

**TOWN OF MAXTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING
July 28, 2021 1:00 p.m.
Minutes**

The Board of Commissioners of Maxton, North Carolina met in the meeting chambers of the Town of Maxton Town Hall located at 201 McCaskill Avenue Maxton, North Carolina at 1:00 p.m.

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

Staff Present: Town Manager Angela Pitchford, Town Clerk Michael Cousar, Police Chief Na'Shayla Nelson, and Officer Raphiel Mason.

Robeson County Officials: Assistant County Manager Shelton Hill, Robeson County Commissioner District 2 Pauline Campbell, 911 Director Chad Deese, and 911 Assistant Director Crystal Baton.

Call Meeting to Order- Town Manager Angela Pitchford

Invocation: Commissioner Womack

OLD BUSINESS:

a) Robeson County Interlocal E-911 Agreement.

Police Chief Na'Shayla Nelson explained the Town of Maxton financial position and physical capabilities as they pertain to emergency services to the Robeson County representatives and that the town would need an agreement with Robeson County to have 911 funding approved.

911 Director Chad Deese said that if the town wants to dispatch its own 911 calls and be funded for it that the town would still have to dispatch Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and fire services through Robeson County.

Robeson County Assistant Manager Mr. Shelton Hill said he understood the towns' position and that Robeson County would not try to impede or stand in the way of the Town of Maxton delivery of services and its cost effectiveness. He explained the difficulties of establishing liability without an agreement and that the Interlocal E-911 Agreement would put liability squarely on the shoulders of Robeson County. He also mentioned that Robeson County entry cost of \$15.00 per resident in the agreement for all three services was at a rate from 2012, to be fair to all towns entering the agreement.

Chief Nelson asked would the town's current dispatchers have an opportunity to be employed with Robeson County.

Mr. Shelton Hill said yes and that Robeson County is actively recruiting qualified dispatchers.

Commissioner Womack asked how many EMS units Robeson County presently has.

Mr. Shelton Hill said the county has ten EMS units with an additional six or eight that will be used as backup units.

Assistant 911 Director Crystal Baton stated that there are nine Medic units in operation daily.

Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson departed at 1:45 p.m.

Commissioner McDowell asked if the Robeson County Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) would be available if the town had its own CAD as a backup.

911 Director Chad Deese said CAD calls could be forwarded to Robeson County through the telephone company.

Chief Nelson mentioned that with the Fire and Rescue Departments not being under the towns' direct control creates its inability to dispatch these services. She said we are looking for the best possible option for the Town of Maxxton Police Department to be effective.

Town Manager Angela Pitchford asked was there a timeline for the town to make a decision on the E-911 services agreement and if the town was to keep its dispatcher and PSAP would the cost of the contract be different.

Mr. Shelton Hill said every day that we go without an agreement liability goes unanswered and that the cost of the contract would not change if the town kept its dispatcher and PSAP services.

Town Manager Angela Pitchford said the towns' main concern would be adding cost to the budget in the future.

Mr. Shelton Hill said the town could pay the three year contract running from July 2021 to July 2024, off in four quarterly payments.

ADJOURN

Town Manager Angela Pitchford adjourned the meeting.



Mayor, Paul G. Davis



Town Clerk, Michael D. Cousar