



TOWN OF MOUNT GILEAD BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

110 West Allenton Street, Mount Gilead, North Carolina, 27306
April 4, 2022

The Mount Gilead Board of Commissioners met at 7:00 p.m. at the Mount Gilead Fire Station, 106 E. Allenton St., Mt. Gilead, NC on March 1, 2022, for the regular monthly business meeting. Present were Mayor Beverly Harris, Mayor Pro Tem Tim McAuley, Commissioners Paula Covington and Mary Lucas, Town Manager David Smith, Town Clerk Amy Roberts, Police Chief Pat Preslar, Public Works Director Daniel Medley and Fire Chief Keith Byrd.
Absent: Commissioner Vera Richardson.

Mayor Harris called the meeting to order promptly at 7:00 p.m. with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance. She started the meeting with a brief comment stating that the Board had discussed and reviewed the findings and arguments concerning the improper proceedings of an evaluation of Town Manager David Smith on February 14, 2022 and apologized for any wrongdoing that may have occurred. She stated that Commissioner Mary Lucas only did what the Board asked her to do. She assured the public that this matter had been handled internally and should be considered closed. She asked that the Board move forward and conduct the Town's business as they were elected to do.

ITEM I. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem McAuley made a motion to adopt the agenda changing Item V (c) from Information to Action. Commissioner Lucas seconded the motion. Agenda was unanimously adopted.

ITEM II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Covington made a motion to approve the March 1, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes. Mayor Pro Tem McAuley seconded the motion. Minutes were unanimously approved.

ITEM III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Sam Everhart, 214 E. Allenton St., Mt. Gilead – Mr. Everhart asked the Board if they would consider adding microphones or some sort of sound system during the Board meetings so that the public could better hear what was going on.

Mr. Simone McRae/Latonya Little, Mt. Gilead - Mr. Simone McRae introduced a company that he is part of called ROC, LLC. They currently have summer programs in Richmond and Scotland Counties that cater to at “at risk” children and youth of all ages. They offer games and activities as well as overdose/abuse counseling and can help with DUI assessments. He wanted to see if there was a way his company could partner with us in some form or if the Town could help them find a way to get started with a brick-and-mortar business in Mt. Gilead.

Mr. Chuck Routh, 310 E. Allenton St., Mt. Gilead – Mr. Routh spoke in support of a KNOX BOX system that is great security and protection from fire for local businesses. Our local Fire Department is asking for support and attempting to get this program started with all of the local businesses in the Fire Department's service area. It is a system that allows the Fire Department entrance to a business through a key box placed somewhere securely outside the business. This key that is only accessible to the business and the Fire Department can make it easier for the Department to enter a business in the event of a fire without creating damage to the existing

property. Mr. Routh stressed the importance of this service and hoped that all local businesses would consider getting a Knox Box system.

Ms. Patsi Laracuente, 301 Stanback St., Mt. Gilead – Ms. Laracuente stated that she would like to see better communication between Town staff and Board members with the citizens. She said that she had submitted several emails recently and phone messages to staff and Board members with no response.

ITEM IV. OLD BUSINESS - None

ITEM V. NEW BUSINESS

A. LKC Sewer Study Recommendations

Mr. Rob McIntyre of LKC spoke to the Board concerning needed information to perform a sewer study to better make a recommendation on the cost of construction and the study of all needed wastewater treatment plant projects and suggested the Board move forward with this study.

Mr. McIntyre also presented a resolution for the Board to consider that will approve LKC Engineering to proceed with the conduction of a study on the Town of Mount Gilead Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements. The Town will request state funding and/or grants for assistance with this project. Mayor Pro Tem McAuley made a motion to approve this resolution with a second from Commissioner Lucas. Resolution was unanimously approved.

Town Manager Smith spoke to the Board about an Asset and Inventory Assessment (AIA) Grant that was recently awarded to the Town in the amount of \$140,000 with a required match of 5% from the Town. A Letter of Intent of intent was sent to the Town requesting submittal of a preliminary project scope that includes cost estimates and schedules for each major task by May 2, 2022. Smith requested approval from the Board to proceed with accepting this grant and submitting the required paperwork to proceed. Commissioner Lucas made a motion to accept this grant and proceed with required submittals. Mayor Pro Tem McAuley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Community Appearance Board - Ms. Susie Routh, chairperson of the CATB Board was not present but sent a handout for the Board about projects and meetings of the Board.

B. Parks and Recreation Committee - No updates from this committee

ITEM VII. STAFF REPORTS

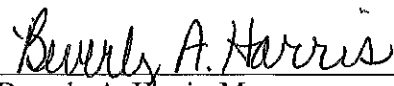
Staff reports were presented by Public Works Director Daniel Medley, Police Chief Pat Preslar, and Town Manager David Smith. A Power Point presentation was provided by Fire Chief Keith Byrd about the Knox Box system and a written report was presented by Code Enforcement officer Brandon Emory. All reports were attached to the agenda packet and a copy of these reports are available for public viewing in the Clerk's office at Town Hall.

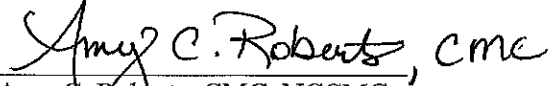
ITEM VIII. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Covington wanted to remind the public about the breakfast at Highland on April 9 and about May Day at Highland on May 7.

ITEM IV. ADJOURNMENT

With no more Board business, Mayor Pro Tem McAuley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lucas seconded the motion. Meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:15 p.m.


Beverly A. Harris, Mayor


Amy C. Roberts, CMC, NCCMC