

May 8, 2023 (REGULAR MEETING)

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the Town of Elkin, May 8, 2023, 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

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

Also present: Town Manager Brent Cornelison, Assistant Town Manager/Recreation Director Adam McComb, Finance Director Dina Reavis, Attorney Raymond Parker, Police Chief Monroe Wagoner, and Town Clerk Darla Parker.

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

Commissioner Gwyn made a motion to excuse absent Commissioner Eidson, seconded by Commissioner McCulloch and passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were presented for the consent agenda:

- Approve minutes of the April 10, 2023 Board of Commission meeting.
- Approve minutes of the April 12, 2023 Board of Commission recessed meeting.
- Approve tax releases and discoveries.
- Approve BA#2023-17 to appropriate funds from PO #202210080 that were incorrectly rolled over at the beginning of FY23 and to appropriate additional pickleball donations received in FY23 for pickleball court beautification.

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

- Tornado Disaster Update
Town Manager, Brent Cornelison gave an update on the cleanup from damage of the EF0 tornado that touched down in Elkin on Friday April 28, 2023. There was a total of 67 homes damaged, 11 of which were severe and 2 of these were totally demolished. Brent and Travis met with state officials and it was determined Elkin would qualify for Type 1 disaster relief, which is a 75% grant from the state with a match of 25%. Elkin will use pre-conditioned contractors that the DOT uses for debris removal. They will remove all debris from the right-of-way. Our staff will continue to remove debris from the right-of-way as our equipment allows. Hopefully all will be cleaned up within 2 to 3 weeks. Brent thanked all staff members for their help in getting the roads cleared. Mayor Bishop stated how fortunate we were that we had no injuries during this disaster. He along with a group of

students from the Elkin Elementary Beta Club and several Veterans did some debris removal and cleanup at the Hollywood Cemetery.

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

- Year of the Trail Proclamation
Mayor Bishop read and presented the 2023 Year of the Trail Proclamation which was designated by the North Carolina General Assembly. Mr. RG Absher with the Over the Mountain Victory Trail Association and Mr. Jason Taylor with the Elkin Valley Trails Association along with several members of each was present to receive the proclamation. Many thanks were given to both organizations for the hard work they do in preserving the trails in our area.
- Chief Monroe Wagoner presented to Officer Jessica Cave a special recognition for her 5 years of service and completing her training and receiving her certification in Intermediate Law Enforcement. Many thanks were given for her service and dedication.

Mayor Bishop gave a one-minute recess so some members of the Trails Associations could leave.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Bishop opened the public comments period.
Mrs. Sharon Collins of 239 Marshall Ridge Rd., State Road
Mayor Bishop closed the Public Comments period.

MAYOR AND BOARD COMMENTS FOR STAFF

The Mayor and all Board Members gave thanks to all Public Works, Police Department and Fire Department personnel for their hard work in cleaning up the town and the quick response to the tornado disaster damage.

REGULAR MEETING

1. Receive a presentation from the Greater Mt. Airy Chamber of Commerce.
Mr. Chad Tidd, representative of the Mt. Airy Chamber spoke to the Board about certain goals for the chamber, one being, trying to better connect local leaders throughout all of Surry County. They will be starting a lecture series and invite all to check the Surry on the Go cable channel for dates and times.
2. Receive the 2023-24 Fiscal Year Budget Message
Town Manager, Brent Cornelison presented the budget message for the upcoming 2023/2024 fiscal year. A motion was made by Commissioner McCulloch to set the date for the Budget Public Hearing for June 12, 2023, seconded by Commissioner Gwyn and passed unanimously.
3. Downtown Elkin Social District
Town Manager, Brent Cornelison presented to the Board the Resolution, establishing the Social District, the new Ordinance, Maintenance and

- Operations Plan, and the amended Social District Map. Signs should be in place and the new Elkin Social District should be in effect by May 26, 2023. After some discussion a motion was made by Commissioner McCulloch to approve the Resolution, Ordinance, Maintenance and Operations Plan, District Map, and Logo, seconded by Commissioner Ball and passed unanimously.
4. Parks and Recreation Director, Adam McComb requested the approval of the contract with the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, NC Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF), Accessibility for Parks (AFP) grant program for the Crater Park project along with adopting the Grant Project Budget Ordinance #2023-1045. After some discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Gwyn to approve the contract and adopt the budget ordinance, seconded by Commissioner McCulloch and passed unanimously.
 5. Utility Billing and Service Policy
Town Manager, Brent Cornelison presented to the Board recommended updates by staff and the Water Committee to the current Utility Billing and Service Policy. After some discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Gwyn to approve the updated policy, seconded by Commissioner Ball and passed unanimously.
 6. Reclassify a general laborer position in the public works department to a Right-of-Way Supervisor. The right-of-way division of the public works needs a supervisory position and it is recommended by the Town Manager to achieve this by re-classifying a general laborer position to a supervisory position. No budget implications are anticipated. After some discussion a motion was made by Commissioner McCulloch, seconded by Commissioner Ball and passed unanimously.
 7. Property Foreclosures
Consider moving forward with property foreclosures and approve the contract with the Kania Law Firm, P.A. After looking at the fee schedule in the contract we need to take a look at what properties would be worth sending in for foreclosure. Tax Collector, Darla Parker will comprise a list of delinquent properties and values to be discussed at the June 2023 meeting. The Board suggested to go ahead and mail foreclosure demand letters to the delinquent property owners.

COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS

A motion was made by Commissioner McCulloch to re-appoint Lori Gwyn to the ABC Board, seconded by Commissioner Ball and passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner McCulloch to re-appoint Dr. Woody Faulk to the YVSA Board, seconded by Commissioner Ball and passed unanimously.

MANAGER UPDATES

The Yadkin Valley Chamber of Commerce has given each Board member 2 tickets to the upcoming Wine Festival on May 20, 2023.

During the upcoming Trail Days activities, we will need some extra help in addition to the volunteers with the cleanup. We will use Town employees for the extra help.

May 19, 2023 we will have an employee picnic from 11:00 – 1:00 with hamburgers and hotdogs. All board members are invited.

May 25, 2023 we will have an employee golf tournament at Green Street. Employees must take a vacation day and pay their way for this event.

May 23, 2023 there will be a ground breaking ceremony at the new Park Ridge Apartment complex at 10:00 am.

June 1, 2023 there will be a Housing Summit. About 40 developers will meet and travel through Surry County and each municipality showing why Surry County is attractive and showcase some buildable properties.

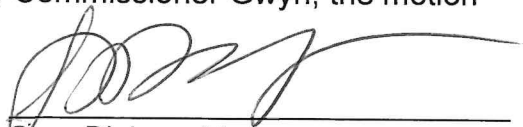
Surry County has a new initiative and they have a new group that will pick up litter along selected highways. Elkin has selected Wildlife Road to the Elkin Center and both highway interchanges. County Manager, Chris Knopf has agreed to start picking up litter along these routes on a regular basis.

Online bill pay will be active soon for all water customers. They will be able to look at past bills and current bills and select to pay online.

CLOSED SESSION

Town Manager, Brent Cornelison announced we needed to go into closed session to discuss a personnel matter. Mayor Bishop asked for a motion to go into closed session pursuant to GS143-318.11. Commissioner McCulloch made a motion to go into closed session, seconded by Commissioner Ball and passed unanimously at 6:57 pm.

There being no further business, Commissioner McCulloch made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. Upon a second by Commissioner Gwyn, the motion was unanimously approved.



Sam Bishop, Mayor

Attest:



Darla S. Parker, Town Clerk