

Town Of Oakboro

**Board of Commissioners
Minutes
Public Hearing
Followed by Regular Meeting
June 21 2021
7:00 PM**

Mayor Little called the Public Hearing to order. The purpose of this public hearing is to hear from citizens of Oakboro with comments or concerns as pertaining to the 2021-2022 Budget. It has been properly advertised in the Stanly News and Press and available at Oakboro Town Hall for viewing.

Debra Cain asked how much was budgeted for the Police Department. Doug Burgess answered \$717,195.00.

Having no one else wanting to speak, Mayor Little declared the Public Hearing closed.

The Town Clerk called the roll with the following present: Commissioner Efird, Commissioner Hathcock, Commissioner Huneycutt, Mayor Little, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Watkins and Town Administrator, Doug Burgess.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag was led by Mayor Little.

Commissioner Efird had devotions.

Mayor Little announced that she would like to amend the agenda to add "Water Lines" to Stephen Chambers awarding contracts.

Commissioner Huneycutt made a motion to amend the agenda to add "Water lines" to Stephen Chambers awarding contracts. Commissioner Hathcock seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Commissioner Efird made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Commissioner Efird made a motion to approve the minutes from May 17, 2021. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

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Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the accounts payable in the amount of \$262,459.68. Commissioner Huneycutt seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Stephen Chambers with Chambers Engineering awarded the bids for the Water Tower and the Water Lines for the Blue Sky Water Infrastructure and the Blue Sky Water Tank and Booster Pump Station. The tower bid was awarded to Phoenix Fabricators and Erectors, LLC in the amount of \$2,167,000.00. (attached) The water line bid was awarded to State Utility Contractors, INC., in the amount of \$2,794,567.40. (attached)

Commissioner Huneycutt reported that Cabarrus County had agreed to accept Oakboro's Police car maintenance. He reported that they would do the work for up to half the price. It was discussed.

Commissioner Huneycutt made a motion that we adopt a resolution to use Cabarrus County for our OPD car repair. Commissioner Hathcock seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Commissioner Efird reported that he had a resolution to exempt Oakboro from the 10% restriction for Satellite Subdivisions. It was discussed.

Commissioner Efird made a motion that the resolution to exempt Oakboro from the 10% restriction for Satellite Subdivision be adopted. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously. (attached)

Doug Burgess brought up that during the last big storm we had several trees downed in Allison branch. He has contacted all adjoining land owners and has gotten permission to work on their property. The town will clear all debris so that it won't flood during another storm.

Commissioner Efird made a motion to allow the Town to clean Allison Branch. Commissioner Huneycutt seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

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Open Forum:

- 1. Betsy Stewart. She would like to see more than one officer on duty from midnight until 6:00 am.**
- 2. David Heath. He would also like to see more than one officer on duty from midnight until 6:00 am. He would also like to see the town be pro-active in regards to covid vaccinations, future solar energy and controlled town growth.**
- 3. Kim Mullis. She would like to see more than one officer on duty from midnight until 6:00 am.**
- 4. Peter Ascitutto. He is proposing a county grant for parks. It would be a \$10,000.00 match grant for fall of 2021. He will send information. He would like to encourage everyone to get the covid vaccine.**
- 5. Charles Walters. He would like more officers and cars added to the police force.**
- 6. Debra Cain. She would like to see more officers added to the police force. She offered to go door to door for a petition.**
- 7. Shelby Ashcraft. She would like for the town to address the overgrown lot at 422 W. Second. Commissioner Efird said he would look into it immediately.**
- 8. Dorothy Jackson. She wanted some clarification on parking as her church, Galilee in Oakboro has parking issues and some church goers were ticketed last Sunday. She realizes that the parking is minimal but would like to see some leniency with regards to parking tickets on Sunday during church. She thanked the town for handling potholes and stop signs in her area.**

DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

Budget and Finance: Commissioner Smith called upon Doug Burgess for a report. Mr. Burgess reported that in General Fund – expenditures at 107% and revenues at 109%. Water Fund –

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expenditures at 87% and revenues at 133% and Sewer Fund – expenditures at 85% and revenues at 112%.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to adopt the 2021-2022 Budget. (attached) Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to accept and adopt the Amendments (attached to these minutes) to the 2020-2021 budget. Commissioner Efird seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously. (attached)

Cemetery and Streets: Commissioner Hathcock stated that he had noticed some of the potholes were repaired. Drainage problems are being worked on at different areas of the town.

Police Department: Commissioner Huneycutt referred to Chief Smith for a report. Smith reported that they conducted 740 business and neighborhood checks, had 159 calls for service, served 16 warrants and wrote 62 citations. Commissioner Huneycutt stated that he knows our Police Department is stretched extremely thin and he appreciate each one. He also thanked everyone for speaking tonight.

Parks and Recreation: Commissioner Watkins referred to head of parks and recreation, Josh Almond. He reported that since last meeting they had 29 shelter rentals, 1 community building rental at Long street, 1 amphitheater rental, 21 field rentals and 1 weekend rental for a men's softball tournament. The spring soccer season ended since last meeting and fall soccer registration opens in 2 weeks. He has a girl scout event and a benefit softball tournament scheduled. The model boat battles will be back July 11-16, 2021. This will be the national event with 60+ people coming from all over the US and a couple of different countries. He further reported that a concrete pad had been installed at the mini park, burying the time capsule and it will be a great place to put our annual Christmas tree.

Water and Sewer: Commissioner Efird called on acting maintenance director, Reggie Bowers. Mr. Bowers reported that as far as the sewer infiltration his crew has been working with Mark Cash Grading, exposing sewer laterals that are damaged and have repaired many of those. He

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stated that with the last rain, he had no incidents of pump stations being overwhelmed and that is a very good thing. They have had 2 water leaks, one major that has been repaired and another one in the process of repair. They had repaired E-1 pumps and pulled, cleaned and repaired 3 pump stations without having to change motors. They lost a power pole during the last big storm. It has been rebuilt and power restored.

Advisory Board/Code Enforcement: Commissioner Efirm reported that in the last 6 weeks we had 13 new house applications. He also stated that, hopefully, the building of the apartments near Food Lion will be starting soon.

The mayor stated that the Board needed to make a decision on the Town Employee pay raises. Some stated that they would rather see us use percentages instead of a flat rate.

Commissioner Huneycutt made a motion to give a \$.50 pay raise to Town employees. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously. The mayor polled the Board with the following votes:

Efirm – yes
Hathcock – yes
Huneycutt – yes
Smith – yes
Watkins – yes.

Commissioner Huneycutt made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

This the 21st day of June, 2021.

Joyce H. Little, Mayor

Patti W. Efirm, Town Clerk

