



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
April 17, 2023
Regular Meeting
7:00 PM

Mayor Huneycutt welcomed everyone and asked the town clerk to call the roll. Commissioner Brett Barbee, Commissioner Joey Carpenter, Commissioner Lanny Hathcock, Mayor Chris Huneycutt, Commissioner Latoya Jackson and Commissioner Bud Smith were all present. Mr. Doug Burgess, Town Administrator, Mr. Josh Almond, Parks and Recreation Director and Mr. Reggie Bowers, Utility Supervisor were also present.

Mayor Huneycutt asked everyone to stand for the pledge of allegiance to the flag and that was followed by devotions from the mayor. He spoke on the National Day of Prayer that is always the first Thursday in May. He stated how important prayer is in all of our lives. Mayor Huneycutt spoke about keeping your focus on God and shared a quote from Pastor Jonathan Waits that was spoken during the service Sunday, April 16th at Oakboro First Baptist Church. "The world is a mess; it always has been since Adam and Eve took the bite of that fruit. It always will be until our Lord finally returns to claim his Kingdom and to reorient the whole place around the Kingdom of God. The world will try to disorient us and steal our peace. Prayer is how we fight that; we reorient our focus back on God and we pray with gratitude in our hearts." Mayor Huneycutt prayed using scripture from Philippians 4:4-7.

Mayor Huneycutt informed everyone that we have a public hearing on the agenda for tonight. The purpose of the public hearing is to invite public comments on a proposed economic incentive that will result in a five (5) year, 30% business development grant between the Town of Oakboro and an existing manufacturer of commercial paper products located in the corporate limits of Oakboro, NC. The grant will aid and encourage new taxable investment within the Town of Oakboro. The company will invest a minimum of \$1,500,000 in machinery and equipment and will create approximately eight (8) new jobs. The incentive agreement will be funded with General Fund revenues. The Town of Oakboro will recover the cost from new tax revenue and the public will benefit from the additional property, business and sales tax revenue, stimulation of the overall economy and expanded employment opportunities in the Town of Oakboro.

Mayor Huneycutt asked for anyone interested in speaking on this subject. Candice Lowder with Economic Development Commission spoke on behalf of this economic incentive requesting the support of the Oakboro Board of Commissioners. She stated that this incentive was approved by the County Commissioners on April 3, 2023. She stated she was available if there were any questions. No one else spoke. Commissioner Barbee made a motion to approve this economic incentive. Commissioner Hathcock seconded. There was no discussion. Voted and carried unanimously.

Mayor Huneycutt called for a motion to approve the agenda as written. Commissioner Hathcock made a motion to approve the agenda and Commissioner Smith seconded. There was no discussion. Voted and carried unanimously.

Mayor Huneycutt called for a motion to approve the minutes from March 20, 2023. A motion to approve the minutes from March 20, 2023 was made by Commissioner Jackson and a seconded by Commissioner Smith. There was no discussion. Voted and carried unanimously.

Mayor Huneycutt asked for a motion to approve the accounts payable in the amount of \$515,484.98. Commissioner Jackson made a motion to approve the accounts payable in the amount of \$515,484.98. Commissioner Barbee seconded. There was no discussion. Voted and carried unanimously.

Open Forum

Ms. Allison Cunningham, who lives at 744 Faith Street, brought a request before the board to get a speed hump in the Victoria Place Subdivision. She stated she has 35 names on the petition in favor of a speed hump and ideally, they would like to see three placed in the subdivision. She said there are several speeders. She's asking for one at each of the cul-de-sacs after talking with the parents in the neighborhood. Commissioner Smith asked if the speeders were residents of Victoria Place Subdivision and Ms. Cunningham stated they were. Mayor Huneycutt stated that the board would take a look at this and that Mr. Burgess would verify the information on the petition and that someone would get back in touch with her.

No one else signed up to speak.

Department Updates

Budget and Finance

Commissioner Barbee referred to Mr. Burgess for an update. Mr. Burgess reported that revenue in the general fund is at 113% and expenditures at 85%. In water fund, revenue is at 53% and expenditures are at 47%. With sewer fund, revenues are at 71% and expenditures are at 60%.

Cemetery and Streets

Commissioner Carpenter called on Mr. Reggie Bowers to give a report. Mr. Bowers stated that they had cleaned the ditches as well as the storm drains. They are continuing to scrape and keep stone on the gravel roads. They have also replaced the faded road signs with the new reflective signs. This was done for stop signs and street signs.

Police Department

Commissioner Hathcock gave the update since Chief Smith was absent on vacation. He reported the department had 14 arrests, 65 citations, 400 neighborhood/business checks and 114 calls for service. Commissioner Hathcock reminded everyone that the town had applied for and received a grant for SRO at Oakboro Stem. They were able to hire Jennifer Antonucci who will take the position of School Resource Officer. She started with the Town of Oakboro today, April 17, 2023 and will be riding with Sergeant Bryce Kaus beginning on Wednesday, April 19, 2023. She will be seen at the school prior to school getting out.

Parks and Recreation

Commissioner Jackson referred to Mr. Josh Almond. Mr. Almond shared the rentals that were scheduled at the parks during this past month. Twenty-eight picnic shelters were rented, four days at the Long Street Community Building, two days at the District Park Community Building, the amphitheater has been used a couple of times, fifteen rentals at the REA Field at Long Street Park, twenty-seven ballfields at the

District Park were rented. As of today, fiber internet is being installed at the District Park. Mr. Almond shared that hopefully this will be an incentive for people to sue the District Park Community Building.

Public Works

Commissioner Smith referred to Mr. Reggie Bowers. Mr. Bowers shared what his department had been working on during the past month in water. They had six new water meter installations, fixed three old meters, replaced four old meters, fixed a two-inch water line leak and fixed a 1½" water line leak. The department also had to fix a two-inch water line that the Department of Transportation had hit during their work. They installed three new water taps and worked with State Utilities on the twelve-inch valve at North Main Street and Wade Road for Charlotte Pipe. In sewer, the department had installed six E-1 pumps, had one E-1 pump installation inspection, placed two new sewer taps and found some laterals broke and manholes leaking related to I & I.

Commissioner Smith spoke on applying for a water and sewer grant. A resolution is needed to apply for this grant. A motion was made by Commissioner Smith to adopt a resolution to apply for a water and sewer grant. It was seconded by Commissioner Barbee. There was no discussion. Voted and carried unanimously.

Advisory Board/Code Enforcement

Commissioner Hathcock referred to Mr. Efird. Mr. Efird stated there are plans coming down from the General Assembly to do away with the ETJ. In the ETJ, we do not receive any money related to this, but the areas are covered by our zoning. If this is done away with, that means the county would take over for zoning and it is possible the town would have to redo the Land Use Plan. He states that we would need to work closely with the county if this happens regarding our Land Use Plan.

Mr. Efird shared that everything is moving forward with Blue Dot Read-Mix. They have run into a snag with ordering their equipment. They are looking at months to get in the equipment. Because of this, Blue Dot is requesting permission to put in a portable concrete plant until the permanent concrete plant can be completed. Blue Dot has shared with Mr. Efird that they would make sure to cover all safety concerns first. In order to do this, Mr. Efird shared with Blue Dot they would have to apply for a Temporary Use Permit. These permits are approved for a period of a year and if the company needed longer, they could ask for an extension. This particular permit goes to the Board of Adjustment; however, if the Board of Commissioners has any ideas, Mr. Efird asked they speak with him before the Board of Adjustment meeting.

Mr. Efird continued on with other things going on in the town. Regarding the new store at Big Lick, Mr. Efird is waiting on construction plans. As soon as that is received, there will need to be a Project Review Committee meeting. If the review is approved, they will be able to apply for the necessary permits to begin construction. Mr. Jim Davis is requesting to make a minor subdivision from 5 acres that will go to the Planning and Zoning Board at the next meeting. Mr. Steve Barbee is asking for a minor subdivision of his property on Hurley Road, but Mr. Efird does not have an application yet. Hopefully Mr. Barbee will get it to him in time for the next Planning and Zoning Board meeting. Mr. Efird finished with letting the board know that Ruby Ridge Subdivision is in need of HOA. There will be a meeting at the District Park

Community Building on April 25, 2023 at 7pm. The builders have moved out and there are now some common areas that need to be taken care of.

Miscellaneous

Historic Commission

Mayor Huneycutt mentioned that work has begun on creating a Historic Commission Board where a member of the Board of Commissioners serves as a liaison.

Mural

Mayor Huneycutt wanted to clarify that GOBA had permission from the building owner to paint the mural. He did have a letter from November 1, 2022 from the building owner authorizing GOBA to move forward. There was some confusion about that at the last meeting and Mayor Huneycutt wanted to make sure that was cleared up.

New Alternate Member of Planning and Zoning Board

Commissioner Hathcock asked for approval by the Board of Commissioners to bring Mr. Fred Smith on as an alternate for the Planning and Zoning Board. A motion was made by Commissioner Hathcock for Mr. Smith to be appointed as an alternate to the Planning and Zoning Board effective immediately. Commissioner Carpenter seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

Board Comments:

Commissioner Smith shared that things were running smoothly. He commended Mayor Huneycutt for doing a good job leading. He mentioned it was also nice to see murals to dress up the town especially since there is a lot of traffic through here with the beach goers. He would like to see something related to the 4th of July Celebration on a mural since that is Oakboro is known for. He also wanted to know that he appreciated the townspeople.

Commissioner Jackson shared that she and Mr. Almond are looking to do something for families in the park such as movie nights. More information would be coming soon on that. She thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting as well as the employees and the town board.

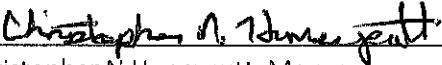
Commissioner Hathcock thanked the town workers and the public. He also thanked Mr. Fred Smith for being willing to serve as an alternate on the Planning and Zoning Board. He thanked Mr. Heath for coming up with good things to present to the Board of Commissioners. He thanked everyone for coming and asked them to come back.

Commissioner Barbee thanked everyone for being present at the meeting. He thanked the staff, citizens and businesses and mentioned the ones that were present during the meeting. He also wanted to specifically thank Mr. Eford and Mr. Burgess for all they do for the town.

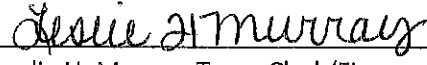
Commissioner Carpenter thanked everyone for being present and wanted to specifically thank Mr. Burgess and Mrs. Hatley-Murray for responding quickly to an email he had sent earlier in the day.

Mayor Huneycutt thanked all of the town's employees. He thanked Mr. Efirid for all of his work. He mentioned to everyone to take note of the painting and a special thank you to Mr. Burgess for lining that up. He also mentioned to everyone to make sure to be aware of the National Day of Prayer that will be held at the Oakboro Memorial Park on May 4, 2023 at noon.

Commissioner Barbee made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Smith seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.



Christopher N Huneycutt, Mayor



Leslie H. Murray, Town Clerk/Finance Officer