

TOWN OF GARLAND
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MAY 7, 2024
6:30PM

The Monthly Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Garland was held at the Garland Town Hall in Garland, NC on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, at 6:30pm.

The following members of the Board of Commissioners were present:

Mayor Austin Brown, Mayor Pro Tem, Jo Strickland, Commissioner Lee Carberry, Commissioner Anthony Norris, Commissioner Ralph Smith, Commissioner Timmy Blackburn, Town Clerk, Shauna' Harper. Also in attendance were 2 residents and Alyessa B. from the Sampson Independent.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and welcomed everyone in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLIGIANCE: was recited by all in attendance.

QUORUM: Mayor Brown and Town Clerk Shauna' Harper established there was a quorum present.

ADJUSTMENT(S)/ ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Commissioner Carberry made a motion to add to the agenda discussion of the roof for Well #3. Mayor Pro Tem Strickland motion to accept agenda with said changes, Commissioner Norris, seconded the motion, all in favor with said changes.

CONSENT AGENDA: *Consent agenda allows for routine items or items that have been thoroughly discussed previously to be adopted with one motion, rather than each having an individual motion. Any board member can request to remove an item from the Consent Agenda for added discussion.*

April 2,2024 Board Meeting

April 3, 2024 Emergency Meeting

April 9, 2024 Special Meeting

April 15, 2024 Special Meeting

Commissioner Norris motion to approve said minutes, Mayor Pro Tem Strickland seconded the motion, all in favor, motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT- Mr. Joseph Gibbs, resident, inquired about assistance with his home through a grant. The grant he refers to is the CDBG grant, which is closed. The previous administration denied him for a reason, and he would need to speak with the previous administration about the denial. Commissioner Carberry and Town Clerk Harper directed him to Sampson County Dept. of Aging for assistance.

No other comments.

COMMISSIONER REPORT-

Finance Report- Town Clerk Harper provided a BVA, check listing and credit card statement. She is preparing FY 2024-2025 budget w/ Samantha. There were no questions or concerns.

Building- Commissioner Norris requested an RFP for the old bank/police department. Minimum bid \$5000.00. The advertisement will be on the town website, posted at Town Hall and published in the

newspaper. A motion was made by Commissioner Smith to advertise, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Strickland, all in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

CEMETERY- The two cemeteries will continue to be maintained by Turning Leaves. Commissioner Blackburn speaks of reviewing the ordinance and sell of plots. Currently, we don't mess with the headstones, however the ants will make the ground soft, and the stone will start to tilt. In the newer section, possibly sell with at grave marker. Future discussions noted.

Motion was made by Commissioner Blackburn to continue using Jeffery Ruffin for both cemetery ant hill and bug problems in the second quarter, seconded by Commissioner Carberry, all in favor, motion carried.

PARKS AND RECREATION- Softball season has started, and Todd Marshall has requested keys. They will be in control of the concession stand and they were informed to obtain a county permit.

STREETS- Commissioner Carberry is preparing for the Powell Bill inspection that is scheduled soon. He noted there are several things to be done and PW will work on them before the inspection date. He would like to see undeveloped streets complete. This could possibly increase the Powell bill funding.

PUBLIC WORKS- At previous meeting, Commissioner Carberry discussed chlorine gas for the water system instead of powder however it could take up to one year to petition the state for approval to use. After speaking w/ the ORC Neil Carroll, it was suggested another option would be a diaphragm pumps for each well. Approved previously to use funds from department supplies.

The sonic meters that were ordered for the commercial accounts should be here within the next month or so.

The roof at Well #3 has been addressed previously, repair quotes were rec'd, Commissioner Smith motioned to accept Michael McLamb quote for the repairs at well #3. Commissioner Carberry seconded the motion, discussion was repairs need to be done by June 30th. Motion by Commissioner Smith to move funds from professional services to maintenance/repair, seconded by Commissioner Carberry, all in favor, motion passes.

SAFETY- Mayor Pro Tem Strickland advises Deputies are on duty for the town and doing a great job.

OLD BUSINESS- Discussion was made about the 2024 Senior Banners coming down and the US Flags going up for the holidays. Commissioner Norris made a motion to take down the week of June 17th-21st and flags will go up at this time. The town will take care of the billing for the hanging of the flags. Seconded by Commissioner Smith, all in favor, motion carried.

Mayor Pro Tem Strickland addressed the Board about the Cintas contract. She found out that there is no state contract in place for a 10% discount fee. She has scheduled an appointment with Cintas on May 15th. A motion was made by Commissioner Smith to close the account with Cintas, seconded by Commissioner Norris, discussion was made it should be a departmental issue, vote 4-1, Mayor Pro Tem Strickland, nay. Motion passes. The town will provide safety PPE's.

NEW BUSINESS

A discussion took place of hiring Attorney Greg Griffin as town attorney. Commissioner Smith motioned to hire Attorney Griffin, seconded by Commissioner Norris, discussion, the understanding

that if residents contacted him, they must contact Town Hall first, effective immediately, all in favor, motion carried.

The previous topic of the "working" Commissioners and residents donating time for town projects must sign a "waiver of liability" to do things for the town.

Town Clerk Harper presented information for disaster recovery plans. Mayor Pro Tem Strickland and Harper met earlier in the year to identify critical infrastructure facilities in Garland. After meeting with Mid Carolina Regional Council(MCOG), an overview of the National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF) and one on one training was conducted, Harper will co-ordinate with the Board of Commissioners a pre-disaster, post-disaster short term and post disaster long term plans according to this training.

Town Clerk Harper, on another occasion, met with Mid Carolina Regional Council(MCOG), NC Association of Regional Councils of Government (NCARCOG) and Sampson County Emergency Management to discuss the FEMA Community Disaster Resilience Zone (CDRZ) Navigator Network Program. This program will connect the CDRZ zoned communities with training, funding, capacity building and technical support. Questions and answers pertaining to the town about flooding issues, stormwater management, shelter, transport and emergency support were the topics. A motion was made by Commissioner Smith to participate in the Navigator Program, Commissioner Blackburn seconded, all in favor, motion passes.

There is a posted, scheduled budget work session on Wednesday, May 22nd @ 6:00pm as well as the regular board meeting scheduled for June 4 2024 @ 6:30pm

Commissioner Smith motioned to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Carberry, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned.

Duly adopted on the 4th day of June, 2024 while in regular session.


Austin Brown, Mayor

ATTEST:


Shauna Harper
Town Clerk/Finance Officer

