

**TOWN OF GARLAND
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2021
6:00 PM**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Garland was held virtually via GoToMeeting on Tuesday, October 19, 2021, at 6:00 pm.

The following members of the Board of Commissioners were present:

**Austin Brown (Present Virtually)
Carolyn R. Melvin (Present Virtually)
Eddie Bronson, Jr. (Present Virtually)
Jo A. Strickland (Present Virtually)
Barbara A Peterson (Present Virtually)**

Also, present virtually: Town Clerk Pamela Cashwell, Mrs. Emily Williams of the *Sampson Independent* and Mrs. Sylvia Chestnutt of the *Sampson Weekly*. There were approximately six citizens in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Austin Brown presided over the meeting in Mayor Murphy's absence. Mayor Pro Tem Austin Brown called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and welcomed everyone in attendance. Town Clerk, Pamela Cashwell, was present recording notes for the minutes.

QUORUM

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Austin Brown requested board members review the agenda for approval. Mayor Pro Tem Austin Brown requested to add item #2. Consideration of paving one section of W. Fourth Street under Streets. Commissioner Carolyn R. Melvin made a motion to approve the agenda with said change, seconded by Commissioner Barbara A. Peterson and carried unanimously. (See attached).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were received.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

FINANCE

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

A.P. Check Listing- Report provided to board members for review of checks issued in the last month. (See attached).

Reports Completed- Clerk Cashwell reported the bank reconciliations for September 2021 for all three bank accounts have been completed.

Budget Amendment: 2021-2022-01- Commissioner Carolyn R. Melvin made a motion to approve budget amendment 2021-2022-01, seconded by Commissioner Barbara A. Peterson and carried unanimously.

ARPA Training Update- Clerk Cashwell noted she is taking ARPA training provided by the UNC-School of Government two days a week for three weeks. She noted there will be a lot of regulations to comply with regarding this federal funding.

Authorization for Mayor Murphy to sign off on DSS forms for LIHWAP- Commissioner Carolyn R. Melvin made a motion to authorize Mayor Murphy to sign the forms necessary to participate in the LIHWAP, seconded by Commissioner Barbara A. Peterson and carried unanimously.

BUILDINGS/CEMETERY

Cemetery Updates- Commissioner Barbara A. Peterson reported there is an issue with a double headstone placed at the Garland Cemetery in front of a plot that hasn't been purchased. Deputy Clerk Ricketson has contacted the individual and instructed her she must pay for the plot behind the headstone. The new replacement sign for the Garland Community Cemetery is in production and should be installed by December.

Building Updates- Commissioner Barbara A. Peterson stated the flooring project has been completed at the senior center and it looks good. She stated Mrs. Marie Faircloth invited all the commissioners to come out and inspect the flooring and invited them to the Breast Cancer event this Saturday from 9am to 12pm at the senior center. Commissioner Eddie Bronson, Jr. stated he has spoken with Mrs. Marie Faircloth, and she stated her supervisor was planning on doing additional remodeling in the sewing room.

Repair/Replace urinal in bathroom at town hall- Commissioner Barbara A. Peterson stated a plumbing company has promised to come and assess the damaged urinal at town hall this week and provide a quote to repair or replace the urinal.

Mold & Air Quality Testing at town hall- Commissioner Barbara A. Peterson stated she spoke with Clerk Cashwell and noted the testing has been completed but no response has been received as to how to get rid of the mold in the building. Commissioner Eddie Bronson, Jr. stated he couldn't get in contact with the gentleman who completed the testing for town hall. He stated he has a list of people to contact for a quote to remove the mold and requested the board's approval to contact the vendors for a quote.

PARKS/RECREATION

Updates- Commissioner Carolyn R. Melvin reported she is continuing to work on obtaining quotes for fencing and lighting repairs at the ballpark complex. She stated she spoke with Mr. Tommy Lawrence, and he has lowered his quote to \$127,000.00 for lighting repairs. She stated he told her the 1500-watt lighting fixtures will soon be impossible to obtain and if LED lighting fixtures are used for the project, it will significantly increase the quote for the lighting repairs. He offered a quote of \$550.00

for each 1500-watt lighting versus \$2,200.00 for each LED lighting. She stated she has attempted to contact the branch manager from *Southern Bank* to inquire about financing options.

STREETS

Repairs on N. Church Avenue Update- Mayor Pro Tem Austin Brown reported the NC DOT has completed the repair and maintenance of streets on N. Church Avenue, W. Second Street in front of Rock Ministry and on Grant Avenue and E. Second Street.

Paving on of W. Fourth Street- Mayor Pro Tem Austin Brown made a motion to approve the paving quote of \$19,732.00 for paving on W. Fourth Street from Dockey Avenue to Piney Grove Avenue with \$13,000.00 being paid out of Powell Bill Funds and \$6,732.00 being paid out of Street Funds, seconded by Commissioner Barbara A. Peterson and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS – WATER/SEWER/GARBAGE

Purchase Requests- No purchase request submitted. Mayor Pro Tem Austin Brown stated he is working with staff to schedule oil changes and servicing for the town vehicles.

Request for Sewer Vacuuming Lift stations & 10% sewer lines- Commissioner Carolyn R. Melvin made a motion to approve having the sewer vacuuming of the lift stations and 10% of sewer lines at an approximate cost of \$3,000.00, seconded by Commissioner Barbara A. Peterson and carried unanimously.

SAFETY

Ditch Cleaning Quotes- Commissioner Jo A. Strickland presented two quotes she obtained for ditch cleaning services on the ditches next to the shirt factory and at the ballpark complex. (See attached). After discussion of the quotes, Commissioner Jo A. Strickland made a motion to approve the quote for \$6,500.00 for ditch cleaning and maintenance services on the ditches adjacent to the shirt factory with the expenditure being paid out of the Street fund's maintenance and repairs, seconded by Commissioner Barbara A. Peterson and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Jo A. Strickland addressed a drive by shooting incidence that happened in town and asked for everyone to be on heightened alert for criminal activity and to call 911 as needed.

Commissioner Eddie Bronson, Jr. asked the board for approval in obtaining quotes for cleaning town hall considering the mold issues. Mayor Pro Tem Austin Brown made a motion for Commissioner Eddie Bronson, Jr. to obtain quotes as requested, seconded by Commissioner Barbara A. Peterson and carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Cares Act Funding- Current Expenditure Report- Clerk Cashwell presented the current expenditure report. (See attached). She encouraged board members to determine how the remaining funds should be utilized.

Christmas Tree- Mayor Pro Tem Austin Brown made a motion to approve spending up to \$700.00 for a metal or steel Christmas tree from the unrestricted community events funding, seconded by Commissioner Barbara A. Peterson and carried unanimously. The tree could be stored in the bay area of town hall.

Trunk or Treat- Commissioner Jo A. Strickland made a motion to change the trunk or treat event to a walk thru event and to allow food trucks to participate in the event if they have permission to operate by the health department, seconded by Commissioner Barbara A. Peterson and carried unanimously.

Fall Clean-Up & Leaf & Limb Pick Up- Mayor Pro Tem Austin Brown made a motion to hold Fall-Clean-Up the week of October 25-29, seconded by Commissioner Carolyn R. Melvin and carried unanimously. Mayor Pro Tem Brown will ask the deputy clerk to announce this with the phone tree program, on social media and with informational flyers.

NEW BUSINESS

Comprehensive Land Use Plan- Mrs. Hanna Brown announced she has been requesting quotes for the required comprehensive land use plan. She should have quotes submitted to board members for their consideration for the November 2021 meeting.

November 2021 Board Meeting- Commissioner Carolyn R. Melvin made a motion to hold the November 16, 2021 board meeting at the Garland Baptist Church Fellowship Hall at 6:00 pm, seconded by Commissioner Barbara A. Peterson and carried unanimously.

December 2021 Organizational Meeting- Commissioner Carolyn R. Melvin made a motion to hold the organizational meeting for the Town of Garland on December 2, 2021 at 6:00 pm at the Garland Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, seconded by Commissioner Barbara A. Peterson and carried unanimously.

Christmas Dinner Planning- Brief discussion regarding having the Christmas dinner at a local restaurant in town to support a local area business. Commissioner Jo A. Strickland will request a sample menu for the dinner from one of our area restaurants. Commissioner Carolyn R. Melvin made a motion to table this item until the November meeting, seconded by Commissioner Barbara A. Peterson and carried unanimously.

MINUTES APPROVAL

August 17, 2021 Regular Meeting- September 14, 2021 Special Meeting & Public Hearing- September 21, 2021 Public Hearing for 2021 CDBG-I Application- September 21, 2021 Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Carolyn R. Melvin made a motion to approve the four sets of minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Barbara A. Peterson and carried unanimously.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONDOLENCES

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

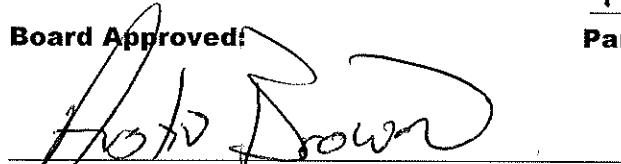
Town Hall will be closed on November 11, 2021 in observance of Veterans Day.

Mayor Pro Tem Austin Brown noted municipal elections will take place November 2nd at the Garland Fire Department. He encouraged everyone to go out and exercise their right to vote.

Recess to Reconvene

Mayor Pro Tem Austin Brown made a motion to recess this meeting to reconvene on Tuesday, October 26th at 6:00 pm for an in-person meeting at town hall to discuss closed session items, seconded by Commissioner Barbara A. Peterson and carried unanimously. Meeting recessed at 7:03 pm.

Board Approved:


Austin Brown, Mayor Pro Tem


Pamela Cashwell, Town Clerk/Finance Officer