# TOWN OF MAXTON BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TOWN MEETING December 21, 2021 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, Police Chief Na'Shayla Nelson, 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.

# Approval of Consent Agenda

- 1. Minutes from Board Meeting of December 21, 2021.
- 2. Tax Adjustments from November 11 through December 15, 2021.

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

# Adopt the Proposed Agenda

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

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- a) Approve Amended E-911 Interlocal Agreement.

  Mayor Davis request a motion to approve amended E-911 Interlocal Agreement. Commissioner Womack made the motion and it was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.
- b) Discuss Town of Maxton Comprehensive Plan Survey.

  Mayor Davis request a motion to approve Comprehensive Plan Survey with amendment to add question number nine (9) Are you a Homeowner or Renter. Commissioner Gilmore made the motion and it was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Virgil Hutchinson. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

#### Commissioner Oath

Town Manager Angela Pitchford administered Commissioner's Victor Womack and Virgil Hutchinson Oath of Office for their November 2, 2021, reelection to office.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

a) Elect Mayor Pro Tem.

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

- b) Approve Hunt's Production Welding repair quotes for the Learning Academy building. Mayor Davis request a motion to approve Hunt's Production Welding repair quotes. Commissioner Womack made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Bethea. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.
- c) Approve Budget Amendment of \$6,725.00 for Learning Academy building. Mayor Davis request a motion to approve Budget Amendment of \$6,725.00 for Hunt's Production Welding repair quotes. Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Bethea. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.
- d) Southeast Regional Airport Authority Application.

  Mayor Davis appointed Mr. Joe Clark to the Southeast Regional Airport Authority Board.

<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.

Ms. Sandy McCallum, 421 Croom Road Maxton, 910-390-4190. Ms. McCallum asked the Town to reconsider asking for personal information during its Public Forum, if changes to the sanitation schedule could be placed on the water bills for information awareness, and thanked the Recreation Committee for putting on a wonderful event for the senior citizens.

Mr. Robert Macy, 307 N. Florence Street Maxton, 910-844-1882. Mr. Macy spoke about items being dropped off of the Towns' agenda and not being revisited and the lack of Town information not being posted on the Town's website. He also praised the success of the Town's 1st Annual Christmas Festival.

Mrs. Jamie Smith, 13167 NC Hwy 130 Maxton, 910-785-2665. Mrs. Smith, the Recreation Committee Chairman first address the lack of information with getting the information out to the Town residents about events and said that every avenue was taken to get the information out to the residents. She thanked the Police Chief Nelson and the Police Department, Public Works, Town Manager Angela Pitchford, Commissioner Toni Bethea, Mrs. Mary McNeil for all their efforts in making the Towns' 1st Annual Christmas Festival a success, along with the Senior Citizens Drive-Thru.

Mrs. Bertha Hutchinson, 407 Lombard Street Maxton, 910-390-9098. Mrs. Hutchinson spoke of the efforts of a lot of the Towns' citizens who volunteered their time and resources to support the Maxton Food Drive for the last two to three years since COVID-19 started. She spoke of the need for their recognition by the Town, then recognized those volunteers for their efforts.

Mr. Treyvon McArthur, 413 Wells Court Maxton. Mr. McArthur made it known that he coached a very talented 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade football team that consisted of local Maxton youths. He recognized multiple

players from his team and those that made the All-star team. He wants the Town and its residents to be aware of the talented youths of Maxton and the support they need to be successful.

#### REPORTS

#### Police Chief:

Police Department has successfully completed all mandated audits.

Calls for service are down for November 2021(934 vs 1,112 in 2020).

Department has four (4) patrol vehicles in need of replacement.

Upcoming Events and miscellaneous information:

- a) December 8th: Community Dinner Hosted by Ministers of Justice.
- b) December 11th: Christmas Festival.
- c) December 14th: Coats for Kids.
- d) December 21st: Shop with a Cop.
- e) December 18th: Turkey Giveaway.

Chief Nelson asked residents to participate in the Neighborhood Watch Program and gave a special thank you to Taleja McInnis, a youth volunteer who has assisted her in many civil events the past month of December 2021.

## Manager:

Town Manager Angela Pitchford informed the Board of Commissioners that Chief Nelson has given her thirty (30) day notice and ensured a smooth transition.

The brick wall on Central Street has been repaired.

The North Carolina Department of Revenue is offering business recovery grants. Two (2) grants are available, a Hospitality Grant and a Reimbursement Grant for businesses affected by COVID-19. For those businesses interest in the recovery grant please contact the Town Manager for more information.

There is funding in Robeson County for elderly home owner that need home repairs. For those that need home repairs please contact the Town Manager for more addition information.

# Commissioners:

Commissioner Womack mentioned that a digital sign would better help the Town with informational awareness and that the Town is doing great job at maintaining the cleanliness of the highway by-passes.

Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson said we are a small town, but let's think big in 2022, for this small town. He said it is a lot of things we need to change in Maxton, but we can work together in breaking down the wall between the citizens and the administration to make Maxton a better place.

Mayor Davis thanked Chief Nelson for doing a great job while she has been aboard and in the improvement of the Maxton Police Department since the time of her arrival. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

# **ADJOURN**

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

Mayor, Paul G. Davis

Town Člerk, Michael D. Cousar