

COMMISSIONER'S WORK SESSION
Tuesday April 23, 2019
Commissioners Room
5:30 p.m.

Members present: Mayor Pro-tem Day, Commissioners Johnston, Hall and Goforth.

Absent: Mayor Johnson, Commissioner Ferguson

Staff present: Interim Town Manager- Ed Evans, Clerk Debra Pearson, Public Works Director Dale Shumate, NWPD Assistant Chief Scott Teague, Finance Officer Connie Bauguess, Fire Chief Jimmy Martin. Attorney Gary Vannoy was absent.

- * Call to order – Commissioner/Mayor Pro-Tem Angela Day
- * Invocation – Moment of Silence
- * Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Angela Day

Additions or Deletions to the Agenda:

Interim Town Manager Ed Evans asked to add a potential change to the Town Code regarding Board of Commissioner's Meetings. This change would allow the call for a vote should action on an item be needed that is time sensitive. This item was added as Item #11 on the Agenda.

Consideration of donation of Phillips land- *This property is offered by the Phillips family (Phillips Real Holdings) and is contiguous to the Town owned Water Plant property. Due to its close proximity to the Water Plant, it would be a good idea to acquire it. Members agreed to add this to the Consent Agenda.*

CDBG Grant- *This is a Public Hearing Item for May 7, 2019. Emily Miller briefly went over the documents regarding the CDBG Grant. The Town is ready to begin work after the Public Hearing is held. Emily went over the application items, resolutions, adoption of the fair housing plan and other forms required to be completed for submission of the application. She informed there will be a grant amount of \$580,00.00 from the CBDG and another grant from Golden Leaf \$420,000.00. Added to the May 7 agenda.*

Mountain Heritage Trout City Memorandum of Understanding- *This is an agreement between the Town of North Wilkesboro and the NC Wildlife Resources Commission for designation as a "Mountain Heritage Trout City". When adopted, this agreement delineates an agreed segment of the Reddies River within which the Mountain Heritage Waters fishing license will be valid. Brochures will be provided to inform the public of the existence and elements of the program and will help promote tourism. Add to the May 7 agenda.*

Broad Band High Speed internet services for Canterbury Estates- *A Resolution has been drafted to be sent to Century Link, Wilkes Communications and Charter/Spectrum in an effort to raise awareness and show Town support for this service to be offered to the residents of Canterbury Estates. This development is in need of internet service. Residents of this development are both town and county taxpayers, but do not enjoy or benefit from the service of a high-speed internet carrier. Add to the May 7 agenda.*

Resolution in Opposition of SB 179 & HB 278, Parity for First Responders- *This is a resolution to oppose providing new retirement benefits for firefighters and rescue squad workers, called a “special separation allowance”. This is an unfunded mandate, with no budgeted monies. The board that governs the Local Government Employees Retirement system would require municipalities to increase the amount they pay into the retirement system by 1.2 percent of payroll in each of the next three years, approximately \$75 million in annual costs from Local Government employers in each of those years. The cost of this new retirement benefit would be paid solely by the last employer. The NCLM recommends we oppose. Add to the May 7 agenda.*

Request for Change to Town Code Chapter 8 Section 16- General authority of members- Interference with fireman in performance of duty prohibited. *This is a small change to the current code- Members of the fire department shall have authority to do all acts reasonably necessary to extinguish fires and protect life and property from fire; “and assist Emergency Medical Services using North Wilkesboro’s departmental medical personnel;” and it shall be unlawful for any person, including the owner of the property (which is burning) “or department’s personnel while assisting Emergency Medical Services,” to willfully interfere in any manner with any fireman in the performance of his duty. Add to May 7 agenda.*

Change Request for North Wilkesboro Fire Department Knox Box requirements - *the NC Fire Code requires that key boxes when required, be installed in an approved location. The North Wilkesboro Fire Department requires any commercial building meeting criteria install a Knox Box for rapid entry by the North Wilkesboro Fire Department. These criteria are: high-rise buildings, gated communities, buildings that house, manufacture or process hazardous materials under Title III of the Federal Super Fund Amendments, buildings equipped with a fire alarm or fire sprinkler system, buildings with elevators, and any other building that could create an unreasonable delays for fire department access as determined by the Fire Chief or the Code Enforcement Officer. Add to May 7 Agenda.*

North Wilkesboro Housing Authority request- *Fire Chief Jimmy Martin spoke on behalf of the Housing Authority Board to request keeping payment in lieu of taxes in order to help with repaving and repairing potholes on the street in the Riverview Heights Development. The letter from the Housing Authority states the street has not been paved since the apartments were built in 1982. The street and sidewalks were dedicated to the Town of North Wilkesboro when the units were built. At this time there is no plan for paving but the Board wanted the Housing Authority to know they are aware of the need, that they will be vigilant to look for funding and will keep them on the priority list. (Item was not considered for the May 7 agenda).*

Budget Amendment Requests- *Finance Officer Connie Bauguess had three budget items presented to the board. Budget Amendments #7 and #8 both amendments to budget ordinance for FY 2019 and the Town of North Wilkesboro Capital Project Ordinance Yakin River Water Intake Project- This is for the Yadkin River Water Intake Project Planning Phase. Add to May 7 agenda.*

WFUBMC “Assignment and Assumption of Tenant’s Interest in Lease” *This agreement advises that Wilkes Physician Network, Inc, has been dissolved and its assets moved to Wake Forest University Health Sciences, therefore requiring the need for Health Sciences to be a party to the lease. WFUBMC (WRMC) will remain a party to the lease so the Town’s position should not be changed from a security standpoint. Add to May 7 agenda.*

Planning Board and Board of Adjustment Reappointments- *Reappointments are: Martha Nichols and Amy Cox. The opinion of the majority of the Board is to accept these two reappointments and make changes for the future. Both members have already served two (2) consecutive 5-year terms. Consensus is the appointment application needs to be reviewed and we need to find out when the current policy came into effect. Add reappointments to May 7 agenda.*

Interim Town Manager Ed Evans introduced a potential change to the Town Code regarding Board of Commissioner’s Meetings. *This item was added as Item #11 on the Agenda. This change would allow the call for a vote should time constraints require action on an item needed to be approved by the board. The Agenda meeting typically does not involve the call for a vote on an issue. Having the option to call for a vote on an issue that is time sensitive would prevent missing a deadline that would pass or come so close to passing the deadline as to make preparations for the issue too late to act upon. Add to May 7 agenda.*

(Other items for May 7, 2019 meeting: (no discussion required today)

- **Hold Public Hearing** on Economic Development CDBG Emily Miller
- Policy for Water & Sewer connections for those outside city limits.
- Presentation of FY 1920 budget and call for Public Hearing

There being no further business, Commissioner/Mayor Pro-Tem Day declared the work session adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

TOWN CLERK

MAYOR

APPROVED: _____