

TOWN OF GARLAND
REGULAR MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING
OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2022
6:30 PM

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Garland was held at the Garland Town Hall in Garland, N.C. on Tuesday, August 2, 2022, at 6:30 pm.

The following members of the Board of Commissioners were present:

Carolyn R. Melvin, Mayor Pro Tem
Jo A. Strickland
Barbara A Peterson
Ralph Smith, Jr.

Also, present: Mayor Austin Brown and Town Clerk Pamela Cashwell. Mike Barnette, *McDavid Associates*, was also in attendance. Commissioner Andy Johnson was absent due to sickness.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Austin Brown called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and welcomed everyone in attendance. Town Clerk, Pamela Cashwell, was present recording notes for the minutes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE

Mayor Austin Brown led the attendees in the recitation of the pledge.

INVOCATION

Clerk Cashwell provided the invocation.

QUORUM

Mayor Austin Brown and Clerk Pamela Cashwell established there was a quorum present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Brown requested board members review the agenda for approval. Commissioner Strickland requested to add under Building - #6 Pre-buy quote for gas. Mayor Pro Tem Melvin made a motion to approve the agenda with said changes, seconded by Commissioner Smith, and carried unanimously. (See attached).

PUBLIC HEARING-PROPOSED PROGRAM AMENDMENTS FOR CDBG-NR GRANT

Mayor Brown requested a motion to enter into a public hearing for program amendment 1 for the 2019 CDBG-NR grant. Commissioner Smith made a motion to enter into a public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, and carried unanimously. Mr. Barnette explained that the public hearing was needed to change the scope of the project. The proposed changes include:

1. Add: Construct a shelter/pavilion, picnic table areas and playground equipment at Cain Memorial Park
2. Add: Replace fencing and ballfield lighting at the Garland Softball Complex
3. Remove: Three ineligible housing units from the housing program
4. Remove: The walking trail and bathroom improvements at Cain Memorial Park

Since no one signed up to speak at the public hearing, Mayor Brown asked if anyone would like to speak. B. Graczyk asked how much money was left in the grant. Mr. Barnette said he would

have to get back with him on the amount. B. Graczyk then asked for the value of the three ineligible houses. Mr. Barnette will also have to get back with him on this. Mayor Brown asked for any other comments, then, hearing none, asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Peterson made the motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Smith, and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to authorize submission of the Program Amendment 1 for the CDBG-NR and to authorize the Mayor to approve minutes of the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No one signed up to address the Board.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

FINANCE

Credit Card Purchases – Clerk Pamela Cashwell provided a statement of and reviewed all the credit card purchases for the month. (See attached).

BVA & A.P. Check Listing- Clerk Cashwell reviewed the BVA reports with board members. The A.P. Check Listing Report was provided and reviewed for the month of July 2022. (See attached). Mayor Brown announced that the Town will receive an additional \$2.8M for sewer lagoons, and the funded total is now \$5.6M. They also received \$245,000 in AIA funds.

BUILDINGS/CEMETERY

Commissioner Peterson reported that Mr. Carberry would like to get the metal grate that was removed from the old police evidence closet if the Town is not going to use it. She reported that a cemetery headstone is completely on the ground at the Hill Circle Cemetery. She would like to get it set back up on Thursday. Commissioner Smith commented that he didn't think the Town should be involved in moving headstones as this could lead to a liability issue for the Town if a headstone was damaged in the process. He stated the family should be contacted to have headstones rest on the bases. Commissioner Peterson stated she had contacted family members concerning the unpurchased gravesite that has a double headstone on it at Garland Cemetery. She never received a response from them, and it has been over two months since she first contacted them. It was decided that a certified letter and invoice should be sent to the known family member before engaging the attorney. She mentioned she would like to get the old air conditioning unit that had been in the Board Room. The commode is still having issues in the concession stand bathroom and staff are still working on this. Commissioner Strickland reported the Internet and phone rewiring is finished in Town Hall and the printer/copier is now located in the hall. Commissioner Strickland made a motion to approve the installation of a small air vent and light in the control room closet, seconded by Commissioner Smith, and carried unanimously. Commissioner Strickland asked Clerk Cashwell to report on pre-buying gas from *Williamson Gas*. The cost for 1,800 gallons is \$4,217.63 and the Town has a current credit of \$115.88. The Town used 1,600 gallons last year, the cost was \$2.05/gallon, and the Town had a \$900 credit. The price is currently \$2.25/gallon. There is money in the budget to cover the cost. Clerk Cashwell stressed the importance of receiving the gas tickets in a timely manner so she can determine where the gas was used. A motion was made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Strickland, and carried unanimously.

PARKS/RECREATION

Mayor Pro Tem Melvin discussed the need for soccer nets. They are on back order until September 8. The quote for two soccer nets with taxes included is \$202.01. Commissioner Smith made a motion to purchase two sets of soccer nets at a cost of \$404.00, seconded by

Commissioner Peterson and carried unanimously. Commissioner Strickland will get quotes for bending the bars on the back of the nets. Mayor Pro Tem Melvin is concerned about the ditch banks and feels they need maintenance. Discussion followed as to whether spraying or manual removal should be used. Commissioner Strickland will obtain a quote for spraying the ditches.

STREETS

There was no discussion on the streets.

PUBLIC WORKS – WATER/SEWER/GARBAGE

There is a leave request from R. Boone who is requesting to take forty hours of annual leave from August 15-20, 2022. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the leave request, Mayor Pro Tem Melvin seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Smith reported they had to hire *Keen Plumbing* to clean out a sewage backup behind Brown's Dry Cleaning since it was an emergency situation.

SAFETY

Updates- Commissioner Strickland reported that the deputies have been patrolling for about a month and she can see improvement. She also reported that Deputy Caitlin Emanuel, who has been patrolling in Garland, was shot in Roseboro while on duty and is currently in rehab and doing well. Commissioner Smith made a motion to send flowers to her, Commissioner Peterson seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. Mayor Brown needs a motion to send the allocation check to the Fire Department. Mayor Pro Tem Melvin made a motion to send the Fire Department the check, Commissioner Peterson seconded, Commissioner Strickland and Commissioner Smith did not vote, so that was considered a no vote. Since there was a 2-2 tie, Mayor Brown voted yes, so the motion passed. Both Commissioner Strickland and Smith stated they were not against sending the check, but feel we need to wait until later to send it.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Reconvened Meeting – June 21, 2022

Reconvened Meeting – June 23, 2022

Closed Session Meeting – June 21, 2022

Closed Session Meeting – June 23, 2022

Commissioner Strickland made a motion to approve all the minutes above as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, and carried unanimously. (See attached).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONDOLENCES

Condolences: The Town of Garland sends our sincerest condolences to all of those who have recently lost loved ones.

Music in the Park- August 5th from 7:00 pm-10:00 pm

The next regular Board meeting will be held on September 6th at 6:30 pm.

CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Pro Tem Melvin made a motion to enter into closed session (*Pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11- (6) Personnel*), seconded by Commissioner Smith, and carried unanimously. Board entered into closed session at 7:17 pm.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to exit closed session at 7:25 pm, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, and carried unanimously.

No action taken in closed session.

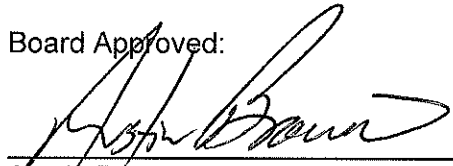
OPEN SESSION

Mayor Brown stated the Board was back in open session at 7:25 pm. Commissioner Smith made a motion to deny payment to employee Carroll based on his request to pay him for ninety hours worked in the past. The motion died due to lack of a second. After discussion, Commissioner Strickland made a motion to table the issue until it could be investigated further, Commissioner Peterson seconded, and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro Tem Melvin made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, and carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:29 pm.

Board Approved:


Austin Brown, Mayor


Pamela Cashwell, Town Clerk/Finance Officer