

Minutes of the Work Session of
The Liberty Town Council
Held on October 16, 2023 5:30 PM

Present

Mayor: The Honorable Filmore York

Council: Terry Caviness, Larry Coble Don Herndon, and
Tyson Nixon

Town Manager: Scott Kidd

Town Clerk: Jessica Brown

Staff: Police Chief; David Semrad, Assistant Town Manager;
Janie Phelps, Finance Director; Kathy Bond, Safety
Director; Bret Pedigo, Public Works Director; Joseph
Walsh, Library Director; Brenda Heindl, and Fire Chief;
Matt Talbott

Town Attorney; Bill Flowe

To Order

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and welcomed everyone.

Adoption of Agenda

Council Member Don Herndon made a motion to adopt the agenda with the addition of 7.7 Liberty Elementary School Road Closure under New Business. Council Member Tyson Nixon seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Council Members Larry Coble, Terry Caviness, Don Herndon, and Tyson Nixon voted yes and adopted the agenda.

Information

Monthly Reports

Each Department's Monthly Reports are included for review. Public Works Director Joseph Walsh said the ABC parking lot will be paved tomorrow and E Brookwood will be patched on Wednesday. Council Member Don Herndon said he had attended a battery hazard class and asked Fire Chief Talbott about electric car fires. Chief Talbott said they can be extinguished with water to a point. Mayor York told the Parks and Rec Director Logan Maness that he thought the Downtown Festival went well.

Janie Phelps - LDP Update

Assistant Town Manager Janie Phelps said they are hopeful to adopt the Plan in January 2024. They will share a draft of the plan later this month or in early November and hope to have a community meeting early December.

Sawyer Deltano - Capstone Project for LDP

College student Sawyer Deltano had been doing a research project on N Greensboro Street for school. Town Manager Scott Kidd introduced him. He knows Jesse Day with the PTRC and offered to do his Capstone project for the LDP on N Greensboro from the church to the motorcycle shop. Blue on the map he provided indicates walking services. There are 4200 feet of sidewalk and only twenty percent is shaded so we need more shade. Some buildings look vacant and it is very noisy walking due to traffic so we may want to slow it down. The LDP survey got requests for sidewalk improvements. The Megasite will result in up to 7100 new jobs which means more traffic. He brought three large maps with his concepts and gave the Council pens if they would like to mark on them. The Town Manager said they would take a look right after the meeting.

New Business

Annexation Ordinance - 3577 Hinshaw Country Road, Liberty

This is the annexation Ordinance for 3577 Hinshaw Country Road, Liberty. The metes and bounds description is attached.

Resolution Pre- Construction Planning Grant for WWTP

The NCDEQ has offered a Pre- Constructions Planning Grant (PCPG) American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding in the amount of \$400,000 to the Town of Liberty to perform the work detailed in the submitted application and the Town of Liberty intends to perform said project in accordance with the agreed scope of work.

Council Member Larry Coble made a motion to approve the resolution. Council Member Terry Caviness seconded the motion which passed unanimously with Council Members: Larry Coble, Terry Caviness, Don Herndon, and Tyson Nixon voting yes.

Project Budget Ordinance for Pre-Construction Planning Grant - WWTP

The project authorized is the FY 23 Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Pre-Construction Planning Project (Grant Project number SRP-W-ARP-0303) to be financed by the Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant funds awarded to the Town of Liberty by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Division of Water Infrastructure (DWI).

Public Hearing Building Reuse Grant - October 23, 2023 5:30 PM

This is a called hearing to allow public comment as the Liberty Town Council proposes to appropriate and expend town funds for an economic project with an unnamed Company. The goal for this project is the renovation of a vacant warehouse located at 7280 Liberty Park Avenue in Liberty, resulting in job creation and this project is eligible for a Building Reuse Grant from the NC Department of Commerce, Rural Development Division, in the amount of \$325,000. The Town Manager added that NC Commerce allows the company to apply for this grant which is for buildings that have sat empty for a long time. There will be no money spent until the jobs are created and Kevin Franklin with the EDC will be here to present next week.

Road Closure Request - Christmas Parade

The Liberty Chamber of Commerce is requesting road closures for the annual tree lighting and Christmas Parade Saturday December 2, 2023.

Veterans Day Town Holiday Closure change from Monday to Friday

Since Veterans Day falls on Saturday November 11, 2023, according to Town Policy the holiday should be on Friday November 10, 2023 instead of Monday November 13, 2023.

Liberty Elementary School Road Closure

Liberty Elementary School has requested a road closure for their annual Fall Festival on October 27, 2023 4PM - 8PM.

Manager's Report

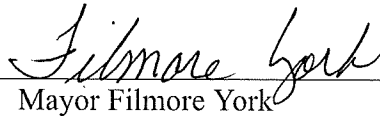
Town Manager Scott Kidd gave the report. Randolph County will get 85 million through the state budget for water/sewer development. We can talk individually about water/sewer and get back as a group. Janie Phelps had experience on coming up with a matrix for water/sewer allocation. Senator Graham is trying to help us get an extra \$100,000 to complete projects for the LWCF grant. We are trying to get our SOC (Special Order of Consent) amended so we can have the ability to grow.

Mayor Comments

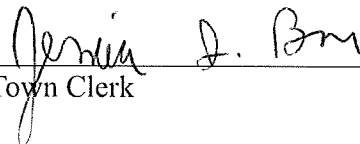
Mayor York thanked everyone for coming and asked Council to get their thoughts together for a water/sewer discussion.

Motion to Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, Council Member Tyson Nixon motioned to adjourn the meeting and Council Member Don Herndon seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Council Member Larry Coble voted yes, Council Member Terry Caviness voted yes, Council Member Don Herndon voted yes, and Council Member Tyson Nixon voted yes. The meeting was adjourned.



Mayor Filmore York

ATTEST: 

Town Clerk

