

Minutes of the Meeting of
The Liberty Town Council
Held on October 25, 2021 5:30 pm

Present

Mayor : The Honorable Filmore York

Council: Chris Compton, Don Herndon, Tyson Nixon, and JR Beard

Town Manager: Scott Kidd

Town Clerk: Jessica Brown

Town Attorney: Bill Flowe

Staff: Fire Chief; Matt Talbott, Finance/HR Director; Kathy Bond
Public Service Director; Joe Walsh, Library Director;
Brenda Heindl-Hornsby, Code Enforcement; Chris Curry
Police Chief; David Semrad and Safety Director; Bret
Pedigo

To Order

The Mayor welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:30PM. He said Council Member Larry Coble is unable to be here but we still have a quorum. He also welcomed everyone who was watching on Facebook.

Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation

Mayor York led the Pledge of Allegiance and then asked everyone to join in a Moment of Silence.

Adoption of Agenda

Council Member JR Beard made a motion to adopt the agenda with the addition of 9.10 Proclamation Universal Children's Day and 9.11 Liberty Fall Festival Road Closure with date change . Council Member Don Herndon seconded the motion which passed unanimously: Council Member Don Herndon voted yes, Council Member Tyson Nixon voted yes, Council Member JR Beard voted yes and Council Member Chris Compton voted yes. The agenda was approved with additions.

Experience Liberty Update - Billy Hardin

Billy Hardin said Experience Liberty has been meeting monthly. Randolph County Commissioner David Allen has been to every meeting. Mr. Hardin said people visiting Liberty do not always know what is around. He would like to see directional signs put near Liberty Showcase. If it works well they may look at putting signs in other locations around town. They would like to see Liberty have and build on a Spring Festival to coincide with the Spring Antiques festival, July Festival (Celebrate Liberty), Fall Festival to coincide with the Fall Antiques festival, and the Christmas parade. They want to involve others in the community and take full advantage of all the people that come for

the Antiques Festival. Local businesses are not really coming to their meetings. We need to focus on how to advertise Liberty. Experience Liberty would like to work with Parks and Recreation as a central organization for people to find out information about events. They would also like to get vendors to go ahead and sign up for all four events: Spring Festival, Fall Festival, July Festival and the Christmas Parade.

Council Member Don Herndon asked where they were thinking about putting the sign. Mr. Hardin said right off Fayetteville where the crepe myrtles were. He also asked about possibly putting a sign on the bypass but Mr. Hardin said that could cost several thousand dollars. David Freeman has offered to allow a banner on his sign. Council Member JR Beard said it was time for the Town to step in and help.

Public Hearing Rezoning Request RZ - 21 -2

Mayor York opened the Public Hearing at 5:50 PM. Planning and Zoning Consultant Reynolds Neely came forward to give the Staff Report. The applicants are Katina Michele Matthews and Garland Anthony Matthews for a legislative map amendment from R6 Residential to R40 Residential. He referenced maps of the property. This is a low density residential area. It has three primary structures on two locations. The Planning Board has reviewed and recommended in favor of the request.

Council Member Don Herndon asked about R40. Mr. Neely said it is a low density residential area that allows for single family manufactured homes. Council Member Tyson Nixon asked if taking out R6 and putting in R40 could there be a multifamily home structure there. Mr. Neely said only a duplex.

Applicant Katina Matthews came forward to speak. She said this would give her more options with housing choices. Anthony Matthews came forward and said it would give him more options as well.

Council Member Tyson Nixon asked if a trailer park could ever be put there. Mr. Neely said only if someone applied for a Special Use Permit.

No one else came forward to speak or had questions so Mayor York closed the Hearing at 5:56 PM.

Council Member Don Herndon made a motion to approve the Planning Board's recommendation for the rezoning of 514 Allison Street Extension and 210 New Street from R6 residential to R40 Residential. The proposed rezoning is consistent with the Town of Liberty Land Use Plan and Zoning Ordinance because the plan and Ordinance seek to plan for growth in a manner which provides housing diversity, while at the same time maintaining Liberty's small town character. Council Member JR Beard seconded the motion which passed unanimously with Council Members Chris Compton, Don Herndon, JR Beard, and Tyson Nixon voting yes.

Information

Monthly Reports

Police Chief David Semrad said he was happy to answer any questions about his report. Mayor York mentioned that he and Council Member Don Herndon had attended the human trafficking class. A structure engineer had come out to look at the prospective site for the Police Department last weekend. Scott Kidd will cover during his Manager's Report. The Mayor thanked the Police Staff for all their hard work.

Library Director Brenda Heindl made an application for a grant that would pay for moving the train depot which should be reviewed at the Board meeting in Asheboro tonight. She is looking at two other grants: one for a neuro diverse playground and a federal grant for library expansion, which she will be talking to Scott about. Council Member Don Herndon asked if the Story Walk at Paul Henry had been repaired. Brenda

said yes and they have six months of books ready to go for the Story Walks at both parks. They will change monthly and the books will be bilingual or have translation available. Joe Walsh with Public Works came forward. Mayor York told him he appreciated the pink hydrants for breast cancer awareness. Council Member Tyson Nixon asked about large stacks of limbs and how they handle that with customers. Joe says they put door hangers on the door to let people know they have to pay. It was a safety issue at the house near Food Lion because it obstructed people's views that were pulling out in traffic. If they refuse to pay to have picked up it can become a Code Enforcement issue. Council Member Tyson Nixon said a citizen approached him about a stack of limbs on Highfill that had not been picked up. Joe said he would take a look at them to see what is going on. Council Member Nixon asked could we not pick up some at a time. Town Manager Scott Kidd said that is something that we really need to talk about and what is a good fit for Liberty. The ordinance does state sizes.

Parks and Recreation Director Logan Maness said their last softball game was Wednesday and she is looking at having co-ed and mens softball in the spring.

Code Enforcement Report - Chris Curry

Chris Curry came forward to give the Code Enforcement Report. They have abated forty two cases this month and have fifteen new violations. He has nine hearings scheduled Wednesday. He has spoken to Mr. Bruchon regarding 209 W. Raleigh and told him the grace period has come to an end. He will move forward and Chris made an offer to help him. The property at 302 N Street that has eighteen vehicles is down to seven and he gave them a ten day extension. The property at 309 S Carter is now in compliance. The water had been cut off due to non payment.

Council Member JR Beard said it was the best report he had heard in two years. Mayor York asked him to check with the Recycle Center on Kime Street. Junk cars are starting to gather. Mr. Curry said he typed up a notice regarding this today. Town Manager Scott Kidd said he appreciates Chris's demeanor and attitude in Liberty and that he does a very good job.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Chris Compton made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 20, 2021 Work Session and the September 27, 2021 Council Meeting. Council Member JR Beard seconded the motion which passed unanimously : Council Member Don Herndon voted yes, Council Member Tyson Nixon voted yes, Council Member JR Beard voted yes, and Council Member Chris Compton voted yes. The minutes were approved.

Old Business

Chamber Update and Budget Appropriation - Travis Kivett

Travis Kivett of the Chamber came forward to answer questions. Council Member JR Beard asked about cutting down trees. Mr. Kivett said it would be on the south side of the caboose, left of the parking lot. Council Member Chris Compton asked if we needed to get approval. Town Manager Scott Kidd said he would check the lease. Mayor York said they may need more specific line items. Scott Kidd said he appreciates the information.

Ordinance - Stop Sign W Bowman Discussion

Public Works Director Joe Walsh came forward and said he had spoken with DOT and to be legal a stop sign must be on the right side of the road. A hanging light would not count. The DOT suggested guard rails but are going to try and do a site visit to take a

look at it. Council Member JR Beard suggested a speed bump before drivers get to the stop sign. Mayor York asked Joe to come back with his research.

New Business

GS 160A - 175 Update - Effective Dec 1, 2021

Town Manager Scott Kidd said they had covered this in his class. Previously if a person violates ordinance they are guilty of a Class III misdemeanor. It specifies what an ordinance can and cannot do. Now if our ordinance does not state a penalty, we cannot enforce it. We will need to put specifics in these ordinances. Council Member JR Beard asked if we need to have a Public Hearing. The Town Manager said we will have two meetings discussing at the Work Session and then a Public Hearing and vote at the Council Meeting.

Library - Food for Fines

Library Director Brenda Heindl came forward to discuss a program where food donations waive library fines. Foods for the food pantry would take one dollar off fines. It does not include fines for lost or damaged items. The County is not taking part in the Food for Fines program but they are discussing getting rid of fines altogether. Fines can be a barricade for people using the library. The library gets about \$2,000 per year in fines. Council Member JR Beard said he thinks the Food for Fines is a good idea but he is iffy about getting rid of fines all together. He is concerned about people bringing items back. The Library Director said patrons would still be charged for lost items. During COVID they did not charge fines. She said she would like to send out a mailer about the program. She has about 115 people who owe late fines.

Council Member JR Beard made a motion to approve the Food for Fines program. Council Member Chris Compton seconded the motion which passed unanimously with Council Members Chris Compton, Don Herndon, JR Beard, and Tyson Nixon voting yes. The Library's Food for Fines program was approved.

Budget Amendment #8

This amendment is to move funds from Capital Reserve General (71 Fund) to Library Maintenance/Repair Building and Grounds.

Budget Amendment #9

This amendment is to move funds from General Fund Balance Appropriated to Park and Rec Department Building maintenance. This is for tree removal and repairing the roof on shelter at Paul Henry Smith Park.

Budget Amendment #10

This amendment is to move funds from General Fund Balance Appropriated to Admin Department for Patterson Cottage building purchase downtown.

Budget Amendment #11

This amendment is to move funds from Water/Sewer Enterprise Fund Balance appropriated to the Sewer Department line item for sewer line repair on Asheboro Street.

Council Member Tyson Nixon made a motion to approve Budget Amendments #8 - #11. Council Member Don Herndon seconded the motion which passed unanimously with Council Members Chris Compton, Don Herndon, JR Beard, and Tyson Nixon voted yes. Budget Amendments #8 - #11 were approved.

Reappointment Parks & Rec Advisory Board - Gail Emerson

Gail Emerson's term expired in June. She is willing to serve another three year term which would expire June 2024.

Council Member Don Herndon made a motion to reappoint Gail Emerson to the Parks & Rec Advisory Board. Council Member Tyson Nixon seconded the motion which passed unanimously with Council Member Chris Compton, Don Herndon, JR Beard and Tyson

Nixon voting yes. Gail Emerson was reappointed to the Parks & Rec Advisory Board for a three year term.

Appointment ABC Board - Jairus Griffith

Sandra Dixon resigned from the ABC Board. Jairus Griffith has applied for the opening on the ABC Board. He would serve a three year term ending in January 2024.

Council Member Tyson Nixon made a motion to approve Jairus Griffith's appointment to the ABC Board. Council Member Chris Compton seconded the motion which passed unanimously with Council Members Chris Compton, Don Herndon, JR Beard, and Tyson Nixon voting yes. Jairus Griffith is appointed to a three year term on the Liberty ABC Board.

Fireworks quotes

The Town Manager has gotten three quotes for Fireworks at the Celebrate Liberty Festival. Virginia Skypainters came in at the lowest bid at \$8,515 and we have used them the past two years and been satisfied.

Council Member JR Beard made a motion to contract with Virginia Skypainters for the fireworks display. Council Member Don Herndon seconded the motion which passed unanimously with Council Members Chris Compton, Don Herndon, JR Beard, and Tyson Nixon voting yes. Virginia Skypainters is the approved vendor for the Celebrate Liberty fireworks display.

Proclamation - Universal Children's Day

Mayor York read this Proclamation. Universal Children's Day was created by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution on December 14, 1954. It is observed as a day of worldwide fraternity and understanding between and among children, and is devoted to promoting the ideals and objective of the welfare of the children of the world. Mayor Filmore York proclaims Nov 20, 2021 as "Universal Children's Day" in the Town of Liberty and urges all citizens to recognize and support the needs of young children in our community.

Council Member Chris Compton made a motion to adopt the Proclamation for Universal Children's Day. Council Member Tyson Nixon seconded the motion which passed unanimously with Council Members Chris Compton, Don Herndon, JR Beard, and Tyson Nixon. The Proclamation for Universal Children's Day was adopted.

Resolution 2021--9 Fall Festival Road Closure

This is the resolution that was passed at a previous meeting for the road closure for the Liberty Elementary School Fall Festival. The only change is the date which has been moved to Friday November 19, 2021.

Council Member Tyson Nixon made a motion to adopt the resolution with the date change. Council Member JR Beard seconded the motion which passed unanimously with Council Members Chris Compton, Don Herndon, JR Beard, and Tyson Nixon voted yes. Resolution 2021 -9 was passed with the amended date of November 19, 2021.

Administrative Reports

Manager's Report

Town Manager Scott Kidd gave his report. They are getting sewer lines sprayed in for the CDBG project and will probably be working on until the first part of December. The AIA and ASADRA grants are in the engineering report stage. We are pulling together costs and estimates for the proposed site for the Police Department. He may call a Special Meeting if needed. We received the LWCF grant which will pay for a splash pad, amphitheatre, and tennis courts at Freedom Park. He got the final confirmation that we can move forward with the water meters. They are meeting tomorrow to get the ball rolling. The PD will be helping with Freedom Family Church's Trunk or Treat and

hayride. He reminded that the Board can always add something to the agenda if there is something they want to discuss.

Finance Report

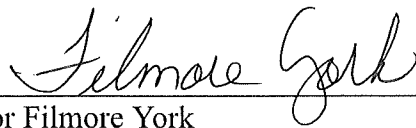
Scott Kidd said Finance Officer Kathy Bond will give a double report. She has been extremely busy with the audit since we have changed auditor and software company.

Mayor Comments

Mayor York reminded everyone of the Mayor's Walk on Saturday October 30th at 9 AM at Freedom Park. He also asked everyone to please remember to vote on November 2nd.

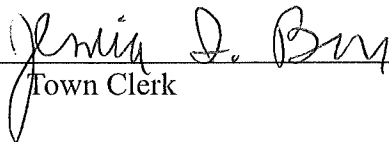
Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, Council Member Tyson Nixon made a motion to adjourn. Council Member JR Beard seconded the motion which passed unanimously with a vote: Council Member Don Herndon voted yes, Council Member Tyson Nixon voted yes, Council Member JR Beard voted yes, and Council Member Chris Compton voted yes. The meeting was adjourned.



Mayor Filmore York

ATTEST:



Town Clerk

Meeting Date: October 25, 2021

Town of Liberty Budget Amendment (FY 2021-2022 #8) Council Approval Needed

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Liberty Town Council that the Town of Liberty Budget Ordinance for fiscal year 2021-2022, which was adopted on June 28, 2021, be amended as follows:

This amendment is to move funds from Capital Reserve General (71 Fund) to Library Maintenance/Repair Building and Grounds.

Section 1: The following revenue and expenditures in the General Fund shall be increased by the amounts indicated:

71 Fund				
General Fund	Line Item	Budget	Change	Amended Budget
S/A Transfer to General Fund	71-6900-890	194,000	8,000	202,000
Total Expenditures		194,000	8,000	202,000
71 Fund				
Capital Reserve	Line Item	Budget	Change	Amended Budget
S/A Fund Bal Appr	71-3990-000	194,000	8,000	202,000
Total Revenues		194,000	8,000	202,000
10 Fund				
General Fund	Line Item	Budget	Change	Amended Budget
Transfer from Gen Fund Cap Reserve	10-3980-000	194,000	8,000	202,000
Total Reserve		194,000	8,000	202,000
10 Fund				
General Fund	Line Item	Budget	Change	Amended Budget
Library Maint & Repair Bldg & Grounds	10-6300-150	1,000	8,000	9,000
Total Expenditures		1,000	8,000	9,000

Prepared By: Kathy Bond, Finance Director

Reviewed By: Scott Kidd, Town Manager

Town Manager Initials: SK

Filmore York
Filmore York, Mayor

ATTEST:

Date: 10-26-21

Jerim J. Bond
Town Clerk

Date: 10-26-21

Meeting Date: October 25, 2021

Town of Liberty Budget Amendment (FY 2021-2022 #9) Council Approval Needed

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Liberty Town Council that the Town of Liberty Budget Ordinance for fiscal year 2021-2022, which was adopted on June 28, 2021, be amended as follows:

This amendment is to move funds from General Fund Balance Appropriated to Park & Rec Department Building Maintenance. This is for Tree Removal and Repair Roof on Shelter at Paul Henry Smith Park.

Section 1: The following revenue and expenditures in the General Fund shall be increased by the amounts indicated:

10 Fund Revenues				
General Fund	Line Item	Budget	Change	Amended Budget
General Fund Balance App.	10-3990-000	470,788	7,400	478,188
Total Revenues		470,788	7,400	478,188
10 Fund Expenditures				
General Fund	Line Item	Budget	Change	Amended Budget
Park & Rec Building M/R	10-6200-150	6,000	7,400	13,400
Total Expenditures		6,000	7,400	13,400

Prepared By: Kathy Bond, Finance Director

Reviewed By: Scott Kidd, Town Manager

Town Manager Initials: SK

Filmore York
Filmore York, Mayor

ATTEST:

Date: 10-25-21

Jenna D. Bm
Town Clerk

Date: 10/25/2021

Meeting Date: October 25, 2021

Town of Liberty Budget Amendment (FY 2021-2022 #10) Council Approval Needed

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Liberty Town Council that the Town of Liberty Budget Ordinance for fiscal year 2021-2022, which was adopted on June 28, 2021, be amended as follows:

This amendment is to move funds from General Fund Balance Appropriated to Admin Department for Patterson Cottage Building Purchase Downtown.

Section 1: The following revenue and expenditures in the General Fund shall be increased by the amounts indicated:

10 Fund Revenues				
General Fund	Line Item	Budget	Change	Amended Budget
General Fund Balance App.	10-3990-000	470,788	30,000	500,788
Total Revenues		470,788	30,000	500,788
10 Fund Expenditures				
General Fund	Line Item	Budget	Change	Amended Budget
Patterson Cottage Bldg Purchase	10-4200-167	-	30,000	30,000
Total Expenditures		0	30,000	30,000

Prepared By: Kathy Bond, Finance Director

Reviewed By: Scott Kidd, Town Manager

Town Manager Initials: SK

Filmore York
Filmore York, Mayor

ATTEST:

Date: 10-28-21

Jessie D. Bond
Town Clerk

Date: 10/25/2021

Meeting Date: October 25, 2021

Town of Liberty Budget Amendment (FY 2021-2022 #11) Council Approval Needed

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Liberty Town Council that the Town of Liberty Budget Ordinance for fiscal year 2021-2022, which was adopted on June 28, 2021, be amended as follows:

This amendment is to move funds from Water / Sewer Enterprise Fund Balance Appropriated to the Sewer Department line item for sewer line repair on Asheboro St.

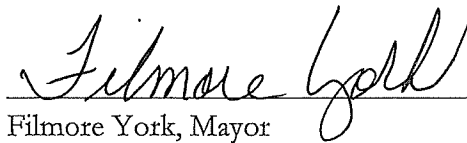
Section 1: The following revenue and expenditures in the General Fund shall be increased by the amounts indicated:

30 Fund Revenues				
Water/Sewer	Line Item	Budget	Change	Amended Budget
Water/Sewer Fund Balance App.	30-3990-000	60,000	15,000	75,000
Total Revenues		60,000	15,000	75,000
30 Fund Expenditures				
Water/Sewer	Line Item	Budget	Change	Amended Budget
S M/R Sewer Lines	30-8110-180	15,000	15,000	30,000
Total Expenditures		15,000	15,000	30,000

Prepared By: Kathy Bond, Finance Director

Reviewed By: Scott Kidd, Town Manager

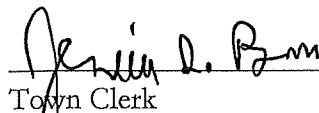
Town Manager Initials: _____



Filmore York, Mayor

ATTEST:

Date: 10-25-21



Town Clerk

Date: 10/25/2021

A Proclamation

Universal Children's Day

WHEREAS, The Town of Liberty joins the World Organization for Early Childhood Education (OMEP-USA), and other organizations as they celebrate Universal Children's Day; and

WHEREAS, Universal Children's Day was created by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution on December 14, 1954. It is observed as a day of worldwide fraternity and understanding between and among children, and is devoted to promoting the ideals and objective of the welfare of the children of the world; and

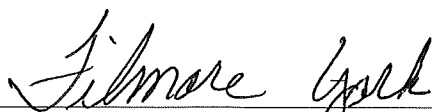
WHEREAS, These objectives are outlined in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which was created in 2000 by world leaders. The MDGs include providing children everywhere, boys and girls alike with universal primary education; and

WHEREAS, We were all children once, and we should all share the desire for the well being of our children, which has always been and will continue to be the most universally cherished aspiration of humankind; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Liberty is proud to support Universal Children's Day and will continue its efforts to ensure that children of Randolph County and the children of the world are given the tools they need to succeed now, and have a better future for tomorrow.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, **Filmore York**, as Mayor of the Town of Liberty do hereby proclaim November 20, 2021 as "Universal Children's Day" in the Town of Liberty and urge all citizens to recognize and support the needs of young children in our community.

PROCLAIMED THIS 20th day of November 2021.



Mayor, Filmore York
Liberty, North Carolina

Town of Liberty
P. O. Box 1006
239 South Fayetteville Street
Liberty, North Carolina 27298
(336) 622-4276 phone (336) 622-2665 fax

RESOLUTION 2021-9

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A TEMPORARY STREET CLOSING IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE LIBERTY CODE OF ORDINANCES § 90.33**

WHEREAS, the Town of Liberty is willing to accommodate temporary street closures for civic events; and

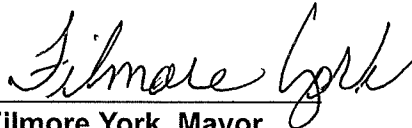
WHEREAS, the Town Manager will have appropriate traffic control devices installed to give notice of the temporary street closing; and

WHEREAS, the Town Manager has received a written request reviewed by Public Safety for a temporary street closing from Dana Johnson, Principal of Liberty Elementary School for the Liberty School Fall Festival and recommends said closing ;

WHEREAS, this event will benefit the community and not hamper other Town of Liberty activities on the date of request; and

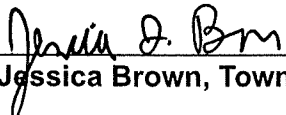
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Liberty, North Carolina, meeting in regular session on the 25th day of October, 2021 allows the temporary street closing below:

From 4:00PM to 8:00PM on Friday November 19, 2021 for the purpose of the Liberty School Fall Festival to occur with closure of section of N. Fayetteville Street in front of Liberty Elementary School.



Filmore York, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jessica Brown, Town Clerk

