (5), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS HEDRICK, ALLEN, MOSBY
AND RAYNOR
NOES (0)**

C. Resolution to hold Alcoholic Beverage Election

Nick Holcomb Town Manager informed the Board that business owners had inquired to the Board about the ABC being included on the ballot with the November election back in November 2018. Mr. Holcomb stated that the ABC was included with the NC Commerce report which noted that this was an issue and felt it was a concern for the growth of Coats. Mr. Holcomb stated that placing this on the November ballot would allow the citizens to vote for or against. Mr. Holcomb informed the Board that the Election Board requires a Resolution to hold Alcoholic Beverage Election prior to July 2019. **(Reference # 2)**

Richard Nunez, business owner of Viva Zapata, spoke to the Board in favor of having the ABC election included on the November ballot. Mr. Nunez stated that it was his pleasure to be in Coats. He stated that customers enjoy having a good meal and a drink, which would be more money for the Town. Mr. Nunez asked the Board to respect this request to allow this vote.

Mayor Coats questioned Mr. Nunez what increase his business could see with this change. Mr. Nunez responded 10 to 20 percent. Mr. Nunez stated that he has been in business for 22 years and he knows when to refuse anyone that may be drinking too much.

Allen Faircloth, business owner of CornerStone Cafe , spoke to the Board stating that this revenue is going to other towns and that having alcoholic beverages available would draw other opportunities for the Town.

RESOLVED, to approve to place Alcoholic Beverage on the Election ballot.

**MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER ALLEN MOSBY: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER JOHN RAYNOR
APPROVED, AYES (5), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS HEDRICK, ALLEN, MOSBY
AND RAYNOR
NOES (0)**

D. Presentation of Proposed FY 19-20 Budget

Nick Holcomb Town Manager presented the proposed Fiscal Year 2019-2020, highlighting areas for the next year budget. **(Reference #3)**

- a. No ad valorem tax increase proposed
- b. Cost of living salary increase

- c. No increase to water or garbage rates
- d. Vehicle for the Police Department (later in the year)
- e. Outdoor exercise equipment at Town Park
- f. Funds to solve water pressure issues along Abattoir Rd.
- g. Increasing condemnation and demolition program

Mr. Holcomb reiterated the work session scheduled for May 16, 2019 and the Public Hearing on June 13, 2019.

Mayor Coats express his appreciation to Nick Holcomb Town Manager, Karen Wooten Town Clerk and the staff for the work on a smooth budget.

VII. MANAGER & COMMITTEE REPORT

Nick Holcomb Town Manager asked Amy Johnson to update the Board from the Kiwanis Beautification Committee and the project with the Campbell C.R.E.A.T.E.

Amy Johnson stated the need for more Christmas decorations and the support from the Town with the next year budget. Ms. Johnson introduced Jonathan Molai and Cassie Burgett to update the Board on the project for Domino's.

Jonathan Molai and Cassie Burgett shared the goals and mission of Campbell C.R.E.A.T.E. They also updated the Board on the Domino's project and visions for other areas in the Town.

Nick Holcomb Town Manager asked Ms. Johnson to work with him to planning a meeting with him and the Campbell C.R.E.A.T.E to discuss projects for the Town.

Mike Collins Recreation Director updated the Board on activities at the Park. Mr. Collins stated that there are one hundred kids involved in youth baseball this season. Mr. Collins also informed the Board that there will be an adult co-ed softball team league this year. Mr. Collins express the overwhelming interest to form this league. Mr. Collins felt that eight teams could be managed and handled. Each team will have dues of \$500 and will play from June 1 to the middle of July. Mr. Collins stated that there is also interest from the adults to have an adult basketball league also.

Jeremy Hall, Chief presented his stats for April 11 through May 9, 2019. Chief Hall informed the Board that he is working to teach some safety classes for the improvement of the community. **(Reference #4)**

Rodney Pleasant Public Works Director presented his April report and informed the Board of the Capital Improvement for Patterson and Parrish was completed. **(Reference #5)**

Teresa Brown Library Director shared her report for the month of April and the increasing number of participants for story time. **(Reference #6)**

Nick Holcomb Town Manager updated the Board on the following:

1. Library Property has closed and payment has been received.
2. Johnson Paving scheduled Tuesday and Wednesday of next week.

3. Condemnation – 18 Ida Street has been demolished and cleared. After payment for demolition if property owner doesn't pay the Town then the process to place a lien on the property will be the next step.
4. Two structures on Washington- one has been torn down, second property at 95 E. Washington is still standing and will have until July 15th to comply with the order to demolish.
5. Working on 6 other homes ready to demolish.

VIII. PUBLIC FORUM:

Pat Godwin Coats Chamber Director thanked the Board for closing Main Street for the Oyster Roast. Mrs. Godwin informed the Board that Pass It Off Shoppe would be operating as a laundry drop off location. Mrs. Godwin informed the Board that on June 11, 2019 there will be a "Save Community Building Day", which will include food, DJ, dancing in effort to raise funds to save the Community Building. Mrs. Godwin shared that there are several businesses in Town nominated for the Best of Harnett and encouraged everyone to vote.

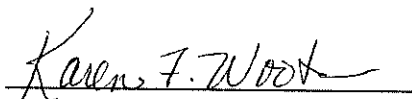
Don Plessinger, 202 Remington Drive, Coats expressed his appreciation to the Town and Public Works for all they do and how they take care of removing limbs and debris.

IX. ADJOURN:

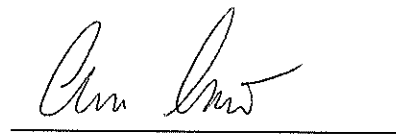
RESOLVED, to adjourn meeting.

**MOTION BY: COMMISSISONER JOHN RAYNOR: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER BOB HEDRICK
APPROVED, AYES (5), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS HEDRICK, ALLEN, MOSBY
AND RAYNOR
NOES (0)**

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.



Karen F. Wooten, Town Clerk



Chris Coats, Mayor