



TOWN OF MOUNT GILEAD BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

110 West Allenton Street, Mount Gilead, North Carolina, 27306
September 1, 2020

The Mount Gilead Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, September 1, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. for the regular monthly business meeting. Present were Mayor Chip Miller, Mayor Pro Tem Tim McAuley, Commissioners Paula Covington, Mary Lucas and Vera Richardson, Interim Manager Larry Kirby, Town Clerk Amy Roberts, Police Chief Pat Preslar, and Public Works Director Daniel Medley.

CALL TO ORDER
MOMENT OF SILENCE
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ITEM I. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

ITEM II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. August 4, 2020 – Regular Meeting Minutes

Mayor Pro Tem McAuley made a motion to adopt the August 4, 2020 meeting minutes. Commissioner Covington seconded the motion. Minutes were unanimously approved.

B. August 26, 2020 – Special Called Meeting

Commissioner Mary Lucas made a motion to adopt the August 26, 2020 Special Called Meeting Minutes. Mayor Pro Tem McAuley seconded the motion. Minutes were unanimously approved.

ITEM III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Town Resident, Patsy Brown, 303 East Second Avenue, stated that she was concerned about the state and appearance of East Second Avenue. She stated she had lived on that street for over 50 years and she's embarrassed at the appearance at some of the overgrown properties/homes. She asked if something could be done. She also asked if the Code Enforcement Officer and/or the Town could start holding people accountable for their properties and fining them for non-compliance. She also asked if a streetlight could be added at the corner of East Second Avenue and Highland Avenue because it is extremely dark.

ITEM IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Storm Water Infrastructure on West Ingram Street

Daniel Medley, Public Works Director updated the Board that he submitted forms to the engineers to sign to proceed with this project.

ITEM V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Asset Inventory and Assessment Grant Resolution

Mr. Larry Kirby, Interim Manager, presented a resolution created by McGill Associates to be approved by the Board as part of the process in reapplying for Funding through NC Division of Water Quality to help with water and sewer projects. Commissioner Lucas made a motion to approve and adopt the Resolution. Mayor Pro Tem McAuley seconded the motion. Resolution was unanimously adopted.

B. Suez Tank Assessment

Daniel Medley presented pictures and an annual assessment of the Town of Mount Gilead Water Tank performed by Suez, Inc. Per Daniel, there is no major damage to our tank and the tank passes all aspects of the annual inspection.

C. Town Hall Operations/Re-open to the Public

Commissioner Vera Richardson stated that she has had complaints from citizens concerning the operations of Town Hall during COVID. Town Hall has their doors unlocked by is currently only accepting utility payments through the drop box, online or USPS mail. Some citizens have shown concern about not being able to get a receipt when they make their payment and not receiving change back from cash payments handled through the drop box. Larry Kirby, Interim Manager, stated that Town Hall had been trying to follow the Governor's guidelines in regard to being available to the public by unlocking the doors but also trying to keep the Customer Service employees safe by controlling how often money is being handled. He stated that by using the drop box, the payments could be removed once a day using gloves and sanitized and office employees felt safer using this process. Commissioner Richardson stated that she felt like the Town Hall needed to re-open to the public and accept payments. She felt like it could be handled safely by requiring customers to wear a mask to enter the building and providing hand sanitizer. Interim Manager Kirby stated that Town Hall would honor the Board's wishes by returning to normal operations and follow proper CDC guidelines when servicing customers.

D. Speed Hump Policy and Resolution

Larry Kirby, Interim Manager presented a draft policy and resolution to the Board concerning Speed Hump placement in the town. This policy and resolution is a result of multiple citizens in different areas of the town requesting speed humps on their roads and no regulations or guidelines in place to be followed for the town. Kirby suggested that the Town put a policy in place to prevent future issues that may arrive. Kirby suggested the Board review the policy and resolution and possibly act at the next monthly meeting.

E. E. Allenton Street Sewer

Daniel Medley spoke to the Board concerning the deterioration of the sewer lines on East Allenton Street. He told the Board that there was a lot of major work to be done and it was going to be rather expensive to fix but it was a mandatory repair that can't be delayed because the lines were so deteriorated. The Board approved the repairs but requested Daniel come back with a budget amendment next meeting.

ITEM VI. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Annual Budget Message

Mr. Larry Kirby presented the 2020-21 Annual Budget Message to the Board stating that the attached Budget was mostly created by former Town Manager, Matthew Christian except for a few added repair costs. Per Kirby, the Town will operate throughout the year with no increases to utilities or waste and no increase to the current tax rate. The proposed budget also includes a merit and COLA increase for all full-time employees and enough funds to cover any maintenance and repairs and capital projects for the fiscal year.

B. Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget Ordinance

Mr. Larry Kirby presented the Budget Ordinance that represented a totally balanced budget in the General (10) and Enterprise (20) funds and only a slight decrease to revenues for the fiscal year.

C. Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Annual Budget

After presenting the final draft budget, Mr. Larry Kirby asked the Board for approval of the 2020-21 fiscal year budget. Commissioner Vera Richardson made a motion to approve the budget as is. Commissioner Paula Covington seconded the motion. The 2020-21 Fiscal Year Budget was approved unanimously.

ITEM VII. STAFF REPORTS

Staff reports were presented by Police Chief Pat Preslar, Public Works Director Daniel Medley, Code Enforcement Officer Brandon Emory and Fire Chief Keith Byrd and the reports were attached to the Board packets.

ITEM VIII. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

None

ITEM IX. CLOSED SESSION

None

ITEM X. ADJOURNMENT

With no more Board business, Mayor Pro Tem McAuley made a motion to adjourn the Meeting with a second from Commissioner Richardson. Meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m.

Joseph "Chip" Miller, Jr., Mayor

Amy C. Roberts, Town Clerk