



# TOWN OF MOUNT GILEAD BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS Meeting Minutes

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

The Mount Gilead Board of Commissioners met remotely at 7:00 p.m. for the regular monthly business meeting. Information on how to attend the meeting was posted on the town webpage and the Town bulletin board outside of Town Hall.

Present for the Zoom meeting were: Mayor Chip Miller, Mayor Pro Tem Tim McAuley, Commissioners Paula Covington and Vera Richardson, Interim Town Manager Bill Zell, Town Clerk Amy Roberts, Police Chief Pat Preslar and Public Works Director Daniel Medley.

Absent: Commissioner Mary Lucas

## ITEM I. INTRODUCTION & ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mayor Miller welcomed everyone to the Zoom meeting at 7:04 p.m. Commissioner Richardson made a motion to adopt the agenda noting a change to Item IV – (D) – Manager Contract and Conditional Offer Approval – Should have read on the agenda as an action item rather than an information item. Mayor Pro Tem McAuley seconded the motion. Agenda was unanimously adopted.

## ITEM II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### A. November 3, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Covington made a motion to adopt the minutes as is. Commissioner Richardson seconded the motion. Minutes were unanimously adopted.

## ITEM III. OLD BUSINESS

### A. Code Enforcement – Speakman property update

Brandon Emory, Code Enforcement Officer, stated that he has had good conversation with the attorney representing the Speakman property at 200 East Allenton Street and that Mr. Speakman was agreeance with all the of the Board’s requests and requirements to become compliant and will be in compliance by March 1, 2021.

## ITEM IV. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Financial Statement Obligations – Yellowbook Audit Quotes (Action)

1. Potter and Company, CPA
2. RAM CPA, PLLC
3. William R. Huneycutt, CPA, PLLC

Mr. Bill Zell, Interim Manager presented three quotes to complete the Yellowbook Audit that is required anytime you borrow state or federal money over \$100K. It is basically a review of the yearly audit conducted by our current firm J. B. Watson. Option 1 (above) quoted \$255/hr. plus incidentals to complete the audit and Option 2 (above) quoted \$155/hr. plus traveling fees and incidentals. Option 3 (above) is asking for a flat \$1000 to

complete the audit. Commissioner Covington made a motion to award the quote to William R. Huneycutt, CPA, PLLC (option 3) for a total fee of \$1,000. Commissioner Richardson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**B. Police Department Salary Proposal**

Police Chief Pat Preslar presented a proposal to the Boar to raise all full-time officers pay stating that he is short two full time officers and has only had 2 applicants in the last year. He feels that to be competitive with other departments locally and on the county level, he needs to raise starting salaries and create a career development plan as an incentive to hire and retain a fully staffed department. After review of the three different options presented, Commissioner Covington recommended Option 3 which would increase all full-time officers starting salaries by \$3,000 annually. The Mayor felt like Option 2 was the best proposal which would raise all full-time officers starting salary by \$5,000 annually. Mayor Pro Tem McAuley suggested a compromise. His idea was to “meet in the middle” and give officers a \$4,000 increase annually. Commissioner Richardson was not in favor of these proposals at all stating that she did not agree that the officers needed an increase at this time. Mayor Pro Tem McAuley made a motion to approve the option to increase all full-time officers’ salaries by \$4,000 annually effective immediately. Commissioner Covington seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-1 with a nay from Commissioner Richardson.

**C. Review of proposed Welcome Packet for Customers**

Enterprise Manager, Lessie Jackson, has been working on a welcome packet to hand out to all new utility customers when starting services with the Town. The purpose of the welcome packet was to inform customers of utility bill due dates, fees and ordinances that may be useful to the customer as well as other important information. She wanted the Board to see a copy of it before she started handing them out to customers. The Board all agreed that it was helpful information and thanked her for her work on this project.

**D. Manager Contract and Conditional Offer Approval**

Mr. Bill Zell, Interim Manager presented the Board with a Conditional Offer and an employment contract for approval to be presented to the Town Manager Elect, Mr. Hiram Marziano, Commissioner Richardson made a motion to approve the Conditional Offer and Manager Employment Contract. Mayor Pro Tem McAuley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**ITEM V. STAFF REPORTS**

Monthly staff reports were presented by Interim Manager Bill Zell, Public Works Director Bill Zell and Police Chief Pat Preslar and were attached to the Board packets.

**ITEM VI. COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

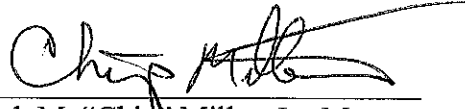
Commissioner Covington asked if we could re-visit the Market Salary Study originally created by former Town Manager, Matthew Christian. It was discussed in June of 2020 and has been put aside due to the vacancy of the Town Manager position. Mayor Miller agreed and asked if it could be re-visited at the January 5, 2021 regular meeting.

**ITEM VII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

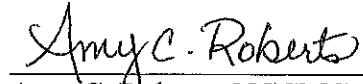
ITEM VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no more Board business, Commissioner Richardson made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Mayor Pro Tem McAuley. Meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.



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Joseph M. "Chip" Miller, Jr., Mayor



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Amy C. Roberts, NCCMC, Town Clerk