

**MINUTES OF THE
WHITE LAKE
TOWN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

**June 13, 2023
7:00 P.M.**

The White Lake Town Board of Commissioners met at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 13, 2023. Those present were Mayor H. Goldston Womble, Jr., Mayor Pro-Tem Tom Riel, Commissioner Tim Blount, Commissioner Mike Suggs, and Commissioner Dean Hilton, Town Administrator Sean Martin, and Pat Kennedy-Taylor served as Clerk to the Board. Also present were Police Chief Bruce Smith and Public Works Director Kevin Taylor. Those absent were Commissioner Tim Clifton and Commissioner Paul Evans.

Invocation

Mayor H. Goldston Womble, Jr. declared a quorum, called the meeting to order, and gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Mike Suggs led the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approve Consent Agenda Items

Mayor Womble acknowledged there was an agenda and called for a motion to adopt the May 9, 2023, and adjourned meeting May 16, Agenda Consent Items (#1A-1F) as presented. Mayor Womble asked if there were any questions on the current consent agenda items as presented and if not, the mayor asked to include in the agenda adoption to add under Closed Session NCGS 143-318-11(a)(5) Property Acquisitions to NCGS 143-318-11(a)(6) Personnel Matters. There being no further discussion, Commissioner Tim Blount moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tom Riel TO ADOPT THE MAY 9, 2023 REGULAR MEETING AND ADJOURNED MAY 16, 2023 MEETING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS INCLUDING ADDING NCGS 143-318.11(a)(5) PROPERTY ACQUISITIONS TO THE CLOSED SESSION NCGS 143-318.11.(a)(6) PERSONNEL MATTERS. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 1A-1F AS PRESENTED. (Unanimous in favor). Said agendas are listed as Exhibit "A." Supporting materials are hereby incorporated by mention and are made a part of these minutes.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Womble called for any corrections and/or additions to the minutes of May 9, 2023 or adjourned meeting minutes on May 16, 2023. There being no further discussion, Commissioner Tim Blount moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tom Riel TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 9, 2023 REGULAR MEETING AND MAY 16, 2023 ADJOURNED MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED (Unanimous in favor).

May 2023 Utility Releases (2,127.78)

Utility releases (\$2,127.78) were presented for the Board's consideration. All leak release requests were approved by Public Works Director, Kevin Taylor. There being no discussion, Commissioner Tim Blount moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tom Riel TO APPROVE THE MAY UTILITY RELEASES (\$2,127.78) AS PRESENTED. (Unanimous in favor).

May 2023 Statute of Limitations for Collection of Delinquent Utility Accounts (\$900.35)

Thirteen utility accounts (2017-2018) that have exceeded the NC Debt Setoff Program, a three-year statute of limitations for collection and the four-year statute of limitations (N.C.G.S.25-2-725(1)) for collection were presented for the Board's consideration. There being no discussion, Commissioner Tim Blount moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tom Riel TO APPROVE THE MAY UTILITY RELEASES (\$900.35) AS PRESENTED. (Unanimous in favor).

May 2023 Tax Releases (\$143.09)

May tax releases (\$143.09) were presented for the Board's consideration. There being no discussion, Commissioner Tim Blount moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tom Riel TO APPROVE THE MAY TAX RELEASES (\$143.09) AS PRESENTED. (Unanimous in favor).

May 2023 Tax Refunds (\$127.78)

May tax refunds were provided for the Board's consideration. There being no discussion, Commissioner Tim Blount moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tom Riel TO APPROVE THE MAY TAX REFUNDS (\$127.78) AS PRESENTED. Unanimous in favor.

Administrative Matters

Lake Water Management Plan Update

Mayor Womble acknowledged Dr. Diane Lauritsen, LIMENOSCIENCES provided updates of activities and Sean Martin, Town Administrator presented. No action was taken.

White Lake Sanitary Sewer Improvement Project Update – Phase II

Brian Cox with Engineering Services provided a written update for Phase II of the Sanitary Sewer Improvement Project as information. Sean Martin, Town Administrator presented the updates. There were no further questions. No action was taken.

White Lake Streetscape Master Plan - USDA RBDG - PROJECT TIMELINE

Sean Martin, Town Administrator will present the update on the White Lake Streetscape Master Plan. At the May 9, 2023 meeting the Town Board discussed preliminary drawings of interested engineers with Landscaping Architects and discuss potential opportunities. No action was taken.

White Lake Stormwater Master Plan Project- Golden LEAF - Project Timeline (Grant Award Amount \$82,500)

Sean Martin, Town Administrator presented the update on the White Lake Stormwater Master Plan Project Timeline.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

Proposed FY 2023-2024 Budget hearing

The public hearing may be opened to receive comments at this time. N.C.G.S. 159-11(b), 159-12, and 159-13(a) requires the Budget Officer submit a proposed budget and budget message to the governing body by June of each year, that no earlier than ten (10) days after the day the proposed budget is presented to the board and no later than July 1, the governing body must adopt the annual budget ordinance and a public hearing must be held at which time any persons wishing to be heard on the preliminary budget may appear before the board. The proposed budget was presented to the Budget Committee on April 20, 2023 and a public hearing was scheduled for tonight June 13, 2023. Should no one appear before the Board, the public hearing may be closed. There being no discussion, Commissioner Dean Hilton moved, seconded by Commissioner Mike Suggs TO ADOPT THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR THE TOWN OF WHITE LAKE AS PRESENTED.

Unanimous in favor.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

Proposed 2023-2043 White Lake Comprehensive Plan hearing

The purpose of this public hearing is to gather public comment concerning the adoption of the White Lake Comprehensive Plan 2023-2043.

The purpose of this public hearing is to gather public comment concerning the adoption of the White Lake Comprehensive Plan 2023-2043. The White Lake Planning Board has worked to complete a comprehensive land use for the Town of White Lake. The Board collected public input during this process and has held numerous open planning board meetings to discuss and complete this document. At the April 20, 2023 meeting of the Planning Board, the Board voted unanimously to recommend the

Comprehensive Plan for the Town of White Lake (2023-2043) for adoption by the White Lake Board of Commissioners.

This plan has been completed and is being considered for adoption as required by NC General Statute 160 D-501(a) "as a condition of adopting and applying zoning regulations under this Chapter, a local government shall adopt and reasonably maintain a comprehensive plan that set forth goals, policies, and programs intended to guide the present and future physical, social and economic development of the jurisdiction." There being no discussion, Commissioner Tim Blount moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tom Riel TO ADOPT THE 2023-2043 PUBLIC HEARING FOR WHITE LAKE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AS PRESENTED. Unanimous in favor.

Mayor Womble recognized Jan Maynor with the Lumber River Council of Government and thanked her for everything she has done to help the town. Jan Maynor asked if Jonathan Langston could speak, and he wanted to thank Jan for all her hard work helping the Planning Board with the White Lake Comprehensive Plan 2023-2043.

Jan spoke on the seven things on the top of the list from the survey we did earlier in the year. Quality of the Lake water being the top priority. She also developed some goals for the town to try to do: Enhance White Lake Dr. while keeping the family feel of the Lake; Strengthen the relations with Elizabethtown. Consider hiring a public relations/marketing/planner for the town.

Mayor Womble and Town Administrator Sean Martin thanked Jan for all her contributions to this project and all the help she provides the town.

BUDGET ORDINANCE(s)

FY 2022/23 Budget Ordinance Amendment #2023-19 (General Fund) (From Fire Department Donations to Misc. Revenue (\$150))

The Finance Office submitted the 2022/23 FY Budget Ordinance Amendment #2023-19 for the FY ending June 30, 2023. This amendment is necessary to budget the FY 22-23 unanticipated revenues and expenditures due to Fire Department donations. There being no further discussion, Commissioner Dean Hilton moved, seconded by Commissioner Mike Suggs TO ADOPT THE BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #2023-19 AS PRESENTED. Unanimous in favor.

FY 22/23 Budget Ordinance Amendment #2023-20 (General Fund) (From Street Department to Grant: General Fund) (\$27,831.00)

The Finance Office is submitting FY Budget Ordinance Amendment #2023-20 for the FY ending June 30, 2023. This amendment is necessary to budget the FY 22-23 revenues and expenditures for the Streetscape Master Plan. There being no further discussion, Mayor Pro-Tem Tom Riel moved and seconded by Commissioner Tim Blount TO ADOPT THE BUDGET ORDINANCE #2023-20 AS PRESENTED. Unanimous in favor.

FY 22/23 Budget Ordinance Amendment #2023-21 General Fund (Zoning Department Funds to Fund Balance Appropriation) (\$7,000.00)

The Finance Office is submitting FY Budget Ordinance Amendment #2023-21 for the FY ending June 30, 2023. This amendment is necessary to budget the FY 22-23 unanticipated revenues and expenditures for the Comprehensive Land Use Plan thru the Lumber River Council of Government. The project was started and budgeted in 20/21, but due to COVID 19 the project was not completed, and the funds went to fund balance at the end of FY 20/21. There being no further discussion, Mayor Pro-Tem Tom Riel moved and seconded by Commissioner Tim Blount TO ADOPT THE BUDGET ORDINANCE #2023-21 AS PRESENTED. Unanimous in favor.

FY 22/23 Budget Ordinance Amendment #2023-22 (Fire Department Fund to Grant: General Fund) (\$2,000.00)

The Finance Office is submitting FY Budget Ordinance Amendment #2023-22 for the FY ending June 30, 2023. This amendment is necessary to budget the FY 22-23 revenues and expenses for the receipt of ARPA enabled grant funding for the Fire Department. There being no further discussion, Commissioner Mike Suggs moved and seconded by Commissioner Dean Hilton TO ADOPT THE BUDGET ORDINANCE #2023-22 AS PRESENTED. Unanimous in favor.

FY 22/23 Budget Ordinance Amendment #2023-23 (Water/WasteWater Fund) (\$13,100.00)

The Finance Office is submitting FY Budget Ordinance Amendment #2023-23 for the FY ending June 30, 2023. This amendment is necessary to budget the FY 22-23 revenues and expenditures for replacing generators at lift station #3 and lift station #7. A purchase order for the generators was issued on August 6, 2021, but due to delay in the manufacturing chain they will not be delivered (estimated December 2022 date). The funds were not spent during fiscal year 21/22 and rolled back into the fund balance on June 30, 2022. BOA 2023-01 for \$76,100 was approved on July 12, 2022 for leaving a balance due of \$13,100. There being no further discussion, Mayor Pro-Tem Tom Riel moved and seconded by Commissioner Tim Blount TO ADOPT THE BUDGET ORDINANCE #2023-23 AS PRESENTED. Unanimous in favor.

Open Forum: Three (3) minutes per citizen.

1. Jonathan Langston spoke on the Chamber getting so many calls as to when the fireworks are going to be displayed. The Chamber will try to better plan next year. Mayor Womble responded they are always on July 4th no matter what day it falls on.
2. Commissioner Tim Blount stated he wanted to thank everyone for the flower and the card we sent when his father passed away.

OTHER BUSINESS/PREVIOUS AGENDA ITEMS

Town Administrator Sean Martin presented the Departmental Reports.

July 4th, 2023 Independence Day Holiday Schedule

The municipal Complex will be closed on Tuesday, July 4th, 2023, in observance of Independence Day. The public works on-call person will be available in case of water/sewer emergencies.

At approximately 7:27pm, Mayor Womble stated since there was no one else to speak in the open forum he asked the Board to go into Closed Session to discuss Personnel Matters and Land Acquisition. There being no further discussion, Mayor Pro-Tem Tom Riel moved, seconded by Commissioner Mike Suggs TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION AS PRESENTED. Unanimous In favor.

CLOSED SESSION: NCGS § 143-318.11(a)(6)

To consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee. No action was taken during the closed session.

CLOSED SESSION: NCGS § 143-318.11(a)(5)

To establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating (i) the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease; or (ii) the amount of compensation and other material terms of an employment contract or proposed employment contract.

After being in Closed Session for about thirty (30) minutes or so, Mayor Womble asked that we go back into Regular Session. There being no further discussion, Commissioner Dean Hilton moved, seconded by Commissioner Tim Blount TO OPEN THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING BACK UP. Unanimous In favor.

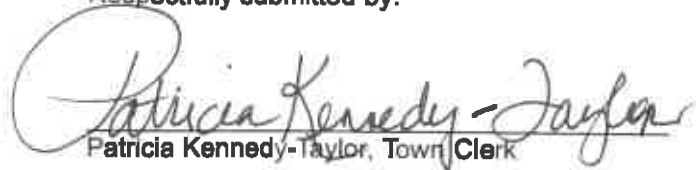
Mayor Womble asked for a vote/motion to amend the Personnel Policy: The employee may also elect to supplement Workers' Compensation payments after they begin with sick leave, vacation, or

compensatory time, provided that the combination of leave supplement and Workers' Compensation payments does not exceed normal compensation. There being no further discussion, Commissioner Mike Suggs moved, seconded by Commissioner Dean Hilton TO APPROVE THE WORKERS COMPENSATION SUPPLEMENTAL LANGUAGE IN THE PERSONNEL POLICY. Unanimous in favor.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no other business to come before the White Lake Town Board of Commissioners, Commissioner Dean Hilton moved and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Tom Riel TO ADJOURN MEETING TO NEXT REGULAR MEETING. TUESDAY, JULY 11, 2023. (Unanimous in favor).

Respectfully submitted by:



Patricia Kennedy-Taylor, Town Clerk

Approved:



H. Goldston Womble, Jr., Mayor