

Town Of Oakboro

**Board of Commissioners
Minutes
May 18, 2020
7:00 PM**

Mayor Little opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. She had the Town Clerk call the roll with the following present: Commissioner Efird, Commissioner Huneycutt, Mayor Little, Commissioner Watkins, Commissioner Jackson and Town Administrator, Doug Burgess. Commissioner Smith did not attend.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag was led by the Mayor.

Mayor Little had devotions.

Commissioner Jackson made a motion to add a Closed Session to Agenda and to approve the Agenda. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Commissioner Jackson made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable in the amount of \$425,561.17. Commissioner Efird seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Commissioner Huneycutt made a motion to approve the minutes from 2-17-20 and 5-5-20. Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Commissioner Efird made a motion to set a Public Hearing on June 2, 2020 for zoning changes to a 19-acre tract of land on the southside of Hatley Burris Road for Joseph Burleson as Phase III of the Forrest Creek Subdivision – File # ZV-1920-03. Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

**Commissioner Efird made a motion to set a Public Hearing on June 2, 2020 for zoning changes to 11 parcels of land owned by Oakmont Acquisition LLC. The 11 tracts are as follows:
ZV 1920-06 – 16970 Buster Road
ZV 1920-07 – 11013 Lighthouse Road
ZV 1920-08 – 8504 Swift Road
ZV 1920-09 – 16848 Silver Road
ZV 1920-11 – Lighthouse Road
ZV 1920-12 – 11366 Shinn Road
ZV 1920-13 – 11350 Shinn Road**

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**ZV 1920-14 – 712 N. Pine Street
ZV 1920-15 – 405 W. 8th Street
ZV 1920 – 10 & 16 – Silver Road**

Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Commissioner Jackson made a motion to set a Public Hearing for the 2020-2021 Budget for the Town of Oakboro. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Commissioner Jackson made a motion to approve Eddie Carrick as our Auditor for fiscal year ending 6-30-2020 for \$7875.00. Commissioner Huneycutt seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Commissioner Huneycutt made a motion to approve the Utility Easement for the Yadkin Regional Water System to cross our property on 205 S., with them paying us \$11,350.00 Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Commissioner Huneycutt made a motion to set the filing fees with the Stanly County Board of Elections for Mayor and Commissioners at \$25.00. Commissioner Efird seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Open Forum: No one signed up to speak.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

Budget and Finance: Commissioner Jackson recognized Town Administrator, Doug Burgess. Mr. Burgess stated that our town would definitely be impacted by the ongoing pandemic. A concern will be the June Sales Taxes – but we can be conservative and get through this.

Cemetery and Streets: Commissioner Watkins had no report.

Police Department: Commissioner Huneycutt recognized Chief Smith. Smith reported that his department wrote 126 citations, 9 arrests, 591 calls for service, 2274 business and neighborhood checks (2 months).

Parks and Recreation: Commissioner Jackson recognized Head of Parks and Recreation, Josh Almond. He reported that all the signage had been updated at District Park. The dugout roofs, storage and bathroom roofs at REA field have been re-roofed. As of this moment, everything has been

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cancelled – our spring sports, community building rentals, shelter rentals, ballfield rentals. Our spring soccer had 102 kids sign up – the most ever. We have already issued full refunds.

Water and Sewer: Commissioner Efird made a motion to raise the purchasing cost of an E-1 pump to \$4500.00 and the replacement pump cost to \$2500.00. Commissioner Huneycutt seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Commissioner Jackson made a motion to have the E-1 pump and replacement pump increases to go into effect immediately. Commissioner Efird seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Advisory Board/Code Enforcement: Commissioner Efird recognized Chief Smith. Smith reported 8 new house applications, 5 accessory building applications, 4 remodel applications and 2 new pool permits.

Doug Burgess stated that the Town has instructions from the Attorney General that we cannot charge late fees or cut anyone's water off during this pandemic. Today's update stated that this has cost the State of North Carolina \$64 million. Last month's penalties for the Town of Oakboro were \$4000.00 – we are unable to collect those.

Commissioner Jackson made a motion that we go into Closed Session. Commissioner Huneycutt seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Jackson made a motion that we go back into Open Session. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

OPEN SESSION

Action taken in Closed Session:

Commissioner Efird made a motion for the Town to accept the agreement between The Town of Oakboro and Kendale Huneycutt as presented by our attorney, Al Benshoff. Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

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Commissioner Huneycutt stated that he has a big concern and a question about the fence behind the Learning Center, thinking it is extremely close to the road. He can't imagine anyone walking on side of the road that there would be enough room to get out of the way of a car. He stated that it's a huge safety concern. Another concern is not being able to see to make a turn or see oncoming traffic.

There was much discussion between Board Members, Mayor, Zoning Enforcement Officer and Town Administrator. It was decided that this is a definite hazard, not only for traffic but for children playing behind that fence so close to traffic. Mr. Smith is to talk with the owners to see what can be done between them and the Town to correct this safety hazard.

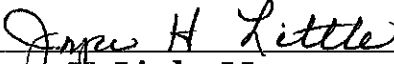
Commissioner Huneycutt offered that he thinks all heads of departments should attend the Board Meetings.

Commissioner Efirm brought up the fact that the Town will be needed to put in applications for Federal Grants. Since Larry Branch's retirement we need someone to work on these on a part time basis. Commissioner Efirm recommended Terry Whitley as he has worked on many projects such as this before. There was discussion between Board Members.

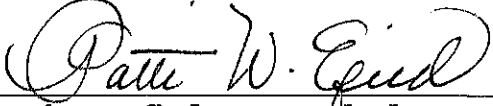
Commissioner Efirm made a motion to hire Terry G. Whitley on an "as needed" basis to work with administration on special projects at \$40.00 per hour. Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Commissioner Efirm made a motion to continue meeting until Tuesday, June 2, 2020 at 7:00 PM. Commissioner Huneycutt seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

This the 18th day of May, 2020.



Joyce H. Little, Mayor



Patti W. Efirm, Town Clerk