

**Town of North Wilkesboro
Commissioners Monthly Meeting
November 7, 2019**

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the town of North Wilkesboro was held in the Commissioners Room at Town Hall on November 7, 2019.

THERE WERE PRESENT: Robert L. Johnson, Mayor
 Debbie Ferguson, Commissioner
 Bert Hall, Commissioner
 Joe Johnston, Commissioner
 Angela Day, Commissioner/Mayor Pro-Tem
 Junior Goforth, Commissioner

ALSO PRESENT: Wilson B. Hooper, Town Manager
 Gary Vannoy, Town Attorney
 Debra Pearson, Town Clerk

ABSENT: None

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Robert Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and delivered the Invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by North Wilkesboro Police Chief Joe Rankin.

IV. Additions/Deletions to agenda:

There were no additions or deletions to the Agenda.

V. Approval of the Agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Day and seconded by Commissioner Ferguson. Motion unanimously carries.

VI. Public comments:

Two citizens signed up for the Public Comments portion of the meeting. The first was Mr. Chris Castro, a Lieutenant Colonel with the North Carolina National Guard representing the Raleigh Selective Service. He is interested in recruiting citizens to become a member of a board made up of public citizens serving Wilkes, Watauga, Ashe and Alleghany Counties. This is a twenty (20) year term for anyone wishing to serve on the board, it has no meeting schedule, but would activate if and when the country should be called to war. Congress would have to reinstate the draft for this to occur, and the Registration Act is still a requirement. Currently there are two

(2) vacancies in Wilkes. Anyone can sign up to serve on the board with the exception of Veterans that currently receive benefits. The Board thanked Mr. Castro for coming and for his service.

Secondly, Ms. Kim Byrd, a North Wilkesboro town resident came to speak to the board regarding speeding and heavy traffic on her neighborhood street. The area is 6th Street, including E and D Streets. She asked if there was anything that could be done to deter and slow down traffic on 6th Street. She stated the four way stops on streets on either side of 6th street seem to “funnel” traffic down 6th Street. Town Manager Hooper suggested a study “Menu of Traffic-Calming” options. A traffic study done around five (5) years ago will be looked at again and steps to find solutions to the speeding and heavy traffic problems will be sought. The board thanked Ms. Byrd for coming and assured her this concern will be given attention.

VII. Consent Items:

All consent items may be approved in one motion. Items requiring further discussion will be pulled and voted upon separately.

- 1.) Approval of October 8, 2019 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, and October 24, 2019 Work Session Minutes – Debbie Pearson
- 2.) New Involuntary Commitment Transportation Agreement – Joe Rankin

Mayor Johnson read the consent agenda items and asked if anyone had any thing they would like to add or delete from the Agenda. **With no changes to be made Mayor Johnson called for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Hall made the motion to approve with Commissioner Ferguson seconding the motion. Motion to approve the consent agenda unanimously carries.**

VIII. Town Manager’s/Attorney’s Report

Town Manager Hooper reports he is currently working on the Water Shed project and more info will be coming in the next months. He presented a power point to the Board and audience showing the current water sheds for both Wilkesboro and North Wilkesboro. He is in communication with Wilkesboro and Wilkes County regarding requirements needed by the State to process with reclassification of the current water sources.... He is also working on a Real Estate Disposal Policy for the town. Commissioner Ferguson thanked Manager Hooper for his detailed and thoughtful approach to matters affecting the town. *Town Attorney Gary Vannoy* states he is working on language regarding the handling of the town’s properties.

IX. Business

- 3). NW Fire Department Platform Truck Grant Application and Vehicle Replacement –Fire Chief Jimmy Martin reported to the Board that quotes were still being received on the replacement truck for the 1988 Gruman85-foot platform truck now being used. The quote accepted will not exceed 1.5M with the Town matching the grant at 5%, or \$75,000. The vehicle should be ready for delivery by 2022 or fiscal year 2023. No money to match the grant will be required until the vehicle is ready for delivery. **Mayor Johnson called for a motion to approve the grant with match and approval of the Budget Amendment #5 for a replacement vehicle for Chief Martin with Commissioner Ferguson making the**

motion to approve both items and Commissioner Hall seconding the motion. Motion unanimously carries.

X. Policy

4). Official Cancelling Kerr Scott Intake Project – At the October 24, 2019 Work Session Meeting, Manager Wilson Hooper presented a Resolution to Withdraw from the Kerr Scott Water Intake and Raw Water Transmission System Project to the Board along with information on steps he would take to officially cancel the project with State agencies, contractors, and other stakeholders. **Mayor Johnson called for a motion to approve the Resolution to Withdraw from the Kerr Scott Water Intake and Raw Water Transmission System Project. Commissioner Ferguson made the motion to approve the Resolution with Commissioner Goforth seconding the motion. Motion unanimously carries.**

XI. Mayor and Commissioner Topics

Commissioner Johnston requested to say a few words about his tenure with the Town of North Wilkesboro, stating “serving for seven (7) years, he had enjoyed most of it.” He went on to say North Wilkesboro had the greatest town staff and that “they worked together like clockwork.” He stated he’d like to see a better relationship between North Wilkesboro and Wilkesboro and thinks the towns need to be one large town. He went on to say North Wilkesboro needs to focus on retail, housing, beautification, tourism and recreation to attract people to the area. Commissioner Johnston congratulated newly elected officials, Commissioners Michael Parsons and Andrew Palmer, and re-elected Commissioner Bert Hall. *Mayor Johnson* touched briefly on the new Committee Assignment list. He and Manager Hooper will work on new assignments to these groups, discuss meeting times and will bring it to the Board.

XII. With no other items to discuss Mayor Johnson called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hall made the motion to adjourn with Commissioner Goforth seconding the Motion. Motion unanimously carries. Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Debra W. Pearson, Town Clerk

Robert L. Johnson, Mayor

Approved _____