



**TOWN OF MOUNT GILEAD  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING MINUTES**

110 West Allenton Street, Mount Gilead, North Carolina, 27306  
January 2, 2024

The Mount Gilead Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, January 2, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at Highland Community Center, 131 Hoffman Road, Mount Gilead, NC 27306, for the regular monthly business meeting. Present: Mayor Sheldon P. Morley, Commissioner Mary Lucas, Commissioner Paula Covington, Commissioner Vera Richardson, Town Manager Dylan Haman, Public Works Director Daniel Medley, Police Chief Talmadge LeGrand, Fire Chief Keith Byrd, and Town Clerk Lessie D. Jackson. Absentee: Mayor Pro Tem Tim McAuley.

**ITEM I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Sheldon P. Morley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ITEM II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Commissioner Paula Covington made a motion to adopt the agenda, Commissioner Mary Lucas second the motion. The motion carried.

**ITEM III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**A. December 5, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Vera Richardson made a motion to approve the minutes, Commissioner Paula Covington second the motion. The motion carried.

**B. December 12, 2023 Statutory Organizational Process Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Vera Richardson made a motion to approve the minutes, Commissioner Mary Lucas second the motion. The motion carried.

**ITEM IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Reading of the Rules for Public Comment

**Patty Almond-210 E. Allenton St.** came before the Board and stated according to the School of Government after five years, you should change your auditor and your attorney. She also, discuss some other issue that she see within the town.

**Samuel E. Everhart-214 E. Allenton St.-214 E. Allenton St.** his purpose is to propose to Council that they consider adapting Urban Archery Season. Mr. Everhart shared what information he have already receive, and volunteered to gather more information needed to help Council make an inform decision.

**ITEM V. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Stanback Park Drainage Improvement Contract**

Town Manager Dylan Haman went into detail to the Board about the Stanback Park Drainage Improvement Contract. Town Manager Dylan Haman stated that the staff would like Council to approve this agreement and move forward. Before the vote, Commissioner Paula Covington asked to go into discussion on the agreement and the Town Manager Dylan Haman answered the questions that the Board had. Commissioner Vera Richardson made a motion to approve the proposed engineering agreement, Commissioner Paula Covington second the motion. The motion carried.

**B. Stormwater AIA Engineering Services Agreement**

Town Manager Dylan Haman informed the Board that the Stormwater System AIA project had been awarded to LKC earlier this year, it is now time to pass an engineering agreement. Commissioner Paula Covington made a motion to approve the proposed engineering agreement, Commissioner Vera Richardson second the motion. The motion carried.

**ITEM VI. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Representative Wayne Sasser**

Mayor Sheldon P. Morley gave a speech thanking Representative Wayne Sasser, and Cody Huneycutt for getting such a large donation for the Town of Mt. Gilead.

B. NCLM MOA Resolution

Town Manager Dylan Haman explained the NCLM MOA Resolution to the Board stating the purpose of the Resolution, and that staff recommends approving the Resolution and working with NCLM on these grant fund projects. Commissioner Mary Lucas made a motion to approve the proposed Resolution, Commissioner Vera Richardson second the motion. The motion carried.

C. Interlocal Agreement to Provide Force Main Funding

Representative Wayne Sasser and his Research Assistant Cody Huneycutt secured an \$8,000,000 Water/Sewer Appropriation to Montgomery County. Montgomery County would like to use the funding to enhance Mt. Gilead Water and Sewer Infrastructure by funding the design and construction of a larger force main on Lillys Bridge Rd. This funding will help to regionalize the Town's Sewer system and will place Mt. Gilead and Montgomery County in a stronger position for future development and WWTP plant expansion. Commissioner Vera Richardson made the motion to approve the proposed development funding agreement, Commissioner Mary Lucas second the motion. The motion carried.

D. Award of Lilly's Bridge Force Main Improvement Project

The selection committee, with Mt. Gilead Public Works Director Daniel Medley, County Public Work Director Mike Criscoe, and Mt. Gilead Town Manager Dylan Haman met to discuss the SOQ's received for Lillys Bridge Force Main Improvement Project. Staff recommends awarding the Lilly's Bridge Force Main Improvement Project to Withers Ravenel. Commissioner Mary Lucas made the motion to award the Lilly's Bridge Force Main Improvement Project to Withers Ravenel, Commissioner Paula Covington second the motion. The motion carried.

E. Bruton Access Bids – NOT IN PACK

Public Works Director Daniel Medley explained to the Board how we got to the point of having to get bids on an access for Bruton driveway. Public Works Director stated to the Board that money was not in the budget to move forward with the project. Town Manager Dylan Haman reiterated that staff do not recommend this project, but if the Board want to move forward, we would have to do a budget amendment. After discussion with the Board, Commissioner Mary Lucas made a motion made to move forward with the lowest bid for the project, Commissioner Vera Richardson second the motion. The motion carried.

F. Historic Board Updates and Action

The Town of Mt. Gilead operates a Historic District and preservation commission. Town Manager Dylan Haman stated some of the people on this board have either moved out of town or passed away. Staff is asking the Council guidance regarding a potential merger of the Planning Board and the Historic Commission. Commissioner Mary Lucas made a motion to direct staff to initiate discussions regarding the potential merge of the Town Planning Board and the Historic Preservation Commission. Furthermore, I propose that the merger shall be pursued if three more members of the planning Board demonstrate a special interest in historic preservation, or related fields, Commissioner Paula Covington second the motion. The motion carried.

G. Request to change day of Regularly Scheduled Meetings

The Council discussed changing the meeting date due to a conflict of scheduling with the Mayor Sheldon Morley. Commissioner Paula Covington made a motion to table the discussion until the entire Council is present, Commissioner Vera Richardson second the motion. The motion carried.

H. Stanback Park Playground

Mary Poplin spoke on behalf of several citizens about revitalizing Stanback Park playground. Some discussion between Mary Poplin, Town Manager, and the Board took place. Commissioner Paula Covington made a motion to approve citizens of the Town to move forward with the revitalization of Stanback Park playground and include the \$1500.00 for paint, Commissioner Vera Richardson second the motion. The motion carried.

I. Audit Updates

Town Manager Dylan Haman discussed with the Board about the audit updates, and signing a contract either with JB Watson or hiring a new auditor.

- J. Waste Water Treatment Plant Updates  
Town Manager Dylan Haman discussed with the Board issues at the WWTP, and that a grant has been awarded to the Town to handle some of the issues.
- K. End of Quarter Financial Update  
Town Manager Dylan Haman went over parts of the budget, and gave a financial update.

**ITEM VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. Community Garden  
Mary Poplin gave an update on the Community Garden amidst the cold, beets and turnips are thriving. In addition, NASA responded about the Moon Tree Application.

**ITEM VIII. STAFF REPORTS (Information)**

- A. Public Works – Public Works Director Daniel Medley  
Public Works Director Daniel Medley informed Board on what his department has been working on for the month. Repaired pump at lift station #12 Twin Harbor, read town meters, repaired pump at lift station #14 Twin Harbor, cleaned all the towns' entrances, removed leaves in town, regular oil checks, and oil change in some of the service vehicles.
- B. Police Department – Chief Talmedge Legrand  
Police Chief Talmedge LeGrand and officers provided traffic control and safety for the Jingle Bell Jaunt, the Fun Run, the Christmas Parade, and Christmas on the Square event. In addition, for the month we did Shop with a Cop. This year we sponsored 14 children and had 12 volunteers from the community to help with the annual Shop with a Cop shopping day.
- C. Fire Department – Chief Keith Byrd  
Chief Keith Byrd stated the fire department applied for a grant to receive a pallet of 96 cases of water from Anhauser Bush Company and were successful in getting the grant. The Mount Gilead Fire Department also answered 25 calls for the month.
- D. Town Manager- Dylan Haman  
Town Manager Dylan Haman gave an update on the different project the employees of the town is working on.
- E. Code Enforcement Report-(Information in Packet)
- F. Wastewater Treatment Plant – ORC Manager, Donna Mills (Information in Packet)

**ITEM IX. MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS REPORT (Information)**

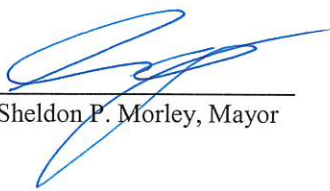
Mayor Sheldon P. Morley expressed his gratitude for the support and believing in him, and gave a speech asking citizens to be more engaged in the town.

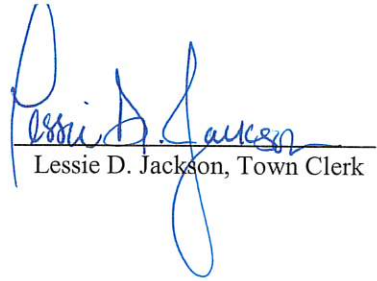
Commissioner Paula Covington spoke on the ribbon cutting for Carolina Health and Hydration. Commissioner Paula Covington went into discussion about when new businesses come to Mt. Gilead have the business owners come to the Town Board Meeting and introduce themselves. Commissioner Paula Covington also gave information on Chi Sigma One Enchanted Evening event that will take place at the Redevelopment Corporation Building on January 20, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. In addition, on January 13, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. NAACP will honor Mr. George Knight.

Commissioner Vera Richardson stated that Highland Community Center is hosting their annual MLK breakfast from 7 a.m.-12 noon. The annual Black History Program will be February 10, 2024 at Highland Community Center at 5:00 p.m.

**ITEM X. ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Paula Covington made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Vera Richardson second. The motion carried. Meeting adjourn at 8:20 p.m.

  
Sheldon P. Morley, Mayor

  
Lessie D. Jackson, Town Clerk

