

**TOWN OF MAXTON**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TOWN MEETING**  
**April 19, 2022 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 (absent), and Commissioner Victor Womack.

Staff Present: Town Manager Angela Pitchford, Town Attorney Timothy Snead, Town Clerk Michael Cousar, Accounts Payable Tech Jasmin Mason, Interim Police Chief William Davis, Public Works Director Preston McKenzie, and Water and Wastewater Director Dennis Freeman.

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

**Invocation:** Commissioner 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.

Mayor Pro Tem Virgil Hutchinson recused himself from New Business, item a) Humanoid Playground, LLC, due to a personal conflict of interest.

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

1. Minutes from Board Meeting of March 15, 2022.
2. Minutes from Board Pre-Retreat Meeting of March 15, 2022.
3. Tax Adjustment from March 9, 2022, through April 12, 2022.

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

**Adopt the Proposed Agenda**

Mayor Davis request a motion to adopt the Proposed Agenda. Commissioner Gilmore made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Womack. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

a) SCTC Foundation Request.

Mr. Jonathan Galbreath, founder of the SCTC Foundation presented his request to the Board of Commissioners to use the town's football field, basketball court, and amenities for his AAU football and basketball team as their home base. Mr. Galbreath also answered Commissioners questions as to the responsibilities his foundation would have to assume in order to use the town's facility.

The Board of Commissioners recommended that Mr. Galbreath meet with the Town Manager and Town Attorney to draft an agreement between the town and his foundation for consideration and approval.

**NEW BUSINESS**

a) Humanoid Playground, LLC – Michael Smith

Founder and owner of Humanoid Playground, LLC, Mr. Michael Smith proposed a partnership with the Town of Maxton to develop and deploy his company's advanced surveillance and security solution. The town would assist the company in funding grant writing to further develop the surveillance system.

Commissioners Womack made a motion to have Mr. Smith consult with the Mayor, Town Manager, and Town Attorney at a later date to further discuss the proposed partnership.

b) Adopt Resolution for Federal Clean Water Act Amendment of 1987 and the North Carolina Water Infrastructure Act of 2005.

Mayor Davis request a motion to adopt Resolution for Federal Clean Water Act Amendment of 1987 and the North Carolina Water Infrastructure Act of 2005. Commissioner Gilmore made the motion and it was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Virgil Hutchinson. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

c) Town of Maxton Tax Lien Advertisement.

Mayor Davis request a motion to allow the town's Tax Collector to advertise 2021 tax liens. Commissioner Womack made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Gilmore. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

d) Town of Maxton Hurricane Storm Water Repair Bids.

Mayor Davis request a motion to approve Columbus Utilities, Inc., bid of \$169, 959.00 to make hurricane stormwater repairs for the town. Commissioner Womack made the motion and it was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Virgil Hutchinson. The vote was unanimous and the motion 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.

Mrs. Joyce Maynor, 1207 S. Austin Street, 910-844-3133, Mrs. Maynor request that the town talk to a resident on Suburban Street about the trash at the residency.

Ms. Aggie Deese, 106 Smith Street, Maxton, 910-844-5946. Ms. Deese spoke about the condition of the residency at 536 N. Patterson Street that is almost covered with trees and brush. She want the town to take action as the residency reflexes poorly on the town.

Mr. Harold Maynor, 1207 S. Austin Street, Maxton, 910-844-3133. Mr. Maynor is concerned about dead trees, mostly dogwood trees on N. Patterson Street, McCaskill Avenue, and at Beacham Park within the town. He recommends the trees be removed because they are dead or dying.

Ms. Sandy McCallum, 421 Croom Road, Maxton, 910-390-4190. Ms. McCallum thanked the Town of Maxton for properly informing the residents on Croom Road of free trash pickup day and suggested the town do more to bring in new business and proactively fight the vandalism facing current businesses.

Mr. Anthony Raynor, 407 Croom Road, Maxton, 631-320-9168. Mr. Raynor talked about three (3) vacant properties located on Croom Road he believes the town needs to take action on due to hazardous conditions or delinquent taxes. He spoke about the Interim Police Chief being put in the position permanently and issues he has with the lack of informative information with the Board of Commissioners meeting agenda.

Mr. James McEachin, 301 Croom Road, Maxton, 910-364-2784. Mr. McEachin talked about the town losing its schools, past and present. He urged the town officials to do more for its citizens in regards to Main Street businesses and their children in regards to their schooling.

Mrs. Jamie Smith, 13167 NC Hwy 130, Maxton, 910-785-2665. Mrs. Smith as a representative of the town's Recreation Committee mentioned the town will be putting on its First Annual Juneteenth Festival to include a pageant on June 18, 2022, at 11:00 a.m., located on Main Street. Deadlines for submitting town history or historical items to the committee has been extended to May 20, 2022.

Mrs. Jamie Smith, 13167 NC Hwy 130, Maxton, 910-785-2665. Mrs. Smith voiced her frustration about finding out the Townsend Middle School 6th through 8th grade students being reassigned to another school after the decision had already been made by the Robeson County School Board. She urged all resident to band together in support of each other and the town by attention the Transition Meeting being held by the Robeson County Superintendent of Schools at Townsend Middle School.

Mrs. Mary McNeill, 407 Central Street, Maxton, 910-844-5376. Mrs. McNeill voiced that she has watched the town Public Forum being conducted out of order for the last two (2) meeting by not following the rule of order set the Board of Commissioners.

## **REPORTS**

### **Police Chief:**

Police Department Statistics from March 19, 2022, through April 19, 2022, in comparison to March 19, 2021, through April 19, 2021 statistics:

- ATV vehicle pursuits are down by 50 percent.
- Alarm activation is down 58 percent.
- Fraud is up 48 percent.
- Wellness checks are up 12 percent.
- Animal complaints are down 44 percent.
- Breaking and entering is the same at 1 percent.
- Call for Services are up 33 percent.

Community Watch meeting dates will be on Saturday May 21, 2022, and Tuesday May 24, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. For more information you can contact Sergeant Patrick Hunt through the Police Department Facebook website.

### **Manager Report:**

Scotland County Landfill had informed the town to not bring in anymore leaf and limbs to their facility until further notice. Leaf and limb will be transport to St. Paul Landfill which will cause delays in service due to transport time.

The Town has applied for a Kubota Home Strong Grant with the intentions of upgrading the exterior grounds of the Gilbert Patterson Library with new tables and benches and resurfacing of the parking lot if awarded. Other grant opportunities are be explored to help fund projects throughout the town and citizens participation is welcomed.

In the month of March, the town has had several sewer backups due to wigs, hair, wet wipes, and grease being discarded into the town's sewer system. We ask that all residents be mindful of what they discard into the sewer system to prevent future backups.

Furniture dumping is not allowed at the town's Recycling bin.

Spring Cleanup is taking place from April 18, 2022, through April 22, 2022.

Code Enforcement continues to be carried out within town limits.

### **Commissioners:**

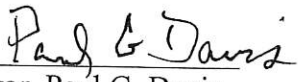
Commissioner Bethea suggested to the Board of Commissioners a Special Meeting needs to be scheduled to discuss the Townsend Middle School students reassignment.

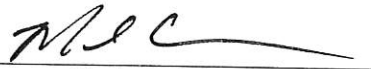
Commissioner Gilmore said the Board of Commissioner need to meet on statement made by Mrs. Mary McNeill during the meeting at their next Special Meeting.

Commissioner Womack suggested the Board of Commissioners meet to discuss promoting the Interim Police Chief Mr. Darren Williams to Police Chief.

**ADJOURN**

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

  
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Mayor, Paul G. Davis

  
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Town Clerk, Michael D. Cousar