

August 14th, 2017

The Town of Warsaw Board of Commissioners met in regular session on August 14th, 2017 at 7:30pm in the conference room of the Town Hall.

Present:

Mayor Russell Eason
Commissioner Scotty Smith
Commissioner Al Searles
Commissioner Joal Smith
Commissioner Dr. Owen Martin
Commissioner Peggy Doran

Also Present:

Town Manager, Scotty Summerlin
Town Clerk, Lea Turner
Police Chief, Eric Southerland
Public Works Director, Craig Armstrong
Wellness Director, Lydia King
Fire Chief, John Blackmore
Town Attorney, Jene Thompson

Mayor Russell Eason opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes:

Mayor Eason asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the July 10, 2017 regular session meeting.

Commissioner Joal Smith made the motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Owen Martin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve the minutes.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

Regular Meeting:

Letter of Intent to Fund 2017 Sanitary Sewer Improvements, 3/2017 Application Cycle:

Manager Scotty Summerlin explained that McDavid Associates had previously submitted a grant/loan request to make minor improvements to the wastewater treatment plant, conduct a sewer study, and implement corrective action to reduce infiltration/inflow to the Town's sewer collection system. The Town was offered a \$4,000,000 loan at 0% interest for 20 years. A loan fee of 2% would also be invoiced after bids resulting in a total loan of \$4,080,000. A debt service on this loan would be a \$204,000 payment per year which is not feasible with the current revenue projections. Trey Gurley with McDavid Associates was asked to speak in more detail and offer his recommendation.

Mr. Gurley reiterated what Manager Summerlin stated. Mr. Gurley also stated that a 5-6% increase to water and sewer rates would help the Town to be able to handle such a debt service payment. Mr. Gurley stated that the Town could revise that application and apply again with the hopes of being awarded a principle forgiveness or possibly even the same thing again. Mr. Gurley advised that they were having a meeting in Raleigh to discuss the application and get pointers towards submitting a stronger application and invited the manager and mayor to this meeting. Mr. Gurley stated that if the Town would like to reapply that a new resolution would need to be approved.

After much discussion, Commissioner Joal Smith made a motion to decline the current loan offer. Commissioner Owen Martin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to decline the current loan offer. Commissioner Joal Smith made a motion to adopt the resolution authorizing application for financial assistance. Commissioner Peggy Doran seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to adopt the resolution.

Resolution Approving Town Manager to Enter Financing Contract and Purchase Vehicles:

Manager Scotty Summerlin explained that a request was submitted for loan quotes to several local banks. Manager Summerlin advised that First Bank had the lowest interest rate with no origination fees. Manager Summerlin recommended the Board to enter financing contract with First Bank to purchase a new vehicle for the Police Dept and for Public Works.

Commissioner Joal Smith made a motion to approve the Town Manager to enter into a finance contract and purchase vehicles. Commissioner Al Searles seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve entering a financing contract and purchase vehicles.

Resolution Approving Surplus and Sell of Town Property:

Manager Scotty Summerlin provided a resolution declaring items from Public Works for surplus and sale by electronic auction. Manager Summerlin advised there was a wood chipper, leaf blower and generator that were no longer being used and needed to be sold before they were in a condition that the Town could not sell.

Commissioner Joal Smith made a motion to approve the resolution for sale of the surplus items. Commissioner Owen Martin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to surplus these items and sale by means of electronic auction.

Request Approval to Receive Bids, Mowing and Grounds Maintenance Contract:

Manager Scotty Summerlin advised that the current mowing contract would be coming to an end on September 30, 2017. Manager Summerlin stated that with the miscommunications during the bid process it is his recommendation to rebid the contract. Manager Summerlin advised that the RFP would run for 2-3 weeks and a bid tabulation would be back before the Board at the September meeting.

Commissioner Joal Smith made the motion to rebid the contract. Commissioner Peggy Doran seconded the motion. Commissioner Al Searles stated that he had mentioned before but he would repeat that he would like to see the Town take back over the grounds maintenance. The vote was unanimous to rebid the grounds maintenance contract.

Tax Release for Warsaw Auto Sales:

Manager Scotty Summerlin advised that County has asked the Town to release taxes for Warsaw Auto Sales in the amount of \$32.60.

Commissioner Al Searles made a motion to approve the tax releases. Commissioner Scotty Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve the tax release.

Request to Establish Town of Warsaw Scholarship Award:

Manager Scotty Summerlin advised that Mayor Eason has received an invitation for the Town to establish a Town Scholarship. The Duplin County Education Foundation administers a number of scholarships from various groups, organizations, and individuals. Mayor Eason advised that he would like to see the Town participate and set up a scholarship fund for students who would like to pursue a government related career. Mayor Eason advised it was his thoughts that this scholarship would be awarded to a student at James Kenan and would be good to use at their college of choice. Mayor Eason advised that this would be a \$1000 scholarship to be disbursed in \$250 increments over the four (4) years of college.

Commissioner Peggy Doran made a motion to approve the scholarship program. Commissioner Scotty Smith seconded the motion. After discussion, the vote was unanimous to approve the scholarship program.

Resolution Establishing a Stand-alone Recreation Advisory Board:

Manager Scotty Summerlin advised that with the staffing issues at the Wellness Center and the Recreation Center he was looking at doing some restructuring. Manager Summerlin advised that currently there is a Wellness Advisory Board that is listening to concerns of both Wellness and Recreation but he would like the Board to consider a stand-alone Recreation Advisory Board. Manager Summerlin stated that he had created a resolution that would need to be adopted before this advisory board could be established.

Commissioner Joal Smith made the motion to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Owen Martin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to adopt the resolution establishing a Recreation Advisory Board.

Mayor's Update:

Mayor Eason advised that the annual Warsaw Day would be held Aug 26 from 12-4 at Memorial Park. Mayor Eason also advised that Everette's and The Birds Nest Baby Boutique would be having a Corner Block Party on September 7 from 5:30-8. Mayor Eason asked that everyone come out and support these local events.

Manager's Report:

Manager Scotty Summerlin thanked Lydia King for her five (5) years with the Town. Manager Summerlin advised that tomorrow would be her last day with the Town. Manager Summerlin advised that he also wanted to thank some of the other milestone employees as well. Dianne Benson as of August 22 had 25 years with the Town, Greg Hughes as of March 18 had 30 years and Denise Carlton as of March 1 had 32 years.

Manager Summerlin also advised that the Town is currently preparing for their first paving contract. Manager Summerlin advised that weather permitting this project would begin Wednesday morning.

Manager Summerlin advised that with the leaving of Wellness Director Lydia King, he was looking at changes in rate structure and programs for the Wellness and Recreation programs. Manager Summerlin stated that the Recreation Advisory Board is just one of the changes to come.

Manager Summerlin advised he also had received a thank you letter from the Warsaw Veterans' Museum in regards to the Town's contribution to the museum.

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Manager Summerlin advised that the property had been acquired for ballpark expansion. Manager Summerlin stated that the Town had received an email from PARTF in regards to another grant and applications are due in May 2018. There is still money coming in toward the park project but there is monies that need to be paid back to Revolving Loan Fund before we look at spending any more money.

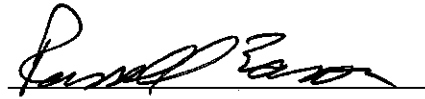
Finally, Manager Summerlin advised that the Warsaw United Methodist Church has invited the Town to a Community Servants Service September 17th. Worship service will be at 11am with a luncheon to follow. This is to honor the town's public servants.

Board Comments:

Commissioner Al Searles advised that with the closing of the middle school the Town would need to begin the paperwork to have the state change the speed limit and school designation on Hwy 24.

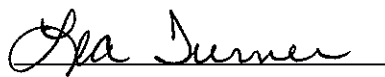
Adjournment:

Commissioner Joal Smith made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Owen Martin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting.



Mayor

Attest



Town Clerk