TOWN OF WILSON'S MILLS
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
August 15, 2022

PRESENT: Mayor Fleta Byrd, Mayor Pro-tem JC Triplett, Councilmembers Carolyn Dobbin, David McGowan, and Tim Brown.

OTHERS PRESENT: Town Administrator/Clerk Leighanna Worley, Deputy Clerk Emily Matthews and Town Attorney Gabriel Du Sablon

ABSENT: Councilmember Randy Jernigan

CONVOCATION: Mayor Byrd declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

PLEDGE Mayor Byrd led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

INVOCATION: Councilmember Tim Brown gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mayor Byrd asked for the approval of the agenda.

A motion was made by Councilmember David McGowan and seconded by Councilmember Tim Brown to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mayor Byrd asked for any comments or corrections to the minutes for the Regular Town Council Meeting for July 18, 2022.

Regular Town Council Meeting- July 18, 2022: A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem JC Triplett and seconded by Councilmember Carolyn Dobbin to approve the Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes for July 18, 2022, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session – July 18, 2022 Mayor Byrd asked for any comments or corrections to the minutes for the Closed Session Meeting for July 18, 2022.

A motion was made by Councilmember David McGowan and seconded by Councilmember Carolyn Dobbin to approve the Closed Session Meeting Minutes for July 18, 2022, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

1st OPEN FORUM Mayor Byrd opened the 1st Public Forum at 6:33pm.

Phillip Wright of 725 Powhatan Road stated concerns about the new town hall and where it will possibly be located. He said that he feels that the new building should be where the citizens want it to be. He said that the town is in need of a new town hall, but no progress has been made. Mr. Wright stated the citizens need to be updated on the process and referenced a petition signed by over 80 citizens. Councilmember Brown said that there are several aspects of the process that cannot be discussed in open session. Mayor Pro-tem Triplett said that Council does want the new town hall soon, but there are things that have to be covered in closed session first.

With no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Byrd closed the 1st Open Forum at 6:42pm.

REGULAR BUSINESS

MAYOR FLETA BYRD: Mayor Byrd stated that she does not have a report at this time.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Leighanna Worley: Town Administrator Leighanna Worley referenced the Whistleblower Policy in Council's packets. She said that this policy is required for a grant the Police Department has applied for.

POLICY – Whistleblower Policy for the Town of Wilson's Mills

Mayor Byrd asked who the Compliance Officer would be referenced in the policy. Ms. Worley said as Town Administrator she would be the Compliance Officer.

A motion was made by Councilmember David McGowan and seconded by Councilmember Tim Brown to approve the Whistleblower Policy for the Town of Wilson's Mills. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion of Council Work Sessions

Town Administrator Worley suggested that Council schedule work sessions each month to receive updates from staff on the Strategic Plan. These sessions would be open meetings and would be in addition to the monthly Council meetings. Mayor Byrd said these additional meetings will give Council a chance to discuss and bring items back to the regular meeting for a vote. Ms. Worley suggested the first week of the month for the work sessions and asked Council to review their schedules and see what time and dates work best for them.

Interlocal Agreement with Johnston County Updates

Attorney Du Sablon said the town sent a draft of the Interlocal Agreement with revisions to the County in October 2021 and heard back in May of 2022. One of the Town's revisions included saying that we would initiate a sewer feasibility study and capital improvement plan within 12 months of signing the agreement. The changes made by the County included requiring the town to complete a study and capital improvement plan within 24 months of signing the agreement. This would also include the town creating and launching our own water and sewer system within 5 years. If this is not completed, the County would not serve future developments in town. Mayor Pro-tem Triplett asked if the town should make a decision quickly in regard to the feasibility study and Attorney Du Sablon said it would be best to make a decision quickly. Mayor Byrd said the County has been speaking to her about this and she feels if we start the study soon the County will know that we are serious about the situation. Councilmember Brown asked for a cost estimate and Town Administrator Worley said that the cost would range depending on when it is done. She said that the sewer feasibility study is one of the items at the top of the Town's strategic plan list. She said that there is a grant available from the Department of Commerce and she is learning more about that during the classes she and Mrs. Oldham are taking in Boone. Councilmember Brown asked if there are any resources the County can offer to help with this, and Mayor Byrd said no resources are available at this time. Mayor Pro-tem Triplett suggested that Ms. Worley look into resources and report back at next month's meeting.

Strategic Plan Updates

Ms. Worley said that Council approved the Strategic Plan at their July 18, 2022, meeting and on July 22nd department heads met to discuss the 12 goals listed in the plan. Each goal was assigned a champion. Ms. Worley said that the work sessions will be a good time to update Council on the goals progress.

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT – Sherry Hudson:

Finance Officer Sherry Hudson referenced the financials for the month ending July 2022 in Council's packets and there were no questions.

Review of Financial Statements – July 2022:

Ms. Hudson said that she is currently working with the auditor and his assistant to complete the town's annual audit.

PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT – Wendy Oldham

Development Compliance Officer Wendy Oldham referenced the Planning Department report in Council's packets and asked if there were any questions.

Councilmember Brown asked if a map has been created highlighting the subdivisions in town. Mrs. Oldham said she is in the process of creating a map now to present to Council in September.

Councilmember David McGowan asked why there have been so many fence permit violations in town and Mrs. Oldham said many residents moving into new subdivisions are not aware they have to get permits from the town, they think that the HOA is the final decision maker. Councilmember McGowan asked if there is a way we can make sure the new residents know

about permits and suggested attending HOA meetings. Mrs. Oldham said she has tried to attend the HOA meetings, but she is never informed of when they will take place. She also said that since she has been talking to the HOAs about residents needing permits, the HOAs have been better about informing their residents about obtaining permits at town hall.

Call Public Hearing – Rezone Request – 5300 Wilson's Mills Road

Mrs. Oldham referenced the rezone application in Council's packets and said that a Public Hearing needs to be called for next month.

A motion was made by Councilmember David McGowan and seconded by Councilmember Carolyn Dobbin to Call the Public Hearing for the Rezoning of 5300 Wilson's Mills Road, for September 19, 2022, at 6:30pm, in the Wilson's Mills Elementary School Cafeteria. Motion carried unanimously.

EVENTS REPORT – Emily Matthews

Events Coordinator Emily Matthews said the Farmers Market is still happening on the first and third Saturday of each month. She said there was a food truck at the last market and Celtic Creamery plans to be at the Market on August 20th. She also said that the Events Committee will get flyers to the school once the students return to advertise the Farmer Market again.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Chief Williams

Chief Williams referenced the Police report in Council's packets and asked if there were any questions.

Councilmember McGowan asked about the 17 new dell laptops that the department received. Chief Williams said that they were received through a federal program and will be used in the police vehicles.

Councilmember McGowan asked if the cameras located at the park can be moved to show a wider angle. Chief said they cannot show a wide angle, but he is in the process of putting up more cameras which will show more areas of the park. He said he plans to also put cameras in other subdivisions in town.

Internet Crimes Against Children Grant Funds

Chief Williams refenced the information in Councils packets referencing the Internet Crimes Against Children grant that was received by the Police Department. He said $22,600 was received and it will need to be approved by Council.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem JC Triplett and seconded by Councilmember Carolyn Dobbin to accept the Internet Crimes Against Children Grant funds.

Councilmember David McGowan asked about the highlighted information regarding the equipment totaling $10,070 and asked if that will come out of pocket. Chief Williams said that will be covered by the grant, but it is highlighted and needs to be approved because it is over the $5,000 threshold within the approval of Town Administrator Worley.

With a motion on the table, motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Patrick Moore

Public Works Supervisor Patrick Moore referenced the report in Council's packets and asked if there were any questions.

Councilmember Brown asked if the town had to replace the fire extinguishers that were damaged at the Community Park. Mr. Moore said yes, and the extinguishers have already been replaced.

Award Bid for Dump Trailer

Councilmember McGowan said at the July Council meeting Council approved to purchase a trailer for up to $13,000 but the recommended trailer is $11,500. Mr. Moore refenced 3 bids received, East Coast Sales for $11,450, Rigsbee Trailers for $11,500 and Leaonard for $11,999 plus tax. He said he recommends the trailer from Rigsbee because it has a scissor lift which will help better distribute what it is lifting and dumping. Councilmember McGowan asked if

anything else will need to be purchased. Mr. Moore said no and that the the price also includes tarp and ramps.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem JC Triplett to purchase the Delco dump trailer from Rigsbee Trailers for $11,500. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Tim Brown asked if there is a chance the price has changed since the bid was received. Mr. Moore said the bid was received on the 21st and should still be the same when purchased.

A second was made to the motion by Councilmember Tim Brown.

Councilmember David McGowan asked if there is a warranty and Mr. Moore said he will check if there is a warranty before the purchase is made.

Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilmember Tim Brown thanked the Town Hall staff and Police Department for all they do.

2nd OPEN FORUM

Mayor Byrd opened the 2nd Public Forum at 7:34pm.

With no one wishing to speak, Mayor Byrd closed the 2nd Open Forum at 7:35pm.

MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION:

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem JC Triplett and seconded by Councilmember Tim Brown to go into Closed Session at 7:35pm pursuant to N.C.G.S. 134-318.11(a)(5) …property." Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Byrd asked for Finance Officer Sherry Hudson to attend the session.

MOTION TO COME OUT OF CLOSED SESSION:

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem JC Triplett and seconded by Councilmember David McGowan to come out of Closed Session at 8:59pm. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN:

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:59pm.

TOWN OF NORTH CAROLINA ESTABLISHED 1858 WILSON'S MILLS

Fleta A Byrd
FLETA BYRD, Mayor

ATTEST:

Emily Matthews
EMILY MATTHEWS
Deputy Clerk