

## February 12, 2024 – REGULAR MEETING

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the Town of Elkin, February 12, 2024, 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

Present: Mayor Sam Bishop, Commissioners, Cicely McCulloch, Robert Ball, and Alvin Hayes.  
Absent: Commissioners, 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 Boy Scout Troop #648 to lead our Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Commissioner McCulloch to excuse Commissioners Will Gwyn and Jeff Eidson from the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Ball and passed unanimously.

### Consent Agenda

- Approve minutes of the January 8, 2024 Board of Commissioners meeting.
- Approve advertising for tax liens on real property.
- Approve BA#2024-14 to appropriate fund balance in the amount of \$27,450 for balance of construction contract for Heritage Center stages and shelter project.
- Approve BA#2024-15 to appropriate fund balance in the amount of \$20,012 to purchase McNeill property.
- Approve BA#2024-16 to appropriate reimbursement check from Explore Elkin to MSD project expenditures in the amount of \$1000 for project expenditures at the rock facade park.

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

### Special Recognitions

1. Our new police officer, Shannon Anderson was sworn into office by Mayor Sam Bishop. There were many members of the Elkin Police Department present to congratulate and welcome Shannon Anderson to the Town of Elkin.
2. Recognizing February 2024 as Black History Month, a proclamation was presented to Mr. Sly Best and Mr. Brian Smith. Mayor Bishop recognized Commissioner Alvin Hayes as being the first African American to serve as town commissioner for the Town of Elkin. Mr. Best thanked the town board for their continued support of the black community and he will continue to encourage the black community to become more involved in town business.
3. February 2024 is recognized as Boy Scouts of America Month. Mayor Bishop read the proclamation and presented it Boy Scout leader, Kevin Stainback of Troop #648 of Elkin United Methodist Church. Many scouts were in attendance to receive the proclamation and recognition for Boy Scouts of America Month. Mayor Bishop also thanked all participants with the food drive. G & B Energy was thanked for the donation of bags and for sponsoring the food drive.
4. Mr. Ethan Baker was recognized and presented with a certificate by Brent Cornelison for being with the Town of Elkin as a fulltime firefighter for 5 years. Many thanks were given for his years of service and dedication to the Town.
5. Ms. Kelly Hembree was recognized and presented with a certificate by Brent Cornelison for working with the water department for Town of Elkin for 25 years. Many thanks were given for her years of service and dedication to the Town.

### **Public Comments**

1. Martha Smith with the Elkin Public Library gave an update of activities currently happening. There will be an open house at the library on April 9<sup>th</sup> and all are invited to see the new completed renovations. She thanked the town board for the continued financial support of the library.
2. Mr. Stephen (Sandy) Shore – Elkin Airport, 1598 CC Camp Rd.
3. Mr. Joe Nixon – Elkin Airport, 1598 CC Camp Rd.
4. Mr. Sam Neil – Elkin Airport, 1598 CC Camp Rd.

### **Mayor and Board Comments**

Commissioner Alvin Hayes stated to Brent that he appreciates the open-door policy that he has for any and all discussions. Commissioner Cicely McCulloch agreed with Commissioner Hayes and she also thanked everyone for a successful BrrrFest and Soup off with proceeds going to the Yadkin Valley United Fund. Commissioner Robert Ball wanted to thank the staff and first responders for all of the care taken with the residents and the cleanup from the storms recently. Mayor Bishop thanked the board and staff for all of their efforts with the Golf Cart Ordinance and getting it implemented.

### **Regular Agenda**

1. Mr. Chad Tidd with the Mount Airy Chamber of Commerce spoke about all local businesses working together and drafting a legislative agenda. They will be holding an advocacy workshop on March 9<sup>th</sup> and all are invited. He distributed a 2024 events calendar of the Chamber which all are invited also.
2. Planner Sarah Harris presented to the Board a recommendation from the Planning Board to consider the performance guarantee for Park Ridge Town Homes in the amount of \$541,764.30. The duration of the performance guarantee shall initially be one (1) year as outlined in the ordinance from the date of approval. Mr. Ben Howard, part owner of Windsor Homes, was present and stated they are hoping construction on the first home will be completed by fall of 2024. A motion was made by Commissioner McCulloch to approve the performance guarantee, seconded by Commissioner Ball and passed unanimously.
3. Recreation and Parks Director, Adam McComb presented an updated design plan for the upgrades to Crater Park which had previously been approved by accepting a \$500,000 grant. The new design provides additional parking and accessible paths to a splash pad, restroom building, new playground, outdoor game area with chess tables, and connectivity to the softball field.
4. Agenda item – Fixed Based Operator renewal lease for the Elkin Airport was tabled to a future meeting.
5. Town Manager, Brent Cornelison gave an update on the cost of repairs for 150 E Spring Street. The repairs needed due to a water main break exceeded the expected amount with \$16,649.00 of additional monies needed to settle the

incident with the owners. The money is available from the water fund. A motion was made by Commissioner McCulloch to approve the additional costs, seconded by Commissioner Hayes and passed unanimously.

**Manager Updates:**

The 24/25 Budget Retreat will be held Thursday, February 29<sup>th</sup> at the Heritage Center beginning at 9:00 am

On March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 10:00 am a group will be walking and hiking 150 acres at the foot of the mountain and all are invited to join. The land will be donated to the Town of Elkin for protecting our head waters. This is in addition to the already 300 acres previously donated from the Piedmont Land Conservancy.

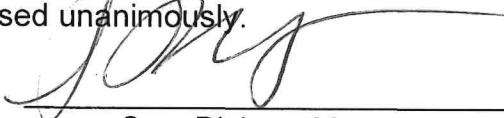
Brent announced that we need to go into closed session to discuss land purchases and a personnel issue at 6:42 pm. A motion was made by Commissioner McCulloch to go into closed session, seconded by Commissioner Ball and passed unanimously.


Commissioner Cicely McCulloch made a motion to return to open session at 6:59 pm, seconded by Commissioner Hayes and passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ball to purchase property, to be based upon a survey, from Hugh Chatham Hospital located on Claremont Dr. and Eldon Parks Dr. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McCulloch and passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner McCulloch to accept an offer from Tampco, Inc. for the purchase of 17.053 acres of town owned property. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hayes and passed unanimously. The bidding process will now take place.

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Commissioner McCulloch to recess the current meeting until February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 9:00 am. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Ball and passed unanimously.

  
Sam Bishop, Mayor

Attest:  
  
Darla S. Parker, Town Clerk