

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

**March 14, 2023
7:00 P.M.**

The White Lake Town Board of Commissioners met at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 14, 2023. Those present were Mayor H. Goldston Womble, Jr., Mayor Pro-Tem Tom Riel, Commissioner Tim Clifton, Commissioner Paul Evans and, and Commissioner Mike Suggs, 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. Absent were Commissioner Dean Hilton and Commissioner Tim Blount.

Invocation

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Tim Clifton 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 March 14, 2023 Agenda Consent Items (#1A-1E) 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 Paul Evans moved, seconded by Commissioner Tim Clifton TO ADOPT THE MARCH 14, 2023 REGULAR 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-1E 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 March 14, 2023. There being no further discussion, Commissioner Paul Evans moved, seconded by Commissioner Tim Clifton TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 14, 2023 MEETING AS PRESENTED (Unanimous in favor).

February 2023 Utility Releases (\$2,519.95)

February utility releases (\$2,519.95) were presented for the Board's consideration. All leak release requests were approved by Public Works Director, Kevin Taylor. There being no discussion, Commissioner Paul Evans moved, seconded by Commissioner Tim Clifton TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY UTILITY RELEASES (\$2,519.95) AS PRESENTED. (Unanimous in favor).

February 2023 Tax Releases (\$219.31)

February tax releases (\$219.31) were presented for the Board's consideration. There being no discussion, Commissioner Paul Evans moved, seconded by Commissioner Tim Clifton TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY TAX RELEASES (\$219.31) AS PRESENTED. Unanimous in favor.

February 2023 Tax Refunds (\$448.97)

February tax refunds (\$448.97) were presented for the Board's consideration. There being no discussion, Commissioner Paul Evans moved, seconded by Commissioner Tim Clifton TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY TAX RELEASES (\$448.97) AS PRESENTED. Unanimous in favor.

Administrative Matters

Lake Water Management Plan Update

Mayor Womble acknowledged Dr. Diane Lauritsen, LIMENOSCIENCES is working on some updates of activities from a survey from May 1, 1978 - September 30, 1979. 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 Stormwater Management Plan - Golden LEAF FY23-047

Sean Martin, Town Administrator presented the update on the Stormwater Management Plan. We published the RFQ and received some interest in the RFQ. Exploring adding an additional Lake management position. The goal is to have something to present to the Town Board meeting in April. No action was taken.

White Lake Streetscape Master Plan - USDA RBDG

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

Presentation of the 2023/24 Fiscal Year Budget Calendar & Activities

The 23-24 Fiscal Year Budget Calendar is provided for the Board's consideration. G.S. §159-13 states that no later than July 01 the governing board shall adopt a budget ordinance making appropriations and levying taxes for the budget year in such sums as the board may consider sufficient and proper, whether greater or less than the sum recommended in the budget. There being no discussion, Commissioner Paul Evans moved, seconded by Commissioner Tim Clifton TO APPROVE THE 23-24 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET CALENDAR. TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING ON TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023 TO TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2023 AT 6PM FOR A BUDGET RETREAT AS PRESENTED. Unanimous in favor.

Presentation of proposal utilizing funds from Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget Year

Quote to purchase a Ditch Witch HX30 Vacuum that provides optimal suction and water pressure for mid-sided jobs and features a new patent-pending make-or-break seal design, which optimizes air flow for increased efficiency and simplified plumbing. Mayor Pro-Tem Tom Riel asked if it could be used to suck up dead algae? Public Works Director Kevin Taylor responded he would check on it. There being no further discussion, Commissioner Mike Suggs moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Tom Riel TO APPROVE THE QUOTE FOR THE DITCH WITCH VAC AS PRESENTED. Unanimous in favor.

ORDINANCE(s)

FY 22/23 Budget Ordinance Amendment #2023-07 (General Fund) (\$67,500.00)

The Finance Office is submitting FY Budget Ordinance Amendment #2023-07 the amendment is necessary to budget the revenues and expenditures for the purchase of a New Holland Workmaster 75 in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 136-41.1 through 136-41.4 to amend the expenses from the Powell Fund to the revenues for the General fund Balance Appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. Commissioner Paul Evans asked if we could look at buying some of the attachments? Public Works Director Kevin Taylor responded he would check on it. There being no further discussion, Commissioner Paul Evans moved, seconded by Commissioner Tim Clifton TO APPROVE THE QUOTE FOR THE DITCH WITCH VAC AS PRESENTED. Unanimous in favor. (Vote of 4 and a nay vote of 0)

Ordinance #2023-08 Declaring a Road Closure for "White Lake Water Festival Parade"

Pursuant to General Statute §20-169, an ordinance declaring a road closure for the annual White Lake Water Festival on May 20, 2023 is presented for the Board's consideration. There being no further discussion, Commissioner Tim Clifton moved, seconded by Commissioner Paul Evans TO ADOPT THE ORDINANCE #2023-08 DECLARING A ROAD

CLOSURE FOR THE WHITE LAKE WATER FESTIVAL PARADE ON SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2023 AS PRESENTED. Unanimous in favor.

TOWN OF WHITE LAKE - CODE OF ORDINANCES - WATER LEAK ADJUSTMENTS

Staff asked the Town Board of Commissioners to consider amending the wording by removing the phrase "only one time per calendar year and only" stipulation for leak adjustments as per Chapter 51: General Water and Sewer Provisions § 51.21 Disconnection and Reconnection of Utility Service, see §51.17 Adjustment of Charges. There being no further discussion, Mayor Pro-Tem Tom Riel moved, seconded by Commissioner Mike Suggs TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO THE TOWN OF WHITE LAKE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY REMOVING THE PHRASE "ONLY ONE TIME PER CALENDAR YEAR AND ONLY" AS PRESENTED. Unanimous in favor.

Open Forum: Three (3) minutes per citizen. Should state name and address.

Terri Hawley spoke on the lake water elevation, springs and groundwater. She stated she had contacted a geologist and her DEQ hydrologist and has emailed this information to the Town Board. There was no one else desiring to speak.

At approximately 7:42pm, 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 the Land Acquisition and Personnel Matters. There being no further discussion, Commission Paul Evans moved, seconded by Tim Clifton TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION AS PRESENTED. Unanimous in favor.

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

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.

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

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.

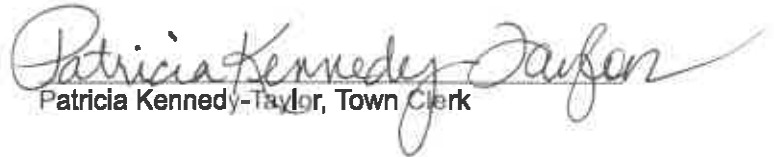
After being in Closed Session for about 30 minutes or so, Mayor Womble asked that we go back into Regular Session. There being no further discussion, Commissioner Mike Suggs moved, seconded by Commissioner Paul Evans TO OPEN THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING BACK UP. Unanimous in favor.

After going back into regular session the only item the Town Board needed to take action on was the Personnel Matters section to make an addendum to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6) Personnel Matters. Mayor entertained a motion to grant an extension to the Town Administrator's contract to June 30, 2027; to amend the severance provision to increase by one month's salary for each year of service worked as long as it does not go over a nine months salary; change address to 311 Doll Street, Elizabethtown, NC. 28334. There being no further discussion, Commissioner Paul Evans moved, seconded by Commissioner Mike Suggs TO OPEN THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING BACK UP. Unanimous in favor.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no other business to come before the White Lake Town Board of Commissioners, Commissioner Paul Evans moved and seconded by Commissioner Mike Suggs TO ADJOURN THIS MARCH 14, 2023 MEETING. (Unanimous in favor).

Respectfully submitted by:


Patricia Kennedy-Taylor, Town Clerk

Approved:


H. Goldstort Womble, Jr., Mayor