

TOWN OF MCADEVILLE MINUTES AUGUST 11, 2020

The McAdenville Town Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 6:00 PM in a virtual format via a webinar hosted on zoom. The webinar was available live, and the link was distributed to the Sunshine List and made available on the Town's website.

PRESENT:

Mayor Jim Robinette and Mayor Pro-tem Jay McCosh; Council Members: Reid Washam, Carrie Bailey, Greg Richardson, and Joe Rankin. Also present: Attorney Jim Windham, Police Chief Adams, and Town Administrator/Clerk Lesley Dellinger

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Robinette called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

ADJUSTMENT & APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The August Agenda was approved as submitted by motion of Greg Richardson, second by Carrie Bailey with unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes from the regular meeting of July 14, 2020 were unanimously approved by motion of Mayor Pro-tem McCosh and second by Reid Washam.

ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN PRESENTATION:

Seth Robertson, PE and Jay Johnston, PE of WithersRavenel presented the Asset Management Plan for the Town of McAdenville. This plan was developed through grant funding received by the City of Gastonia from the Division of Water Infrastructure. Gastonia partnered with McAdenville to evaluate the existing water distribution and wastewater collection system to determine infrastructure needs as a step toward a potential system merger. Seth Robertson stated that the key components achieved during the evaluation process were updating the current GIS mapping of the Town's system and the development of a Capital Improvement Plan. Jay Johnston provided Council with an overview of how the Asset Management Plan was structured. He explained how the risk determination was calculated on the existing infrastructure by using key performance indicators which were determined by input from Two Rivers and Town staff. He then provided a detailed review of the data, graphs and mapping included in the plan and answered questions from Council. Seth Robertson cautioned Council not to focus on the \$400-\$500K in repairs recommended in the CIP but rather to use it as a budgeting tool moving forward and begin investigating alternate funding opportunities. He added that with the Asset Management Plan completed, the Town should consider moving forward with a Merger Regionalization Feasibility Grant application. Reid Washam stated that a Merger Feasibility Study would be a requirement by the City of Gastonia in a potential system merger and that he supported moving forward with the grant application submittal in September 2020. The Mayor thanked WithersRavenel for the Asset Management Plan presentation and the Q&A session. He also requested them to work with staff on the needed documentation for the Merger Regionalization Feasibility grant application.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS DISCUSSION:

Council discussed how the COVID-19 pandemic would impact this years Christmas Town event and considered modifications to follow the Department of Public Health guidelines and meet

State restrictions. The Mayor, Councilman Washam and the Town Administrator met with representatives from Pharr to work on a preliminary plan for hosting a drastically scaled back Christmas Town USA event for 2020. Suggestions included canceling the annual Tree Lighting and Yule Log Festival, limiting the common area lighting to the business district from the YMCA to the Spruced Goose Station, and encouraging churches, organizations, and homeowners not to distribute refreshment or create photo opportunities. Pharr also requested that the Town partner with them and hire the Lyerly Agency to handle the initial press release and public information campaign. Carrie Bailey asked what the rationale was behind not lighting the pond. The Mayor replied that the pond was a focal point for visitors and the #1 photo opportunity in Town. The goal is to eliminate attractions that create large gatherings and impede the flow of vehicular and pedestrian traffic through Town. Mayor Pro-tem McCosh stated that the decision to scale back the event was difficult and disappointing but understandable due to the pandemic. Following additional discussion, Joe Rankin motioned that Council support a hybrid Christmas Town event which follows the recommendations of Gaston County Public Health and partner with Parr on the public information campaign and press release. The motion was seconded by Greg Richardson and passed unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Chief Adams offered to review, and answer questions related to the CPD monthly report. No questions were presented by Council.

- a. Golf Carts:** Chief Adams then opened the discussion on amending the Town Code to contain an ordinance prohibiting the use of golf carts and utility vehicles inside the Town limits. He stated that the proposed wording for the text addition had been reviewed and approved as to form by the Town Attorney. Town staff added that if the proposed wording provided by Chief Adams is approved by Council then an ordinance will be drafted and presented for consideration at the September meeting. Greg Richardson questioned the need for an ordinance stating that he believes the NC General Statutes support Council's opinion that golf carts not legally registered through the State are not allowed to operate on public roads unless the municipality has an ordinance allowing said operation. The Mayor agreed that it was Council's understanding that golf carts have always been illegal in McAdenville. Chief Adams stated that adopting an ordinance prohibiting the use of golf carts would provide his officers with legal support when issuing a citation. Carrie Bailey motioned to accept the proposed wording for the text amendment to the Town Code requested by Chief Adams prohibiting the use of golf carts inside Town limits. The motion was seconded by Greg Richardson and passed by unanimous vote.
- b. Street Parking:** Revisions to the street parking ordinance were the next topic to be discussed. During the July meeting, Chief Adams requested that Council submit their recommendations for the streets to be designed as no parking to Town Staff. Upon review of the submittals, Chief Adams recommended amending Section 6A-14 of the Town Code to prohibit parking at all times on Cedar Street and Church Street from Wesleyan Drive to Lakeview Drive. The Mayor stated that the parking violation fee in McAdenville used to be \$5 and that it may need to be amended. Chief Adams replied that the existing State citation schedule for fees could be used. Mayor Pro-tem McCosh questioned how ticketing would be handled for visitors and contractors doing work in the neighborhood. Chief Adams stated that issuing parking citations would be at the Officer's discretion and that hopefully common sense would come into play. Reid

Washam stated that the street parking issue on Cedar Street could be addressed by limiting parking to one side and that Council may want to consider this as an option. Greg Richardson added that he would consider supporting limiting street parking if the Village HOA petitioned for the change. Carrie Bailey voiced opposition to involving the Village HOA in the decision. She believes that street parking along Church and Cedar create a safety hazard and fully supports designating them as a no parking zone. Carrie motioned to approve amending Section 6A-14 of the Town Code to prohibit parking at all times on Cedar Street and Church Street from Wesleyan Drive to Lakeview Drive. The motion failed due to lack of a second. A motion to table the street parking discussion was made by Mayor Pro-tem McCosh, seconded by Reid Washam, and passed with a vote of 4 to 1. Voting in favor: Mayor Pro-tem McCosh, Reid Washam, Greg Richardson, and Joe Rankin; Voting against: Carrie Bailey. (*Once an agenda item is tabled, it requires a new motion and vote to be placed on a future agenda.*)

COUNCIL GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Greg Richardson asked for an update on the preconstruction meeting for the canoe/kayak launch. Lesley Dellinger replied that the meeting went well, and that construction was tentatively planned to begin in October of this year.

Mayor Pro-Tem McCosh asked if any designs were being considered for the regulatory signage for the greenway. Chief Adams replied that he would provide examples of what is being used in Cramerton and assist staff with wording recommendations. McCosh then requested that staff contact the NCDOT and request that the grass along HWY 7/Riverside Drive be mowed. He added that the stamped concrete area of the Wesleyan Bridge needed to be cleaned up and weed control measures put in place.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Darrell Bailey, 131 Church Street, stated that he fully supports eliminating street parking on various streets in McAdenville Village. He feels that street parking along Church Street poses a real safety problem due to the amount of daily traffic and hopes that Council will continue consideration of an ordinance.

Ashley Hannah, 329 Church Street, serves as the President of the Village HOA and asked if the HOA Board could assist Council in any way with the parking ordinance. Greg Richardson replied that he would like to have an official HOA vote in support of revising the parking ordinance prior to proceeding with the change. He added that the HOA may also consider conducting a community survey to gauge support.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM upon motion of Joe Rankin, second by Greg Richardson and unanimous vote.

Jim Robinette, Mayor

Lesley Dellinger, Town Clerk