

**TOWN OF WILSON'S MILLS  
WORK SESSION MEETING  
January 27, 2025**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Fleta Byrd, Councilmembers David McGowan, Tim Brown, and Carolyn Dobbin.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Town Administrator Leighanna Worley, Town Clerk Emily Matthews, Finance Officer Sherry Hudson, Public Works Director Patrick Moore, Planning Director Wendy Oldham, and Police Chief AZ Williams.

**ABSENT:** Mayor Pro-tem JC Triplett and Councilmember Randy Jernigan

**CONVOCATION:** Mayor Byrd declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 5:04pm.

**Departmental Reports**

Finance Officer Sherry Hudson asked if there were any questions about her report and Councilmember David McGowan asked what revenue replacement is. Ms. Hudson said those funds are ARPA funds and we changed the name of those funds to revenue replacement. She said we have not had to use any of those funds this year. Councilmember McGowan also asked about the 126 percent expenditure for Maintenance Building and Grounds. Ms. Hudson said the overage is due to several tree extractions at Town Hall and that line item will be cleaned up via the budget amendment that is coming to Council at their meeting on Wednesday night. Councilmember Brown mentioned the 123 percent in planning fee revenue and Ms. Hudson said that will also be addressed in the budget amendment on Wednesday night.

Planning Director Wendy Oldham said we should be able to take over the streets in the Cottages subdivision soon. Councilmember McGowan asked if the fence was up around the retention pond and Mrs. Oldham said yes but a sign had to be placed listing restrictions due to children attempting to swim in the pond. Councilmember McGowan asked if Mrs. Oldham can talk to the HOA in the subdivision and have them talk to the children about not swimming in the pond. Mrs. Oldham said she met with the president of the HOA on Thursday and she is addressing the issue. Councilmember Brown asked where we are on the progress of Midtown and Mrs. Oldham said we are hoping for a late spring groundbreaking.

Events Coordinator Emily Matthews told Council about the Food Truck Rodeo planned for April 26<sup>th</sup>.

Councilmember McGowan asked about the replacement of a full-time officer who was recently deployed for a year. He asked how the department is filling that vacancy and Chief Williams said part-time officers are currently filling in. Councilmember Carolyn Dobbin asked about saturation patrol in the Police Department and Chief Williams explained during saturation patrol we have more officers in a concentrated area in town.

**Town Administrator Project Updates:**

Ethan Gartin and Marla Ashworth from TRC presented the draft utility study. Mr. Gartin said they looked at the future needs of the town and noticed that there were issues in areas such as Renee Drive and Uzzle Pond Road. Ms. Ashworth spoke about the town building a water and sewer facility and investigated the county selling the system to the town which would cost about \$15 million. She said to purchase the water assets it would be approximately \$6.9 million. The town would need to use private funding over the course of 20 years and due to the small amount of sewer customers in town, the monthly charge for 6000 gallons of usage would be approximately \$373.93 per month per customer. In addition to purchasing the system as well as the water assets, additional crews and equipment would need to be acquired to run the utility department. She said there are approximately 765 sewer tap customers in town and Councilmember McGowan expressed concerns about that



small number. Administrator Worley said it was not mandatory for residents to hook to the sewer when the lines were put in several years ago and that is the reason for the small number of sewer taps in town. Councilmember Brown asked why we can't keep doing as we are doing now which is allowing the management of water and sewer to be handled through the County. Ms. Worley said our current arrangement is costing us money but we are not making any money in the process. Ms. Ashworth said if there were more customers to tie into the sewer the monthly charges would be more affordable. She said she can run the numbers again with the additional customers we hope to gain in the future and she and Mr. Gartin can come back to Council's work session in February.

ADJOURN:

A motion was made by Councilmember Tim Brown and seconded by Councilmember David McGowan to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:05pm.



  
EMILY MATTHEWS, CMC  
Town Clerk

  
FLETA A. BYRD, Mayor

