

## **April 8, 2024 – REGULAR MEETING**

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the Town of Elkin, April 8th, 2024, 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

Present: Mayor Sam Bishop, Commissioners Cicely McCulloch, Robert Ball, Alvin Hayes, Jeff Eidson and Will Gwyn.

Also present: Town Manager Brent Cornelison and Town Clerk Darla Parker.

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

### **Consent Agenda**

- Approve minutes of the February 28, 2024 BOC Budget Retreat.
- Approve minutes of the March 11, 2024 BOC meeting.
- Approve Tax Releases and Discoveries.
- Approve BA#2024-20 to appropriate funding from Surry TDA for \$8000 and from Elkin TDA for \$5000 for It Starts with a River display.
- Approve BA#2024-21 to appropriate fund balance in the amount of \$8129 to the NC Department of Commerce Downtown Revitalization Project Fund for initial change orders.

A motion was made by Commissioner Eidson to approve the consent agenda in its entirety, seconded by Commissioner McCulloch and passed unanimously.

### **Special Recognitions**

1. Mayor Bishop read a proclamation recognizing April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Ms. Robin Testerman Beeson, Executive Director of the Children's Center of Northwest NC was present and thanked the Board for the recognition and proclamation.
2. Mayor Bishop recognized the winners of the NC Main Street Program. Sly Best won for Elkin's 2023 Main Street Champion. Laurie Milligan won for Best Façade Rehabilitation for less than \$15,000. Mitzie and Virgil Settle, owners of the Elkin Railyard won for Best Outdoor Space Improvement. The Bonanza Group, owners of Royall's Building won for Best Historic Rehabilitation Project.
3. Mrs. Kay Garris was recognized and presented with a certificate by Brent Cornelison for being with the Town of Elkin for 25 years. Many thanks were given for her years of service and dedication to the Town.
4. Mrs. Lori Dexter was recognized and presented with a certificate by Brent Cornelison for working for the Town of Elkin for 20 years. Lori was also recognized for achieving her degree as Certified Local Government Finance Officer. Many thanks were given for her years of service and dedication to the Town.

### **Public Comments - None**

### **Mayor and Board Comments**

Commissioner Hayes praised our downtown for being so busy and it was good to see. Commissioner Gwyn agreed and commended Kay Garris and Lori Dexter for the years of service milestones. Commissioner McCulloch commented on how well the new parking lots downtown are looking. Commissioner Ball stated how well the new stages project is going and also commended Kay Garris and Lori Dexter for their years of

service. Commissioner Eidson commented on how well the Town is looking and thanked all the staff for the hard work. Mayor Bishop stated that he is pleased to see the great accomplishments that have taken place in Elkin in the last few years.

### **Regular Agenda**

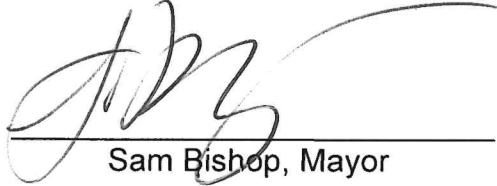
- Recreation and Parks Director, Adam McComb presented a lease agreement for the Foothills Arts Council to use the vacant building on Memorial Park Drive. This building was formerly leased by the Girl Scouts. The arts council would like to use it for future classes. After a short discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Eidson to approve the lease agreement, seconded by Commissioner Ball and approved unanimously.
- Tax Collector, Darla Parker presented a Minimum Tax Bill Resolution that would release tax bills less than \$5.00. This resolution would also release any underpayments or overpayments of \$1.00 or less unless the tax payer requests a refund before the physical year end. After discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Eidson to approve the Resolution, seconded by Commissioner McCulloch, and passed unanimously.
- Tax Collector, Darla Parker presented an updated list of properties on the foreclosure list. Two (2) properties have been sold and taxes paid in full. Ten (10) additional properties have been added to the list to turn over to The Kania Law Firm for foreclosure.
- Town Manager, Brent Cornelison presented to the Board an agreement from WithersRavenel for Task Order #2 for engineering services related to the Elevated Storage Tank that serves West Elkin. After some discussion a motion was made by Commissioner McCulloch, seconded by Commissioner Gwyn and passed unanimously.
- Town Manager, Brent Cornelison presented a budget update on some changes that will be discussed at the next budget meeting on May 3, 2024.

### **Manager Updates:**

1. Brent met with the Homeowners Association of Brookside Village off Poplar Springs Rd to request the extension of a water line to Mr. Bakers property from theirs. Mr. Baker had asked the Town to extend a water line for future residential homes when the property was annexed. The 6" water line will be installed by boring under the road.
2. Brent is working with the property owners near the Front Street parking lot, and all are in agreement and to extend the roll curbing and pavement beyond the parking lot to make it look more cohesive. The owners are planning to pay for improvements on their property as well.
3. The (2) new amphitheaters under construction are nearly complete. We need to form a committee to construct guidelines for the upcoming events being planned for the opening by Trail Days. Suggested committee members are Brent Cornelison, Lesli Schlender, Adam McComb, Jeff Eidson, Cecily McCulloch and Natalie Eidson. The committee will present suggested guidelines at the May 2024 Board of Commissioners meeting for approval.

4. The land being purchased by the Town from the Brenwalds on Fremont Ln next to the airport has been delayed due to not being able to locate and purchase comparable land for them to live. The Town receives \$150,000 in Non-primary Entitlement funds for airport improvement projects. The housing market is so volatile at the moment that no land or housing can be purchased at the appraised price of \$131,000. A price of \$250,000 to \$275,000 is needed to find adequate housing for the Brenwalds. The Board agreed to add 2023 NPE funds to help find housing.

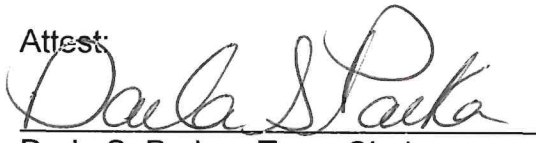
There being no further business to discuss the meeting, a motion was made to recess the meeting until May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 at 8:30 am by Commissioner Gwyn, seconded by Commissioner McCulloch and passed unanimously.



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Sam Bishop, Mayor

Attest:



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Darla S. Parker, Town Clerk