TOWN OF WILSON'S MILLS
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
December 19, 2022

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Town Administrator/Clerk Leighanna Worley and Deputy Clerk Emily Matthews.

ABSENT: Councilmember Carolyn Dobbin

CONVOCATION: Mayor Byrd declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.

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

INVOCATION: Mayor Byrd gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mayor Byrd asked for the approval of the agenda. Mayor Byrd said agenda item 7d(iv) should be "Call for Public Hearing" rather than "Postpone Public Hearing".

A motion was made by Councilmember David McGowan and seconded by Mayor Pro-tem JC Triplett to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Town Council Meeting- November 21, 2022: Mayor Byrd asked for any comments or corrections to the minutes for the Regular Town Council Meeting for November 21, 2022. Mayor Byrd noted on the second page of the minutes in reference to the Planning Department report it should read as "subdivision" rather than "horse farm" in the last paragraph.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem JC Triplett and seconded by Councilmember David McGowan to approve the Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes for November 21, 2022, as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Special Council Meeting – November 3, 2022: Mayor Byrd asked for any comments or corrections to the minutes for the Special Council Meeting for November 3, 2022.

A motion was made by Councilmember David McGowan and seconded by Councilmember Randy Jernigan to approve the Special Council Meeting Minutes for November 3, 2022 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Special Council Meeting – November 16, 2022: Mayor Byrd asked for any comments or corrections to the minutes for the Special Council Meeting for November 16, 2022.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem JC Triplett and seconded by Councilmember Tim Brown to approve the Special Council Meeting Minutes for November 16, 2022 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT AWARD RECOGNITIONS Chief Williams stated this will be the third year the Police Department has had award recognitions.

Chief awarded Public Works Supervisor Patrick Moore for all his help with the Police Department over the past year.

Chief Williams recognized Officers Nelson Robinson and Erin Sinclair for their response and attentiveness to a serious accident on September 5, 2022.

Chief Williams awarded the "Top Cop" award to Officer Nelson Robinson.

1st OPEN FORUM

Mayor Byrd opened the 1st Public Forum at 6:42pm.

With no one wishing to speak, Mayor Byrd closed the 1st Open Forum at 6:43pm.

REGULAR BUSINESS

MAYOR FLETA BYRD:

Mayor Byrd said she has attended several meetings in the last month including an Economic Development Christmas Gala on November 30th with Town Administrator Worley and Mayor Pro-tem Triplett.

Mayor Byrd said the Tinsel Tree Lane event on December 2nd was a success and there were about 250 people in attendance. She stated there were various activities for the children and the event was an overall success. Mayor Byrd also said she attended the Mayor's meeting on December 14th and an event at the Christian Church on the 18th of December.

Councilmember McGowan commended Mayor Byrd on all the hard work she has put into the town in the past year as mayor.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Leighanna Worley:

Town Administrator Worley said Wilson's Mills was one of 11 municipalities to receive a grant totaling $49,999 and this grant will be used for a sewer feasibility study. She said once paperwork is signed to receive the grant, Requests for Qualifications can be sent out.

Ms. Worley said she attended the County Commissioners meeting on December 5th with Development Compliance Officer Wendy Oldham and the commissioners went over the County's wastewater master plan. She said there was a presentation about the water and sewer regionalization study the County has planned. The County voted to move forward with the next phase of the project and are planning to create a committee with the towns in order to get their input. Ms. Worley said although Wilson's Mills doesn't have its own utility department yet, she spoke with the company forming the committee and asked that we be included.

Ms. Worley stated she is on her second term with the Legislative Policy Committee with the North Carolina League of Municipalities. She said this committee chooses which topics to lobby for the next 2 years. She referenced a list of topics given to Council and said these are the topics that the committee are lobbying for. She asked Council for their top 5 choices and welcomed them to email her their choices by January 13th.

A motion was made by Councilmember Randy Jernigan and seconded by Councilmember David McGowan to appoint Town Administrator Leighanna Worley as the voting delegate for the NCLM Legislative Policy Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT – Sherry Hudson:

Finance Officer Sherry Hudson referenced the financials for the month ending November 2022 in Council's packets and asked if there were any questions.

Review of Financial Statements – November 2022:

Ms. Hudson said that the audit for the previous fiscal year was submitted on November 22nd and the final results are not in yet but when they come in the auditor will be at Council's meeting to present any findings.

Ordinance to Amend the Budget – Fiscal Year 22-23

Mayor Byrd referenced the Ordinance to Amend the Budget for Fiscal year 2022-2023 in Council's packets.

Councilmember Brown asked if the expenditures listed in the ordinance are in addition to the amounts already approved by Council during their budget sessions earlier this year. Ms. Hudson confirmed the amounts are in addition to the budget approved earlier this year.

A motion was made by Councilmember David McGowan and second by Mayor Pro-tem JC Triplett to adopt the following Ordinance to Amend the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

Councilmember Brown asked about the professional fees listed in the ordinance and Ms. Hudson said those were used for the salary study that was done in the previous fiscal year. She stated the invoice was received late and that is why the invoice was paid this fiscal year rather than in the previous year. Town Administrator Worley also said this fee was for the 2nd part of the study.

With a motion on the table, the motion carried unanimously to adopt the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND
AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2022
AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2023

TOWN OF WILSON'S MILLS
FY 22-23 BUDGET AMENDMENT #1

BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of Wilson's Mills, County of Johnston, State of North Carolina, and meeting in Regular Session this 19th day of December 2022 that the Town Budget adopted on June 15, 2022, for FY 2022-2023 is hereby amended and adopted.

Section I. That the following Revenue items in the General Fund Budget be INCREASED by the following amounts:

	INCREASED REVENUES	
Account No.	**Line Item**	**Amount**
10-3231-310	**Sales & Use Tax**	**$52,000.00**
10-3840-800	**Misc. Collections**	**$11,000.00**
10-3324-313	**Natural Gas Tax**	**$1,500.00**
	TOTAL	**$64,500.00**

Section II. That the following Expenditure items in the General Fund Budget be INCREASED by the following amounts:

	INCREASED EXPENDITURES	
Account No.	**Line Item**	**Amount**
	Governing Board	
10-4110-185	**Employment Tax**	**$1,541.00**
10-4110-193	**Professional Fees**	**$16,375.00**

10-4110-451	Insurance & Bonding	$747.00
10-4110-552	Capital Outlay Projects	$25,000.00
	Police	
10-4310-550	Capital Outlay - Equipment	$47,625.00
	Public Works	
10-4410-325	Postage	$120.00
	Planning & Zoning	
10-4910-398	Drug Testing	$40.00
	TOTAL	$91,448.00

Section III. That the following Expenditure items in the General Fund Budget be DECREASED by the following amounts:

	DECREASED EXPENDITURES	
Account No.	Line Item	Amount
	Police	
10-4310-251	Gasoline & Oil	$10,000.00
	Planning & Zoning	
10-4910-121	Salaries & Wages	$16,948.00
	TOTAL	$26,948.00

PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT – Wendy Oldham

Development Compliance Officer Wendy Oldham referenced the Planning Department report and asked if there were any questions.

Councilmember Brown asked for an estimated number of homes that will be completed in the next 3 years. Mrs. Oldham said there will be an estimated 4000 homes coming into town and 60-70 percent of them will be built within the next 3 years.

Councilmember Brown asked what the estimated population will be in the next 3 years and Mrs. Oldham said it is estimated to be about 6300 residents in addition to the population in town now.

Councilmember Brown asked if Mrs. Oldham has had any interest from grocery stores or pharmacies coming into town. Mrs. Oldham said she has heard from some companies interested in coming into town.

Councilmember McGowan asked about the erosion issue in the Parrish Ridge subdivision and what the progress is on getting it fixed. Mrs. Oldham said the issue has been resolved and the developers have satisfied all that was asked of them. She also said due to everything being fixed, the bond will be released.

Call Public Hearing – Rezone Request – 5081 Wilson's Mills Road

Mayor referenced the information in Council's packet regarding the rezone on Wilson's Mills Road.

A motion was made by Councilmember David McGowan and seconded by Councilmember Tim Brown to call a public hearing for the rezone on Wilson's Mills Road for January 17, 2023 at 6:30pm in the Wilson's Mills Elementary School cafeteria. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Oldham said that there was an issue with the address of this property so in all future dealings the property will be referenced by the parcel ID number.

Call Public Hearing – Rezone Request – Waterview Way/Marlin Lane

Mayor referenced the information in Council's packet regarding the rezone on Waterview Way/Marlin Lane.

A motion was made by Councilmember Tim Brown and seconded by Mayor Pro-tem JC Triplett to call a public hearing for the rezone on Waterview Way/Marlin Lane for January 17, 2023 at 6:30pm in the Wilson's Mills Elementary School cafeteria.

Councilmember Brown asked what the conditions of the rezone are and Mrs. Oldham said that they are all in the rezone application and she is open to meeting with Councilmember Brown her office to discuss the application.

With a motion on the table, motion carried unanimously.

Request to Postpone Public Hearing – Wilson's Mills Code of Ordinances Updates:

Councilmember McGowan asked what section of the Code of Ordinances is requested to be updated. Development Compliance Officer Oldham said that it is section 4-40 and it is in reference to residents owning chickens in town limits.

A motion was made by Councilmember David McGowan and seconded by Councilmember Tim Brown to postpone the public hearing for the Wilson's Mills Code of Ordinances Updates until January 17, 2023 at 6:30pm in the Wilson's Mills Elementary Cafeteria. Motion carried unanimously.

Request to Call Public Hearing – 366 Powhatan Road:

Development Compliance Officer Oldham said the public hearing 366 Powhatan Road was advertised as SFR2 instead of SFR3. It has now been readvertised and will be available for public hearing at Council's January meeting.

A motion was made by Councilmember David McGowan and seconded by Councilmember Tim Brown to call a public hearing for the rezone of 366 Powhatan Road for January 17, 2023 at 6:30pm in the Wilson's Mills Elementary School cafeteria. Motion carried unanimously.

EVENTS REPORT – Emily Matthews

Events Coordinator Emily Matthews said Tinsel Tree Lane was a success and the next town event will be the Farmers Market. She said it will start in April and run through October and applications were sent out already. Ms. Matthews also stated reminder letters will be sent out to all prospective vendors in January.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Chief Williams

Chief Williams referenced the Police Department report and asked if there were any questions.

Councilmember McGowan asked where the firearm training is taking place for the officers and Chief Willaims said some training takes place at the prison and some take place in Kenly.

School Resource Officer Contract with Johnston County

Attorney Gabriel Du Sablon said the School Resource Officer Contract with Johnston County presented to Council is different than the contract that was given to them in their packets. He said the effective date of the contract has changed and is now 1/10/2023. He also said it is outlined in the contract that payment for the position will not start until the position is filled.

Chief Williams said 2 current officers have applied for the school resource Officer position. Town Administrator Worley mentioned that if a full-time officer takes the position, that will leave the patrol officer's position open for a new hire. Chief said some part time officers are also interested in the position.

A motion was made by Councilmember David McGowan and seconded by Councilmember Randy Jernigan to approve the School Resource Officer Contract with Johnston County. Motion carried unanimously.

School Resource Officer Memorandum of Understanding with Johnston County

Attorney Du Sablon reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding in Council's packets. Mayor Byrd asked if a separate motion is needed to approve the memorandum. Attorney Du Sablon said this is an exhibit to the School Resource Officer Contract so an additional motion will not be needed.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Patrick Moore

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

Councilmember McGowan asked if the cable at Community Park is underground, and Mr. Moore stated it is underground 18 inches.

Councilmember Brown said he noticed there have been a lot of issues with loose dogs in town. He asked what the process is for the owner to reclaim their dog and Mr. Moore said the reclaim fee is currently $25.00.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilmember Brown asked how long Swift Creek Road will be closed and Councilmember Jernigan said it is estimated to be closed for four months starting from the first day of closure.

Council discussed other road closures in town and Councilmember McGowan stated he will contact someone at DOT and see if he can get some answers to residents questions.

Mayor Byrd wished everyone a happy holiday season.

2nd OPEN FORUM

Mayor Byrd opened the 2nd Public Forum at 7:46pm.

Councilmember McGowan asked how residents are notified of meetings. He said there has been a lack of attendance lately and Ms. Worley said we livestream the meetings and most people seem to watch from home now.

With no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Byrd closed the 2nd Open Forum at 7:47pm.

ADJOURN:

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem JC Triplett and second by Councilmember Randy Jernigan to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:48pm.

FLETA BYRD, Mayor

ATTEST:

EMILY MATTHEWS
Deputy Clerk