

**TOWN OF MAXTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
December 15, 2020 7:00 p.m.
Minutes**

The Board of Commissioners of Maxton, North Carolina met in formal session in the meeting chambers of the Town of Maxton Town Hall located at 201 McCaskill Avenue Maxton, North Carolina at 7:00 p.m.

In attendance were: Mayor Paul G. Davis, Mayor Pro Tem Virgil Hutchinson, Commissioner Toni Bethea, Commissioner Elizabeth Gilmore, Commissioner Paul McDowell, and Commissioner Victor Womack.

Staff Present: Town Manager Roosevelt Henegan, Attorney Timothy Snead, Town Clerk Jacqueline Johnson and Michael Cousar, Tax Collector Angela Pitchford, Police Chief Na' Shayla Nelson, Public Works Director Dennis Freeman, and Utility Clerk Rosemary Wilkerson.

Formal Session: Call Meeting to Order- Mayor Paul G. Davis

Invocation: Mayor Pro Tem Virgil Hutchinson

Does any member have any known conflict of interest and appearances of conflict with respect to any matter coming before the board today? If so, please identify the conflict and refrain from any participation in the particular matter involved. NONE

Adoption of Proposed Agenda

Mayor Davis requested a motion to adopt the proposed agenda. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Virgil Hutchinson. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Approval of Consent Agenda

1. Minutes from Board meeting November 17, 2020
2. Tax Adjustments month of October 14 – November 10, 2020

Mayor Davis requested a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner McDowell. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Recognition

1. Town Clerk Jacqueline M. Johnson
Mayor read a Resolution thanking Ms. Jacqueline M. Johnson for her 24 years of service to the Town of Maxton.

Old Business: None

New Business:

a) Title VI Implementation Plan

Mayor Davis requested a motion to approve the Title VI Implementation Plan. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Womack. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

b) Budget Amendment for Police Chief Pay Increase

The Mayor requested a motion to amend budget to increase Chief Pay. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

c) Maxton Housing Authority Board

The Mayor appointed Paul McDonald to the Maxton Housing Authority Board.

d) Southeast Regional Airport Authority Commission Appointment (Bill #795)

The Mayor appointed Willis Bunch Sullivan (2 years), Emmett Morton (2 years), and Commissioner Victor Womack (1 year) to the Southeast Regional Airport Authority Commission.

e) S. Preston Douglas Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Town Audit Review.

John Masters from .S Preston Douglas briefed the Board on the FY 2020 audit results.

The Mayor requested a motion to approve Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Town Audit Review. Commissioner Womack made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner McDowell. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Public Forum:

Mayor Davis opened up the public forum and advised that there will be a limit of two minutes for speaking. Please state your full name, address, and phone number. The board and staff will not respond to individual comments or questions during the public forum. The appropriate staff member will follow up with all concerns as needed.

Mr. AJ Johnson from the Robeson County Career Center spoke about the success of Maxton's Virtual Employment Initiative that took place in October and November 2020. They employed 23 people. He mentioned the dates for Phase 2 of the Virtual Employment Initiative to be held in January and the Homes for Heroes partnership with the Town of Maxton.

REPORTS

Police Chief:

- Chief Nelson introduced the Town's new hire Lieutenant Raphiel Mason.
- Calls for service for November 2020 were up at 1,119 calls compared to 481 calls for November 2019.
- Maxton Police Department K-9 program is being implemented. Officers participated in approximately 100 hours of training.

- Maxton Police Department welcomed new K9 Officer Zeus who was donated through their partnership with Robeson County Sheriff Office.
- Grant money will be used for acquiring a tracking blood hound to tracking and aid in community assistance.

Town Manager:

- Mr. Henegan stated Cares Act funds were being used to redesign the Town's website.
- Employee Staffing Study will begin 11-13 January 2021.
- ABC Board donated \$3,500 to the Recreation Committee with an additional \$3,000 to be donated in the future.
- Town Hall drive up Payment Drop Box has been installed with plans to install pole barriers to protect both the Town Hall and drop box.
- Mr. Henegan thanked Ms. Jacqueline M. Johnson on her upcoming retirement and the town employees for their hard work this year during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mayor:

- The Mayor thanked both the Beautification and Recreation Committees for their outstanding work in the community to include the Senior Citizens Drive through Dinner held over the weekend and wished everyone a happy holiday.

COMMENTS

Commissioners:

Commissioner Womack thanked the Town Manager and his employees for their hard work and wished to see more new businesses come to the Town of Maxton in the future.

Closed Session- Motion to go into closed session, pursuant to **NCGS 143-318.11(a) (6)** to discuss personnel issues and consult with Town Attorney. (1) Permitted Purposes. – A public body may hold a closed session and exclude the public only when a closed session is required. (1) To prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of this State or of the United States, not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes.

Mayor Davis request a motion to go into Closed Session. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Mayor Davis request a motion to close Closed Session. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Womack. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Commissioner Bethea made a motion to terminate Mr. Henegan the Town Manager and it was seconded by Commissioner McDowell. The motion carried with a three to two vote.

Yeas: Virgil Hutchinson, Paul McDowell, and Toni Bethea

Nays: Victor Womack, Elizabeth Gilmore

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to appoint an Interim Manager. Commissioner Bethea seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to contact Lumber River Council of Government about a replacement Town Manager and it was seconded by Commissioner Bethea. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

ADJOURN

Mayor Davis request to adjourn the board meeting. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Womack. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.



Mayor, Paul G. Davis



Town Clerk, Michael D. Cousar