

The Town of Warsaw Board of Commissioners met in regular session on January 8, 2018 at 7:30pm in the conference room of the Town Hall.

**Board Members Present:**

Mayor A.J. Connors  
Commissioner Scotty Smith  
Commissioner Valerie Nelson  
Commissioner Peggy Doran  
Commissioner David Rouse

**Also Present:**

Town Manager, Scotty Summerlin  
Town Clerk, Lea Turner  
Police Chief, Eric Southerland  
Public Works Director, Craig Armstrong  
Recreation Director, Betty Smith  
Wellness Director, Christy Aldridge  
Wellness/Planning, Lavern Padgette  
Fire Chief, John Blackmore  
Asst. Fire Chief, Joal Smith  
Town Attorney, Jene Thompson

Reverend Sheffield opened the meeting with a prayer which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Amend Agenda:**

Town Manager Scotty Summerlin asked that the agenda be amended to add a request by the Warsaw Fire Department, add discussion of the removal of the stoplight at Hill St. and Pine St. and move the Audit Presentation to next month as the auditors had a scheduling conflict.

Commissioner Peggy Doran made the motion to amend the agenda. Commissioner Scotty Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to amend the agenda.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Mayor Connors asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the December 11, 2017 regular session meeting.

Commissioner Scotty Smith made the motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Peggy Doran seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve the minutes.

**Public Comments:**

There were no public comments.

**Consideration of Fire Dept. Request for payment of Fire Hydrant Testing:**

Chief John Blackmore reported that last year the Town was informed of the ISO inspection that the Fire Dept. is working on. Chief Blackmore advised that it was agreed that the Fire Dept. would pay for hydrant flow testing and color coding outside the town limits and the Town would pay for those hydrants inside the town limits. Chief Blackmore stated that the inspection had been held up do to new water line construction but after the CDBG Progress Meeting they were told testing could begin in two (2) weeks which would be January 22. After verification it was announced there were 250 hydrants inside the limits which would be a cost of \$5500.00. It was suggested that the Town pay for half and the Fire Dept. pay for half but Chief Blackmore advised he was unsure of the Fire Dept. budget so he could not agree to that. Commissioner Peggy Doran asked if they could use the money that the Town was paying for the burning of dilapidated homes to which Asst. Chief Joal Smith replied that money was already spent. Chief Blackmore advised that the hydrants are just as important as the water and that it would be a benefit to all citizens.

After some discussion, Commissioner Valerie Nelson made the motion for the Town to find the money to pay for the hydrant testing. Commissioner Peggy Doran seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous for the Town to find the money to pay for the fire hydrant testing.

**Contract Number 30 (CN39) Water Line Replacement Project Update:**

Town Manager Scotty Summerlin advised that Trey Gurley with McDavid Associates was unable to attend. Manager Summerlin gave a report from progress meeting on January 3rd. The project is about 60% complete. The contractors have also asked for a 60 day extension which would take them to January 15 and would probably be requesting another 60 days. Manager Summerlin stated that the justification was adequate. Manager Summerlin recommended that the Board grant the first extension request.

Commissioner Scotty Smith made a motion to grant the first 60 day extension. Commissioner Valerie Nelson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve the first request for a 60 day extension.

**Board Consideration of Reappointment of Hubert Merritt to 3-year Term on ABC Board:**

Manager Scotty Summerlin advised that Walker McNeil of the ABC Board was making a recommendation to reappoint Hubert Merritt on a 3-year term.

Commissioner Peggy Doran made the motion to reappoint Hubert Merritt to the ABC Board. Commissioner Scotty Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to reappoint Hubert Merritt to a 3-year term on the ABC Board.

**Board Consideration to Establish an Economic Development Advisory Committee:**

Mayor Connors stated he wanted to form a committee to work on projects to bring industries or companies to Warsaw. They would put together packets to give to these companies to entice them to come to Warsaw. There are 5 individuals who he has selected that the Mayor feels is an asset to the Town. These individuals are Frank Rhodes, Johnny Taylor, David Gasperson, Yolanda Blacknell, Al Searles, and Norwood West.

After much discussion, it was decided to table the item to have a special meeting with the Chamber of Commerce to avoid possible confusion and duplication of work.

**Board Consideration to Change Commissioner Meeting time to 7:00pm:**

Manager Scotty Summerlin advised that it has been discussed before. The meetings are running so late into the evening so the request has been made to begin earlier. Manager made recommendation of 7:00pm.

Commissioner David Rouse made the motion to change the meeting time. Commissioner Scotty Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to change the meeting time to 7:00pm.

**Board Consideration to Add "Consent Agenda" to Regular Monthly Agenda:**

Manager Scotty Summerlin advised that this would group routine and noncontroversial business items to be approved all at once. This would also help to speed the meeting up. All items would have documentation in the agenda so the information would still be available for each item. If there are any items the commissioners have questions or concerns about the items can be removed from consent and place on the regular agenda.

Commissioner Scotty Smith made the motion to adopt consent agenda. Commissioner Valerie Nelson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to adopt a rule of order allowing for consent agenda.

**Schedule Special Meeting with Planning Board & Transportation Planners:**

Manager Scotty Summerlin sent out a request to the Planning Board, planners with the Eastern Carolina Council, and the NCDOT to try to schedule a meeting convenient to everyone. This would provide an update to the Comprehensive Transportation Plan in which the Town Board would have to approve any recommendations. The request was made for a meeting on January 22 at 6:00pm.

Commissioner Valerie Nelson made a motion to schedule the meeting. Commissioner Scotty Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to schedule the meeting for January 22 at 6:00pm.

**Tax Release:**

Manager Scotty Summerlin advised that County has asked the Town to release taxes for Thomas M Hines in the amount of \$27.50.

Commissioner Scotty Smith made a motion to approve the tax release. Commissioner Peggy Doran seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve the tax release.

**Stoplight at Hill St. and Pine St.:**

Town Manager Scotty Summerlin advised he had received a letter from NCDOT in regards to proposal to remove the stoplight at Hill and Pine Streets due to age of the stoplight and having to stock old parts. NCDOT indicated that traffic counts, wrecks, and collisions do not justify a stoplight being in this area. The price to have a new stop light installed would be \$83,000. A flasher could be installed for \$9,000 if the Town chose this option as an alternative.

Mayor Connor stated that he had reached out to the County Commissioners and the House of Representatives but both were unable to help. Commissioner Peggy Doran asked about the traffic for C2e. Manager Summerlin advised that he had contacted NCDOT about the counts and he was told that a recount was done at the Town's request and the numbers were not close. Manager Summerlin recommended that they ask for it to be postponed so that the Town could look for other sources of funds from NCDOT or other options. Manager Summerlin advised he would send a letter and report back.

**Manager's Update:**

Manager Summerlin advised that he wanted to recognize Public Works Director, Craig Armstrong to speak about drainage in the Town as he had continued to receive complaints about drainage. Armstrong stated Public Works employees have cleaned 7,153 feet of drainage this year. Public Works made 5057 stops and picked up 303 loads of limbs debris, and completed 2084 work orders. Also they have started a program of keeping up with the number of sewer lines they have cleaned, this year they have cleaned 11,825 feet of sewer with only 71 sewer calls. Armstrong also stated the next big thing to work on is the cut offs, they have had 428 cut offs this year.

**Mayor's Update:**

Mayor Connors feels strongly that the citizens of Warsaw do not understand the form of government the Town operates under. Mayor Connors stated that he felt there should be a workshop to inform the public about the government. Mayor Connors stated he would like to see more of a personal touch to communication between the Town and the citizens and he would also see an increase in communication.

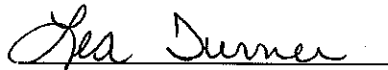
**Board Comments:**

Commissioner Peggy Doran thanked all departments for stepping up during the recent snow storm and helping to keep everyone safe. She also stated that if we use Facebook or other forms of social media we need to be smart with it and make sure we speak on our own behalf.

**Adjournment:**

Commissioner Scotty Smith made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Peggy Doran seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting.

Attest

  
Town Clerk

  
Mayor