

**TOWN OF MAXTON  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TOWN MEETING  
March 21, 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 Elizabeth Gilmore

**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 Special Board Meeting of February 20, 2023
2. Minutes from Board Meeting of February 21, 2023

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

**Approval Proposed Agenda**

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

**Old Business:**

- a) 95th Civil Affairs Brigade Advance Civil Reconnaissance Course

Mayor Davis request a motion to approve 95th Civil Affairs Brigade Advance Civil Reconnaissance Course. Commissioner Womack made the motion and it was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Virgil Hutchinson. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

b) Board of Adjustment – Discussion

Board took no action on Board of Adjustment.

c) E-911 Interlocal Agreement

Robeson County E-911 Director Mr. Chad Deese briefed the Board of Commissioners (Board) on the current E-911 agreement held with the Town and the potential to increase services at the request of Chief William Davis. The option of dispatching with call handling or full dispatch service has its advantage over partial services. Full dispatch includes keeping, processing and dispatching which is more efficient than just transferring the call where you lose the initial time and information gathered. The additional services are already covered in the current E-911 agreement, so no additional cost will be incurred.

Chief William Davis voiced that he is having problems with dispatch. He currently has two fulltime dispatchers, but cannot keep other dispatchers employed. He said the Police Department is wasting hundreds of dollars in training new dispatchers only for them to quit in the coming week or weeks due to the job not being what they expected.

The Board considered the E-911 Interlocal Agreement and dispatcher issues to be a budget issue and tabled it.

**New Business:**

a) Maxton Police Total Biometric Solution/Carolina Fingerprinting Livescan Agreement

Chief Davis said he found a company that is willing to put in a new Livescan fingerprinting system and that the Town would split the initial cost of \$2,500.00 with the Que Hill Fire Department and the annual maintenance cost of \$1,000.00.

Mayor Davis requested a motion to approve agreement with Que Hill Fire Department subject to finalizing the monetary terms of the contract. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Gilmore. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

b) Maxton Housing Authority Application

Mayor Davis made a motion to appoint Mrs. Gloria Taylor to the Maxton Housing Authority to replace Mr. Paul McDonald.

c) Maxton Tree Board Application

Mayor Davis made a motion to appoint Mrs. Diane Dixon to the Maxton Tree Board.

d) Amend the Budget \$162,512.77 for Insurance Proceeds

Mayor Davis requested a motion to amend the budget \$162,512.77 for insurance proceeds. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Womack. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

e) Amend the Budget \$189,323.45 for FEMA Revenue

Mayor Davis requested a motion to amend the budget \$189,323.45 for FEMA revenue. Commissioner Bethea made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Gilmore. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

f) Sale of Old Police Cars

Town Attorney Mr. Snead proposed drafting a resolution to sell Town personal property and posting an ad of sale for 10 days allowing anyone to bid.

Mayor Davis request a motion to approve resolution after drafting by the Town Attorney with the criteria's he present to the Board. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Gilmore. 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.

Mr. Anthony Raynor, 419 Croom Road, Maxton, NC, 631-320-9168. Mr. Raunor stated that during the last Town meeting, the Town discontinued the rental of the Town's Recycle Bin without finding proper oversight to preserve recycling for the Town. He wants the Town to revisit its decision on the matter in the future.

Mrs. Diane Dixon, 402 North Patterson Maxton, NC, 910-844-5400. Mrs. Dixon said she picked up her grandson from school and took him to Henderson Park to play basketball and that it had a great time. She stated later on that very same night, there was a shoot-out at the very same park. She said she took her grandson on another occasion to the basketball court near Beachum Park where it was very nasty, trash everywhere, and no nets on the basketball rims. Mrs. Dixon has the Board to put this matter on the Town's agenda for action.

Mr. David McEachin, 301 Croom Road, Maxton, 910-364-2784. Mr. McEachin mention that he presented to the Board at its last meeting a strategic plan call the Maxton STEP. He said he was inform by Commissioner McDowell during that meeting that the Town had an Economic Development Committee. Mr. McEachin said he spoke with one of the member of the Town's Economic Development Committee and they said that the committee has be dissolved. He asked the Board to reactivate the Economic Development Committee because he has the experience and would like to serve on the committee.

Danielle Goodwin, 2934 Sinclair Road, Dillon, SC, 910-844-1291. Mrs. Goodwin stated that she was here to issue a complaint against one of the Town's Police Officers. She said she was stopped on March 13, 2023, by two Police Officers. She said the female Police Officer would she is filing the complaint on said she was stopped because her tags had expired and her lights were out. She said after the other Officer, the female officer told her to just pay the fine. She said she stepped out her car to take pictures and the female Police Officer began to berate her and called her out her name, saying if you step near my police car what she would do to her. Her second complaint was that she called 911 and they took a while to respond. They gave her the address to the Police Station and her supervisor helped her find it. While she was giving her complaint to the officer's supervisor the officer came up, but she continue to tell the supervisor that the officer did not bring safety to her but was very hostile.

Mr. Robert Macy, 307 South Florence Street, Maxton, NC, 910-844-1882. Mr. Macy stated that the old gym building across from the Townsend Elementary School was not safe as it contains

both mold and asbestos. He asked the Board can the Robeson County Education Board do anything about the gym for the residents. He asked what he could do and thank the Public Works Department and Duke energy for work they performed.

Keisha Bread, 121 Clarks Drive, Maxton, NC, 843-431-1096. Mrs. Bread is the supervisor of Mrs. Goodwin who issued a formal complaint against a female Maxton Police Officer earlier in the Public Forum. Mrs. Bread said she was on the phone with Mrs. Goodwin all the time the police officer in question was threatening and berating her. She said she was so scared that she had to rush to Mrs. Goodwin's aid in fear that something was going to happen to her. She ask the Chief about the incident, but he could not comment. Mrs. Bread said she apologized to Mrs. Goodwin on the behalf of the Town for what took place.

## **REPORTS**

### **Recreation:**

Recreation Chairman Mrs. Jamie Smith stated that the Recreation schedule for 2023 has been completed and as events change information will proceed those changes. Events on the schedule in red are not Town events.

- Rhythm of Heart walking event and the PALS award ceremony at 4 p.m. will be on March 25, 2023.
- Food boxes will be distributed in front of the Maxton Supply Store on Thursday March 23, 2023.
- On March 31, 2023, Paint the school Purple will take place at Townsend Elementary School.
- Entries are being taking for the Town's Juneteenth event.

### **Police Chief:**

Chief Davis apologized to both Mrs. Keisha Bread and Danielle Goodwin and stated that he could not discuss personnel issues in the Public Forum but would talk to them afterward and told Mrs. Dixon about that they had two suspects in that shooting at Henderson Park.

- Maxton PD will be doing saturations with Cumberland, Hope, and Scotland County.
- Maxton PD has an upcoming meeting with the Maxton Housing Authority about purchasing and obtain cameras for the department.
- Grants for PALS and Walmart are pending.

### **Manager:**

Town Manager Angela Pitchford gave the following report:

- The Town is still working on the permits for the Air Curtain Incinerator (ACI) that will be used to burn resident's yard waste.
- The Town's sewer vacuum truck is in the shop, but the Town has assistant if needed to complete sewer jobs until the Town's truck is repaired.
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### **Commissioners:**

Commissioner McDowell said there are two more weeks in LINT.

Commissioner Womack said the Town was doing a great job in keeping the Town's by-passes clean and asked the resident for their help and support in keeping the Town clean.

**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