

The Town of Warsaw Board of Commissioners met in regular session on November 8, 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
Commissioner Owen Martin

Also Present:

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

Mayor Connors opened the meeting with prayer led by Pastor Brian DiCicco. Prayer was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Owen Martin made a motion to accept the agenda. Commissioner Russell Eason 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. Commissioner Russell Eason made the motion to approve the consent agenda items. Commissioner Scotty Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve the following consent agenda items: (1) Approval of Minutes from October 11th Regular Commissioner Meeting, (2) Approval of Tax Releases, submitted by Duplin County Tax Administration; Carroll's Foods Inc. for \$25.60, Omega Home Care Agency for \$6.85, Ismael Pacheco for \$13.54.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

Update on Contract (CN) 42 – WWTP Improvements:

Cecil Madden with McDavid Associates gave an update. The work is coming along, but slower than anticipated at the start. Most of the piping has been done between old and new pumps. The new mudwell pumps are installed. The only thing major component remaining is the wiring for the control panel.

Update on CN 43 & Approval to Provide Services for 6 Residences – Additional Work:

Cecil Madden with McDavid Associates advised that Step Construction has almost completed all of what has been asked of them. The latest work completed was 5 new manholes. Minor punch list items are being completed now. Step should be completed by the end of the month. The project called for abandoned sewer lines to be grouted. There was one line that was thought to be abandoned which was contributing a lot of

inflow and infiltration (I&I) into the sewer collection system. This line was 80% full of dirt, so it was thought to be abandoned. The associated manhole and sewer main was grouted. It was then discovered that this line served six (6) residences. Two (2) of these homes were having backup issues while the other four (4) homes are unoccupied. A new design for a sewer line extension has been created to service these homes. State permitting has been completed and turned in on Friday. Contractors have been contacted for cost estimates. Step (by change order) and KBS (for new contract) submitted bids. KBS had a bid of \$119,400 and Step came in at \$188,120. Award to be given to KBS for Contract 46. Recommendation is to approve a tentative award pending State permit approval.

Commissioner Owen Martin made a motion to approve the resolution of tentative award. Commissioner Russell Eason seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve the Resolution of Tentative Award for KBS Construction.

Update on CN 44 – WWTP Clarifier Work Receipt of Bids:

Cecil Madden with McDavid Associates stated they would be replacing two (2) older clarifiers with one (1) new larger clarifier. This will allow the WWTP to have three (3) clarifiers working to make things more efficient. There were 13 contractors who received plans and five (5) contractors that made bids. Turner Murphy company out of Rock Hill, SC was the low bid at just over \$1.5 Million, which was just over budget. McDavid negotiated with the low bidder to get within budget. After McDavid adjusted work, Turner Murphy offered new bid of 1,470,377. McDavid asked for a Recommendation of award to Turner Murphy, approval of Project Budget Ordinance, and a Memorandum of Bid negotiation.

Commissioner Russell Eason made a motion to approve the Project Budget Ordinance. Commissioner Scotty Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve the Project Budget Ordinance.

Commissioner Owen Martin made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Negotiation. Commissioner Jack Hawes seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve the Memorandum of Negotiation.

Commissioner Jack Hawes made a motion to approve the Resolution of Tentative Award. Commissioner Owen Martin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve the Resolution of Tentative Award to Turner Murphy in the amount of \$1,470,377.00.

Animal Control Concerns & Issues in Warsaw:

Manager Summerlin stated this is not a new issue and we have made several contacts with the County. The County Manager stated that they would need two (2) new employees to address animal control concerns within the town limits. Attorney, Ken Thompson stated that the concerns have been discussed with the County Board of Commissioners. With cost increases there have been delays in the start of the new animal shelter. The current issues are that County officials/employees are saying they cannot enforce the ordinances of the towns within Duplin County. Staffing issues are

also a known concern. The Town has limited resources as well. Warsaw has taken the stance that we are not going to be a taxi service for animals. Vicious animals are taken to the County, or the County is contacted to come in. If the Town goes to the extent of trapping all animals to take to the County, then we would need to look at the fee schedule to add a fee to the citizen utilizing the service. Summerlin discussed his position on expectations of services and the cost to provide a certain level of service. He voiced concerns that if a service is perceived to be free, it is more likely to be overused and potentially abused by the customer.

Town manager recommendation is to investigate a "Pay as You Use" approach to animal control services. Manager to also look into cost for other services such as loaning traps for citizens to transport animals and costs if the Town has to transport the animals.

Commissioner Smith asked if an animal was determined to be vicious and a danger to the public, couldn't the Police Dept take care of the animal? Chief Giddeons stated this was not something he would like to address. Commissioner Hawes advised he had seen several vicious dogs in his area, but was unaware what had been done.

Commission Eason requested to table this item until the first of year. No action taken.

Manager's Update:

Manager Summerlin reported that the Brownsfield project is moving forward with nothing new to report at this time. Duplin County remains the lead and Warsaw has identified three potential locations to be studied.

The November 2nd municipal election went well. He welcomed Commissioner-Elect Ebony Wills-Wells, who will take her seat at the December 13th, 2021 meeting.

The 101st Veterans Day Celebration and Parade went well Saturday; participation was slightly down due to cold weather and high winds. The rain did hold off for the event.

Manager Summerlin asked that everyone review the departmental monthly reports. He also gave a report from Betty Smith with Recreation. She advised her 7-8 year olds came in 1st place, 2nd place was her 9-11 year olds. The playoffs will be November 13 and the Turkey Bowl will be November 20, 2021.

On December 11th the Front St Businesses will have a Christmas event.

Recreation is doing a Gingerbread Decorating on December 12th at 309 Memorial Drive.

Mayor's Update:

Mayor Connors advised he was grateful for everyone being safe during the Parade. He asked if there was a way to make the welcome signs coming into Town a little more inviting or to update them.

December 2nd Christmas Tree Lighting at 6pm. Santa will arrive at 6:30pm for a visit.

He advised there is a bad spot in the road at Center & Best St. PW Director Craig Armstrong advised there is drainage work to be done then road will be repaired.

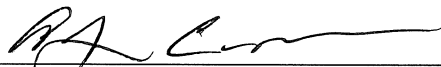
Board Comments:

All commissioners wished everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving.

Commissioner Hawes stated that for clarification he was not against jake breaking. It was just his concern and preference that citizens would come into the meetings and be on record with their requests. With one meeting a month, Hawes suggested that truly interested parties could make time to be present. Hawes noted that he does not feel like rules should change just because one person makes a complaint to a commissioner. He also reported a concern that WITN reported that our service members are being charged more for insurance. He stated he would like to see the Town/Board write our representatives/senators to combat this.


Adjournment:

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



Mayor

Attest:



Town Clerk