# TOWN OF MAXTON BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TOWN MEETING April 18, 2023, 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.

Attendees: Mayor Paul Davis, Mayor Pro Tem Virgil Hutchinson, Commissioner Toni Bethea, Commissioner Elizabeth Gilmore, Commissioner Paul McDowell, and Commissioner Victor Womack.

Staff Present: Town Manager Angela Pitchford, Town Attorney Timothy Snead, Town Clerk Michael Cousar, Finance Ursula Goins, Chief William Davis, Public Works Director Preston McKenzie, and Water and Wastewater Director Dennis Freeman.

Call to Order- Mayor Paul G. Davis

Invocation- Commissioner 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

## Approval of Consent Agenda

- 1. Minutes from Budget Meeting of March 6, 2023
- 2. Minutes from Board Meeting of March 21, 2023
- 3. Tax Advertising List Report April 4, 2023

Mayor Davis request a motion to approve Consent Agenda. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

# Adoption of Proposed Agenda

Mayor Davis request a motion to approve Proposed Agenda with an added Closed Session. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Womack. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

### **Old Business:**

a) Sale of Old Police Cars Advertisement - No Bids received

Mayor Davis request a motion to approve the sale of five (5) old police cars to Gryphon Group. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Virgil Hutchinson. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

b) Beautification Committee Proposal to remove Trees on Main Street and bushes at the intersection of Wilmington and Patterson Street.

Mayor Davis request a motion to approve the remove of trees on Main Street and selective bushes at the intersection of Wilmington Street and Patterson Street. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Bethea. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

#### **New Business:**

- a) Budget Amendment for Glatfelters Insurance Company Proceeds of \$19,487.32 Mayor Davis request a motion to amend the budget for Glatfelters Insurance Company proceeds of \$19,487.32. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Virgil Hutchinson. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.
- b) Scotland County Board of Election 2023 Municipal Election Proposal Mayor Davis request a motion to approve the filing fees for the Scotland County Board of Election. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Womack. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.
- c) Board of Adjustment Application
  Mayor Davis request a motion to approve Mr. Michael Hines application for Board of
  Adjustment. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem
  Virgil Hutchinson. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

<u>PUBLIC FORUM</u> (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.

Mr. Rodney Dowdy, 207 S Florence Street, Maxton, 910-479-8646. Mr. Dowdy talked about the youth of Maxton being the future of Maxton and their need for constructive activities. He proposed a Roll and Ride day for the youth with proceeds going towards youth activities.

Mrs. Mya, 3861 Qquinn Road, Maxton, 910-510-6833. Mrs. Mya representing the Maxton Cheerleaders. She said the cheerleading squad made the Nationals after winning three competitions in Robeson County, NC, Fayetteville, NC, and Charlotte, NC.

Mrs. Crystal Rhone, 317 N. Patterson Street, Maxton, 704-804-3526. Mrs. Rhone stated that if we do not give the kids anywhere to go, that they will turn to crime. She said we need to have activities for the youth and that we should ask the kids what they need.

Mr. Devecky Smith, 307 Wilmington Street, Maxton, 910-258-7529. Mr. Smith said he coaches the local youth in basketball, football, and baseball. He asked for resources and point of contacts for help with acquiring a place for the kids to practice year around.

Mrs. Sandra McCallum, 421 Croom Road, Maxton, NC, 910-318-2740. Mrs. McCallum spoke about the miscommunication with how the Maxton Town meeting Public Forum works. She said it would be good to explain the process better to those who do not know it.

Mr. Trayvon McArthur, 413 Well Court, Maxton, NC, 910-800-8139. Mr. Macarthur, a worker for Legal Aide in North Carolina explain a little about Legal Aide and the acquiring of Medicaid.

Mrs. Julianna Mitchell, 21761 Old Maxton Road, Maxton, NC, 910-997-8412. Mrs. Mitchell said that her nonprofit Making Ways that served the community of Maxton last year is still looking for a building to host their services.

#### **REPORTS**

#### Recreation:

Recreation Chairman Mrs. Jamie Smith spoke of a meeting on Good Friday geared to supporting the youth. She addressed the residents that said there is no activities for the youth in Maxton. She pointed out various supporter in the meeting that support the youth along with the Recreation Committee. Some of those programs are GMED, PALS, Antonio McIntyre's cheerleading squad, Girl Scouts, Robeson County Recreation, Making Ways, and Mr. Virgil Hutchinson.

- Maxton Youth Day will be on May 6, 2023 from 11 a. to 5 pm.
- Juneteenth Pageant will be on June 17, 2023. On March 31, 2023, Paint the school Purple will take place at Townsend Elementary School.
- Juneteenth Parade and Festival will be on June 17, 2023 from 10 am to 5 pm.

#### Police Chief:

Chief Davis introduced Mr. Rodney Dowdy. Mr. Dowdy said he researched three area towns that have ordinances that allow residents to ride recreational vehicles under 35 miles an hour on their highway and roads. He proposed that the Town of Maxton adopt the same ordinance to raise money for the local youth. He also proposed a month Roll and Ride event to further raise funds for the youth.

#### Manager:

Town Manager Angela Pitchford gave the following report:

- The Town is working with Robeson County Community College (RCC) to bring classes to the Maxton Learning Academy on Hopper Street.
- The Town has met with our State Representative to get help for the Town.
- The Town has meet with both Scotland and Robeson County Economic Development Managers in effort to help the Town.

Mrs. Pitchford said the Town is working diligently to get help for Maxton.

#### Commissioners:

Commissioner Womack said the Town budget will be sign in June 2023, but that he could not reassure its resident that there will be funds for our youth. He said do not feel like the Board is not listening to you.

Commissioner McDowell addressed the Board not answering questions in the Public Forum, but that they are listening. He said there are a lot of things going on behind the scenes that the residents do not know about. He said the Town has met with its North Carolina Senator in an effort to help the Town and that continued meetings will take place. He said he would like to see everyone come out for the Youth Day on May 6, 2023 and National Day of Prayer at Elizabeth Cole Park on May 4, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.

Commissioner Bethea said Maxton Youth Day will be on May 6, 2023, at Beachum Park in Town. She said please bring you kids out to the park on that day.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

Closed session G.S. 143-318.11(a) (3)-to discuss personnel issues only and consult with Town Attorney. **Pursuant to North Carolina General Statue 143-318.11.** Closed sessions. (a)Permitted Purposes. (3) To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged.

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

Mayor Davis request a motion to come out of Closed Session. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Bethea. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Commissioner McDowell mad a motion to have a Special meeting on Wednesday, April 26, 2023 and it was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Virgil Hutchinson. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

#### **ADJOURN**

Mayor Davis request a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Virgil Hutchinson. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Paul Davis, Mayor

Michael D. Cousar, MBA