

**TOWN OF MAXTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TOWN MEETING
May 17,2022 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 10:00 a.m.

Attendees: Mayor Paul Davis, Mayor Pro Tem 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, Accounts Payable Tech Jasmin Mason, Interim Police Chief William Davis, Public Works Director Preston McKenzie, and Water and Wastewater Director Dennis Freeman.

Call to Order- Mayor Paul Davis

Invocation- Mayor Pro Tem 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.

Commissioner Gilmore acknowledge a conflict of interest with New Business Item d) as she is member of the ABC Board.

Approval of Consent Agenda

1. Minutes from Budget Workshop of April 7, 2022.
2. Minutes from Special Meeting of April 12, 2022.
3. Minutes from Board Meeting of April 19, 2022.
4. Minutes from Special Meeting of April 22, 2022.
5. Minutes from Special Meeting of April 25, 2022.
6. Tax Adjustments from April 13, 2022, through May 12, 2022.

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

Adopt the Proposed Agenda

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

OLD BUSINESS

- a) NONE

NEW BUSINESS

a) Purchase of Spare High Service Pump for Water and Wastewater Department. Mayor Davis request a motion to purchase spare High Service Pump for Water and Wastewater Department. Commissioner Womack made the motion and it was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

b) Library 2022-23 Fiscal Year (FY) Budget Request. Tabled.

c) Red's Smoked & Smashed Rental/Purchase Proposal for Candlelight Restaurant. Tabled.

d) ABC Store Operational Procedures Discussion – Mr. Larry Graham. Mayor Davis request a motion to approve ABC Law Enforcement Contract. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Womack. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

e) S. Preston Douglas & Associates, LLP Contract to Audit Accounts. Mayor Davis request a motion to approve Special Project 2022-2023 Budget. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

f) Authorize Town Manager to research building a combined new Town Hall/Police Station. Mayor Davis request a motion to authorize Town Manager to research building a combined new Town Hall/Police Station. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Womack. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

g) Stormwater Modeling and Plan Resolution – Golden LEAF Foundation for their Flood Mitigation. Mayor Davis request a motion to approve Stormwater Modeling and Plan Resolution. 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.

Mrs. Margaret Smith, 402 South Pine Street, Rowland, NC, 910-422-3734. Mrs. Smith said the Car Wash in town owned by her son Robert Smith is being vandalized. The automatic car wash area is being used for public indecencies, efforts have been made to stop people from loitering, and the property has a problem with standing water. She asked if the town has any suggestion to eliminate the problems.

Mr. Anthony Raynor, 407 Croom Road, Maxton, NC, 631-320-9168. Mr. Rainer spoke about the increased communications with the public and the Town in getting public concerns addressed. He wants to see if an organized cleanup of the town is possible for the community to assist in helping clean up the town.

Ms. Sandy McCallum, 421 Croom Road, Maxton, NC, 910-390-4190. Ms. McCallum thanked the Mayor for coming out to the Townsend Middle School Student Transition meeting in support of the town students and asked if he has spoken with the Robeson County Board of Education and Superintendent.

She said she was also looking into the matter and that Robeson County will be receiving money that has been awarded from the Supreme Court in the Lenore Case.

REPORTS

Police Chief:

Police Department Statistics from April 01, 2021, through April 30, 2021, in comparison to April 1, 2022, through April 30, 2022 statistics:

- 911 Calls are down by 50%.
- Accidents are down 50%.
- Alarm activations are down 50%.
- Breaking & Entering are the same.
- Larceny is up 70%.
- Breaking and entering is the same at 1 percent.
- Domestic is up 24%.
- Shooting in the town is up 20%.
- Communicating threat is up 24%.
- ATV/Recreation Vehicles is down 55%.

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.

Town Manager:

Working in collaboration with Interim Chief Davis on Code Enforcement and allusive abatements. We are working to issue citation shortly.

Residents when paying bills online, please make sure you use the correct account number so your payment can be credited to your account.

Town of Maxton received great reviews on its 1ST Quarter Compliance Review for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-I) for Infrastructure.

Working on projects to remove some of the burnt properties within town.

The First Annual Juneteenth Festival will be on June 17, 2022, at 7 p.m. and June 18, 2022, from 11-2 p.m.

The Annual Independence Day celebration will be on July 2, 2022.

Attended virtual open house with NCORR, NC Rural Association, and Lumber River Counsel of Government. The discussion included bringing things to the town like a community center and addressing flood mitigation in the town.

Town Freight building has a leak in the roof, major air condition issues, stove that needs to be removed, and boards on the walkway that need replacing.

Town Manager has completed an eight (8) month Municipal Empowerment Administration course on government administration.

CLOSED SESSION

Closed session G.S. 143-318.11(a) (6)-to discuss personnel issues only and consult with Town Attorney.

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 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 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 request a motion to close Closed Session. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Bethea. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Mayor stated no action was taken in Closed Session.

Mayor Davis request a motion to take action on all livestock within the town limits. Commissioner Gilmore made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Bethea. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.


Mayor Davis request a motion to pay the taxes on the Phillip Mitchell property so the town can take possession of the property. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Bethea. 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 Commissioner Gilmore. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.



Paul Davis, Mayor



Michael D. Cousar, MBA