

October 11, 2021 (REGULAR MEETING)

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the Town of Elkin, October 11, 2021, 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

Present: Mayor Sam Bishop, Commissioners Cicely McCulloch, Robert Ball, Will Gwyn and Tommy Wheeler. (Absent: Commissioner Eidson—excused)

Also present: Town Manager Brent Cornelison, Assistant Town Manager/Recreation Director Adam McComb, Town Attorney Raymond Parker and Town Clerk Cathie Tilley.

Mayor Bishop welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. He asked Police Chief Monroe Wagoner to lead our Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Bishop said Commissioner Eidson was absent due to a family matter and requested to be excused from tonight's meeting. Commissioner Wheeler made a motion to excuse Commissioner Eidson from our meeting tonight. There were no questions. Upon second by Commissioner Gwyn, the motion was unanimously approved.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The following items were presented for the consent agenda:

- Minutes of September 13, 2021 (Regular Meeting)
- Tax Releases and Discoveries (included as Exhibit A)
- Budget Amendment 2022-7 in the amount of \$11,675 received from Watershed NOW for 50% of the cost for design, construction drawings and fabrication for the exhibit in the Heritage Center (included as Exhibit B)

There were no questions regarding the consent agenda. A motion by Commissioner McCulloch to approve the Consent Agenda was seconded by Commissioner Gwyn and was unanimously approved.

#### **SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS (Mayor Bishop)**

- Joe Walker
  - o Mayor Bishop's comments in recognition of Joe Walker's contributions to the Town of Elkin, included but were not limited to the following:
    - Expressed appreciation for Joe's many years of public service to not only the Elkin community but also Surry County and the Yadkin Valley Region.
    - He has been instrumental in numerous tourism initiatives that continue to economically benefit our citizens and citizens throughout our neighboring counties.
    - Joe's belief in Elkin and Surry County resulted in the Tourism Partnership of Surry County which has become an example of how beneficial a regional approach to tourism marketing can be.

- He spearheaded our tourism efforts and has remained actively involved in all things tourism.
  - Joe helped create the Elkin TDA and has served as chairperson since 2008; he will be stepping down later this month when his current term ends.
- *Elkin Middle School 2021 National Blue Ribbon Award*
  - o Mayor Bishop announced that Elkin Middle School recently received the National Blue Ribbon Award and introduced Elkin City Schools Superintendent Myra Cox. Comments from Ms. Cox included but were not limited to:
    - There were 325 schools nationwide recognized this year as Blue Ribbon Schools this year.
    - Eight were in North Carolina, and one was our Middle School.
    - Elkin Middle School was recognized as an Exemplary High-Performing School, and was the only middle school in North Carolina to receive this award.
      - This means it is on of North Carolina's highest performing schools as measured by state assessments or nationally normed tests.
    - Read U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona's statement when he announced the Blue Ribbon schools this year.
    - We have a great support team and a great team of educators.
    - Ms. Cox introduced Elkin Middle School Principal Amanda Burton. Ms. Burton's comments included but were not limited to:
      - I love Elkin, and am a product of Elkin city schools.
      - We have so many people throughout our community that partner with our schools to make them successful.
      - Thank you for partnering with our schools.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- Mayor Bishop opened the public comments period.
- There being no public comments, Mayor Bishop closed the Public Comments period.

## **MAYOR AND BOARD COMMENTS FOR STAFF**

- Commissioner Gwyn:
  - o Thanked staff for their assistance with the Pumpkin Festival.
    - It was well run.
- Commissioner Wheeler:
  - o Heard it was the largest crowd we have ever had.
  - o Staff worked hard.
  - o Appreciate everything everybody did.
- Mayor Bishop:

- Our staff works well with other non-profits to get things done.

## **REGULAR MEETING**

### **1. Consider Rezoning Application for Parcel ID # 4962-00-41-1429 on Elkin Wildlife Road (Saran Harris)**

- At last month's meeting, you saw the petition to rezone property on Elkin Wildlife Road from R-20 Residential District to M-2 Heavy Industrial District.
- The Planning Board reviewed this request September 27<sup>th</sup>, and recommends approval of this request.
- Mayor Bishop asked for consideration of the Town Council Action sheet.
  - Commissioner McCulloch made a motion to approve the statement that the application is consistent with all of the objectives and policies for growth and development contained in the Town of Elkin Land Use plan. There were no questions. Upon a second by Commissioner Gwyn, the motion was unanimously approved.
  - Commissioner McCulloch made a motion to approve the statement that the application is both reasonable and in the public interest. There were no questions. Upon a second by Commissioner Wheeler, the motion was unanimously approved. Thus, the Town Council Action Sheet and application were approved. (Copy of Town Council Action sheet included as Exhibit C.)
  - Commissioner Gwyn made a motion to approve An Ordinance Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Elkin, North Carolina and the Official Zoning Map, Elkin, North Carolina. There were no questions. Upon a second by Commissioner Ball, the motion was unanimously approved. (Copy of Ordinance may be found in Ordinance Book 5, Pages 2021-10-0087 and 2021-10-0088.)

### **2. Consider Passing a Resolution Directing the Town Clerk to Investigate a Petition of Annexation (Sarah Harris)**

- This request is to annex parcel #4953-04-50-9770 located on Poplar springs Road.
- This is for development of single-family homes on these four lots.
- Property is contiguous to the primary corporate limits of the Town of Elkin; therefore, petition is being processed as a voluntary annexation.
- Property is zoned R-20 Residential District; proposed to be rezoned to R-8 Residential District.
- Documents presented include:
  - Petition
  - Deed and property description
  - Survey
  - Zoning Map
  - Resolution Directing Clerk to Investigate
  - Resolution to Set Public Hearing
- Request approval to direct the Town Clerk to investigate a petition for this annexation.

- Commissioner McCulloch made a motion to approve a Resolution Directing the Town Clerk to Investigate a Petition Received Under G.S. 160A-31. There were no questions. Upon a second by Commissioner Ball, the motion was unanimously approved. (Copy may be found in Resolution Book 4, Page 2021-10-0263.)
- 3. *Consider Passing a Resolution Fixing a Date of November 8 2021 for a Public Hearing for the Petition for Annexation (Sarah Harris)*
  - This request is to set a date for a public hearing for the abovementioned property (Item #2).
  - Commissioner Wheeler made a motion to approve a Resolution Fixing the Date of a Public Hearing on the Question of Annexation Pursuant to G.S.160-31. There were no questions. Upon a second by Commissioner McCulloch, the motion was unanimously approved. (Copy may be found in Resolution Book 4, Pages 2021-10-0264 and 2021-10-0265.)
- 4. *Consider Adopting a Resolution Approving a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) Between the State of North Carolina and Local Governments on Proceeds Relating to the Settlement of Opioid Litigation (Brent Cornelison)*
  - North Carolina joined other states in lawsuits against opioid manufacturers and pharmaceutical distribution companies.
  - This proposed Memorandum of Agreement will provide for the suitable distribution of any proceeds from this litigation.
  - Surry County stands to receive almost twenty (20) years of funding for their Opioid Response Program.
    - By adopting this resolution, the amount they will receive will increase.
  - Attorney Parker has been involved with the county's attorney regarding this matter.
  - Commissioner Gwyn made a motion to approve A Resolution by the Town of Elkin Approving the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) Between the State of North Carolina and Local Governments on Proceeds Relating to the Settlement of Opioid Litigation. There were no questions. Upon a second by Commissioner Ball, the motion was unanimously approved. (Copy may be found in Resolution Book 4, Pages 2021-10-0266 and 2021-10-0267.)

**COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS (Town Manager Cornelison)**

- Advisory Board Minutes Included:
  - Main Street Advisory Board (August 17, 2021)
  - Library Board of Trustees (May 27, 2021)

**MANAGER UPDATES**

- Halloween:
  - After reaching out to residents of West Main Street, staff has decided to block off West Main Street on October 31<sup>st</sup> from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.
- Christmas Parade:
  - The Downtown business group has decided not to do the parade this year.

- The Chamber of Commerce along with the Towns of Elkin and Jonesville are working together to have our Christmas parade.
  - Laura Gaylord (Elkin) and Wendy Thompson (Jonesville) are working to put this together.
- ARP Reporting:
  - This has been pushed to the end of March.
  - We plan to continue listening to everything accessible regarding this.
  - We will know more by retreat time.
- Gwyn McNeil Bridge:
  - Adam McComb has been working with NCDOT.
    - While doing work on this bridge, DOT will stencil a directional arrow toward Crater Park on the bridge.
- Assistance with Water Bills:
  - Brent, Dina, Kelly and Lori have been working on a program to provide assistance for some residents with their water bills.
  - Will be presenting this program to the Water Committee on October 22<sup>nd</sup> at noon, and will bring to this Board afterwards.
  - Some other towns are doing this.

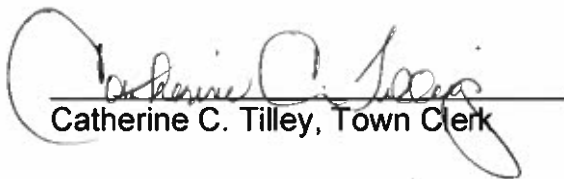
There being no further business, Commissioner McCulloch made a motion to adjourn. Upon a second by Commissioner Wheeler, the motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.




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Sam Bishop, Mayor

Attest:




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Catherine C. Tilley, Town Clerk