

The Town of Warsaw Board of Commissioners met in regular session on August 9, 2021 at 6:00pm at the Warsaw Town Hall.

**Board Members Present:**

Mayor A.J. Connors  
Commissioner Scotty Smith  
Commissioner Jack Hawes  
Commissioner Russell Eason

**Also Present:**

Town Manager, Scotty Summerlin  
Town Clerk, Lea Turner  
Public Works Director, Craig Armstrong  
Police Chief, Patrick Giddeons  
Town Attorney, Ken Thompson

Mayor Connors opened the meeting with prayer led by Deacon Earl Rouse. Prayer was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Russell Eason made a motion to accept the agenda. Commissioner Scotty Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to accept the agenda.

**Consent Agenda:**

Mayor Connors asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda items. Manager Scotty Summerlin advised that Budget Amendment 1 was revised and a new copy had been presented. Commissioner Scotty Smith made the motion to approve the consent agenda items. Commissioner Jack Hawes seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve the following consent agenda items: (1) Approval of Minutes from July 12<sup>th</sup> Regular Commissioner Meeting, (2) Approval of Resolution to Surplus Vehicles and Equipment & authorize sell, (3) Budget Amendment #1: HVAC & Roof Repair at Warsaw Town Hall & Police Department.

**Public Comments:**

Commissioner Russell Eason made a motion to open public comments. Commissioner Scotty Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to open public comments.

Ms. Marzella Morrissey stated that Duplin County had received a grant from FEMA and they were placing generators at four schools in Duplin County. She stated that Warsaw schools were not receiving a generator. She wanted to know if the Town was aware of the grant and why a generator was not being placed at the Warsaw schools.

Commissioner Russell Eason made a motion to close public comments. Commissioner Scotty Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to close public comments.

**Special Recognition and Presentation:**

Manager Summerlin asked that Lawrence (Lavern) Padgett come to the front. Manager Summerlin advised that Mr. Padgett has worked for the Town in several capacities over the last 10 years and he is "retiring" tomorrow. Mayor Connors said a few kind words

and presented Mr. Padgett with a Certificate of Appreciation for his dedication to the Town.

### **Speeding Concerns Along Dogwood Drive Follow-up:**

Manager Summerlin advised that he had placed an ad in the newspaper in reference to the speed bumps in the area. He stated that there has been an influx of complaints about the speed bumps. Commissioner Eason also spoke in reference to the complaints he has received. There are several firefighters in the area that feel the speed bumps are more of a nuisance. Police Chief Giddeons stated that he is trying to retrieve traffic data from the speed trailer that was placed in the area, but is having technical difficulties. He assured the Board that his officers have responded to all complaints in the area. After much discussion, the Board agreed to move forward with the installation. The Town will move forward with placement of the speed bumps.

### **Request Authorization to Remove Brick Wall/Partition, Warsaw Police Department:**

Manager Summerlin advised that in an effort to be more welcoming, inviting and transparent to the public, Chief Giddeons would like to see the large wall against the Police Department parking lot and near the street removed. Chief Giddeons added that he felt it was a barrier and he wanted the Police Department to be more open. Manager Summerlin advised that it was his recommendation to investigate the removal and that contingent upon the feasibility to remove the wall safely and inexpensively, the wall should be removed.

Commissioner Eason made a motion to remove the wall, if feasible to do so. Commissioner Hawes seconded the motion. The vote was 2/1 with Commissioner Smith voting against the removal of the wall. The motion carried.

### **Manager's Update:**

Manager Summerlin advised that he had received a letter from CSX that railroad crossings at Dudley had been placed and were functioning. Public Works supervisor confirmed. Manager Summerlin pointed out the Public Works report where there was 1300LF of drainage issues addressed. Manager Summerlin stated that to take care of all the drainage problems it would cost the citizens a lot in stormwater fees, which is not feasible. Manager Summerlin informed of a plan to pass some stormwater costs off to developers when they came into town. The Commissioners were interested in seeing what a typical policy/plan may look like. Manager Summerlin advised that he had worked on such a policy in a neighboring town. Summerlin will retrieve a copy for further discussion by the Board. Paving is another high priority in Town. An \$85,000 paving project was just recently completed. For the remainder of the year street repairs will have to be used for patching or repairs only. NCDOT has put the Streetscape project back in their queue, with possible funding in their 2022 budget. Carbon Cycle (C2NC) has stated that there should be a check in the mail this week in order for the Town to move toward with design and permitting the proposed sewer connection. Finally,

Manager Summerlin stated that conversations had been had with the muralist and painting will soon begin. A fundraising campaign is underway.

**Mayor's Update:**

Mayor Connors questioned the tractor purchased in previous years for the recreation department and why the grass was on the contract list and not mowed by town employees. Jersey Mikes is now open. Mayor Connors also stated he had been in contact with the Health Department about the rise in COVID cases and rising health concerns.

**Board Comments:**

Commissioner Russell Eason advised work had been done at the Duplin County Veterans Museum to improve the looks and landscaping. Commissioner Eason, Manager Summerlin and David Benton worked Saturday to cut hedges and pressure wash the building. Work has also begun in preparation for a 2" overlay of the asphalt parking lot.

Commissioner Jack Hawes advised he noticed that with everyone out and about this summer that there was an increase in trash being thrown down. He also asked everyone to not mow grass towards the road.

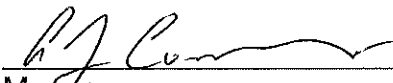
Commissioner Scotty Smith asked again about the gaming places. Police Chief Gideons advised that the matter is under investigation.

**Announcements:**

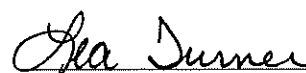
National Night out has been postponed due to weather until September 11, 2021. The Community Yard Sale has also been postponed until a later date, possibly September.

**Adjournment:**

Commissioner Russell Eason made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Scotty Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting.

  
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Mayor

Attest:

  
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Town Clerk