**TOWN OF MAXTON**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REMOTE MEETING**

**May 19, 2020 7:00 p.m.**

**Minutes**

The Board of Commissioners of Maxton, North Carolina met via a remote meeting at 7:00 p.m. utilizing free conference call.

On call were: Mayor Paul G. Davis, Mayor pro Tem Virgil Hutchinson, Commissioner Toni Bethea, Commissioner Elizabeth Gilmore, Commissioner Paul McDowell, Commissioner Victor Womack, Town Manager Roosevelt Henegan, Finance Myra Tyndall, Attorney Timothy Snead, Town Clerk Jacqueline Johnson, Police Chief Nelson, Dennis Freeman Public Works Director.

**Call Meeting to Order**- Mayor Paul Davis

**Invocation**- Commissioner Victor Womack

**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.**

**Adoption of Proposed Agenda**

Mayor Davis requested a motion to adopt the proposed agenda, Commissioner Gilmore made the motion, seconded by Commissioner McDowell. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

## **Approval of Consent Agenda**

Mayor Davis requested a motion to adopt the consent agenda, Commissioner McDowell made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Gilmore. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**1**. Minutes from Board Meeting of March 17, 2020

**2**. Tax Adjustments – March 12-May 13, 2020/ 2019 Tax Advertising List

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Discuss/Update on Gilbert Patterson Library**

Mayor Davis briefly discussed with the board that the Robeson County Public Library recommended that since the Gilbert Patterson Library Board is the only one in the county with a local board and has little activity it was suggested that the board be dissolved. Also, after it was discussed with, Mac Henderson chair of the board, he agreed the board serve no purpose. Mayor Davis requested a motion to dissolve or not to dissolve the Gilbert Patterson Library Board (GPLB) in Town of Maxton, Commissioner McDowell made the motion to dissolve the (GPLB), seconded by Commissioner Gilmore. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

1. **Discuss/Update on the Maxton Historical Society**

Mayor Davis briefly updated the board on the Maxton Historic Society, Mr. Sullivan is a member of the Historic Society Board of Directors and has been added to the bank account. He is currently trying to recover some old records and working on reopen the museum, once things have been reestablished with the Historic Society. It was also mention that the town owns the building but not the artifacts in the building.

1. **Approve Town Manager Residency Requirement Extension Request.** Mayor

briefly mention that Town Manager Henegan request a 90 day extension and request a motion for the request. Commissioner McDowell made a statement that at this point one year is approaching in August and as part of the plan was for the top employees to live in Maxton and be part of the community, and all efforts need to be made within 90 days. Commissioner Gilmore replied and ask Town Manager Henegan would he like to respond and brief the board on his effort that will help with is extension. Town Manager Henegan advised the board he’s working with a property owner that has property on McCaskill Avenue and things should be worked out well before the 90 days are over. The motion was made by Commissioner Womack and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson. The vote was unanimous and the Town Manager was granted the 90 day residency extension.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Approve Audit Contract to close FY 19-20 S. Preston Douglas & Associates $15,900.**

Mayor Davis requested a motion to approve the audit contract with S. Preston & Douglas Associate for $15,900 to close FY 2019-2020. Commissioner McDowell made the motion it was seconded by Commissioner Gilmore, and the vote was unanimous the motion was carried.

1. **Laurinburg Maxton Airport Commission Appointment (three year term)**

Mayor Davis mention that, as it states a three year term appointment on the LMAC, it should be corrected to a one year term to finish out term Gallman’s resigned seat of a three year term. Two applicants filed for the seat; which is Emmett Morton and Paul Davis. Mayor Davis open the floor for nomination to fill that position, to complete the term. Commissioner McDowell made a motion for Mayor Paul Davis fill that position. The motion died for lack of a seconded. Mayor Davis ask for any other motion to be made. Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson made a motion for Emmett Morton to fill the position. It was seconded by Commissioner Gilmore, and the vote passed with 4 ayes and 1 nay from Commissioner McDowell. Mayor Davis stated Emmett Morton will be notified of the appointment.

1. **Purchase Recording System for PD from EXACOM $13, 825.05.**

Mayor Davis requested a motion to approve the purchase of the recording system for the police department. Commissioner McDowell made the motion, it was seconded by Commissioner Womack and the vote was unanimous. The motion was carried

1. **Budget amendment to purchase recording system for $13,825.05**

Mayor Davis requested a motion to amend budget to purchase the recording system for the police department in the amount of $ 13,825.05. Commissioner Gilmore made the motion, it was seconded by Commissioner Womack. The vote was unanimous and the motion was carried.

**PUBLIC FORUM (2 MINUTES ONLY)** NOTE: Please state your full legal name, address, and phone number the board & staff will not respond to individual comments or questions during the public forum. The appropriate staff member will follow up if needed.

**Francine McLaurin**-12560 Cypress Drive Laurinburg NC 910-276-8857 St Matthew health & wellness for May 16, 2020 has been canceled due to COVID-19 and will be rescheduled at a later date.

**Dennis McArthur**-106 Wells Court Maxton NC 910-354-8992 Mention his background of working with the COG and has helped many youths in this community get out and be productive citizens in getting careers to attend college, work force, or the military. This is an electronic formal complaint by email concerning dirt, debris, and trees that clog the ditches for the safety of myself, and the citizens the town need to start back cleaning the ditches so on one should have to suffer from floods waters that went under the citizens homes causing mold and mildew and danger of sickness to the citizens, and they will not have to suffer. The ditches should be clear so the water can run in the sewer or elsewhere. If the town don’t have the employees, consider to hire the youths to learn and get experience on how to dig ditches.

**Vivian Brown Morrison**-249 North First Street Maxton 910-610-3681, The concern was the burned old funeral home on Wilmington Street that burned Sunday may 10, 2020 across from her house. It’s an eyesore and it reduces the value of her property. What is the town going to do about this property, She mention that as a tax paying citizen she was requesting that the burned building be torn down and removed, and what is the decision.

Town manager mention he will follow up with each citizen to address each concern.

**REPORTS**:

**Police Chief Nelson** Crime Statics April 1-April 30 2020

* 53 call for service
* 42 multiple incidents
* 1 robbery
* 35 subpoena
* Citation for mask gathering due to the COVID-19
* 2 Civil

**Manager**

* Each Commissioner was notified by email reference to the fountain at Elizabeth Cole Park donated by Frank Lea. He is requesting to remove the top part of the fountain and replace at his expense. His only request is that the town clean and paint the fountain inside and out. It was recommend that an agreement with Mr. Lea needs to be put in place concerning the fountain to formally accept the donation.
* Mayor Davis suggest that Manager Henegan get in touch with the attorney Snead to draw up a formal agreement between the Town of Maxton and Frank Lea in reference to donation of the fountain.
* The 2020 graduations has been canceled in the state. Commissioner Bethea would like to honor the Town of Maxton graduates with a parade to be held on May 30, 2020 at 12:30 at the Beachum Park. The students will be in cars and trucks, no vans. The parade will ride through town to Beachum Park, and we will emphasize social distancing during the event. The recreation department has been issued a permit. This is notice to the community and for the town to show support in honoring the graduates. We will be calling each official to schedule a budget workshop to will be held on Thursday May 28th, 2020 at 10 a.m. or 2 p.m.

**Commissioners**

* **Commissioner McDowell**- The route of the parade will start at RB. Dean, down MLK to N. Patterson Hooper and Carolina Street into the Park.
* **Commissioner Womack** – Thanked the Manager, Public Works Director & staff for cleaning up the Hwy 74 & Hwy 71 Bypass. Concerned about the burned properties and the possible danger it poses to the children. Town needs to have the properties cleaned up, or have someone contracted to clean it up.

**Mayor**

* **Mayor Davis**- Welcomes Chief Nelson to the meeting, and stated we fully support the chief in her new position. He spoke about the calls received concerning the public not involved with Chief Nelson’s swearing in ceremony.
* Mayor Davis apologized to the public for the manner in which the ceremony was handled. Mayor Davis stated that we had to hold the event in this manner due to the COVID-19 Phase I status concerning events and social distancing. He stated that we hope to possibly hold another event at a later date to formally introduce Chief Nelson. Mayor Davis asked that everyone fully support Chief Nelson.
* Mayor Davis also spoke on the issues with the Maxton Rescue Squad which has been going through difficulties for quite some time. The Maxton Rescue Squad is facing the possibility of losing their charter. This means that the only emergency service we would have in the town for medical emergencies would be from Robeson or Scotland County.
* The town has always supported the rescue squad financially and in other in-kind ways. The rescue squad is an independent non-profit group and the town of Maxton has no control over the rescue squad’s operations. They have a contract with the county. We are now and will continue to work with the rescue squad in hopes that they will be able to continue to provide this important service to the citizens of the town of Maxton and the surrounding area.

**ADJOURN**

Mayor Davis requested a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Gilmore made the motion, Commissioner Womack second the motion, and vote was unanimous. The motion was carried.

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Mayor Paul G. Davis Town Clerk, Jacqueline Johnson