

Minutes of the Work Session of
The Liberty Town Council
Held on March 15, 2021 5:30PM

Present

Mayor: The Honorable Filmore York

Council: Chris Compton, Larry Coble, Don Herndon, and JR Beard

Interim Town Manager: Scott Kidd

Town Clerk: Jessica Brown

Staff: Parks & Recreation Assistant; Logan Maness,
Library Director; Brenda Heindl Hornsby,
Police Chief; David Semrad; Fire Chief; Matt Talbott,
Finance/HR Director; Kathy Bond, Safety Director Bret
Pedigo, and Public Services Director; Terry Crouse

Town Attorney; Bill Flowe

To Order

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and welcomed everyone. He said Town Attorney Bill Flowe was on his way and he had not heard from Council Member Tyson Nixon.

Adoption of Agenda

Council Member Don Herndon made a motion to adopt the agenda with the change of removing number 3 since Steve Hackett is not able to be here for the Audit Report. He will present next week at the Council Meeting. There are additions of 7.4-7.12 Budget Amendments 28-36 and the addition of 7.13 to discuss waiving fees for this year at the Farmer's Market. Council Member JR Beard seconded the motion which passed unanimously with a roll call vote: Council Member Larry Coble voted yes, Council Member Don Herndon voted yes, Council Member JR Beard voted yes, and Council Member Chris Compton voted yes. The Agenda was approved with changes.

Information

Monthly Reports

The Town Manager has included the monthly Manager's reports in the agenda for the Council to review and discuss if needed.

Fire Chief Matt Talbott said 170 people had received their second dose of the COVID vaccine at the Fire Department. Police Chief David Semrad said they were still having problems with the traffic on Highfill due to the 49 closure. They are trying to keep Police presence so people will slow down. Public Service Director Terry Crouse has been

getting prices on the demolition of structures at 314 E Kime, 415 E Dameron and 305 S Murphy. They would need to do a Budget Amendment to fund.

Administrative Reports

Manager's Report

Billy Hardin of Experience Liberty came forward to give an update. They have gotten signatures from everyone involved to start on the painting downtown. He suggested assigning someone employed with the Town to the Downtown. He wants us to please finish this project. He does not think we will use all the funds available. We could hire someone for \$25,000.00 a year.

Interim Town Manager Scott Kidd said he has put the position of a Downtown Coordinator on his list. He was looking at a fellow/intern from the LFNC program but we have been put on a waiting list which he will check on next week.

David Honeycutt with McGill will give their recommendation for the CDBG contractor next week. We have officially been awarded the AIA Sewer Grant for \$150,000.00. We will use that in conjunction with the AIA Water Grant for \$150,000.00. Withers Ravenel will be putting together the Scope of Work. We have not heard much on the ASADRA grant. We have just had a few questions on the engineering report. Robin Sage will be coming back.

Finance Report

Finance Director Kathy Bond gave the report. She went over the transactions in the packet. Sales taxes are up 8% from last year. Budget Amendments will take care of line items in the negative.

Old Business

Lead for NC (LFNC)

Lead for North Carolina (LFNC) is a fellowship program in local government for recent college graduates. Fellows increase capacity in governmental units and work on transformative projects throughout the course of their fellowship. The Town of Liberty has been put on a waiting list.

New Business

Sale of Surplus - PD Dodge Chargers

The Police Department sold two 2013 Dodge Chargers on gov deals. One sold for \$6,000.00 and the other sold for \$6,700.00. Normally they report items valued over \$5,000.00 to be sold ahead of time but these sold for more than expected.

Resolution 2021-5 declaring 1990 Pierce Lance fire truck a surplus

This resolution declares the 1990 Pierce Fire truck a surplus so it can be sold on gov deals for a minimum of \$10,000.00.

David Honeycutt with McGill/Bid Tabulation

David Honeycutt with McGill will be at the Council Meeting March 22nd to talk about the bid tabulation for the CDBG sewer project.

Budget Amendment #28

This amendment is to move funds from General Fund Appropriation to the Police Department expenditure line items to bring them into balance.

Budget Amendment #29

This amendment is to move funds from General Fund Appropriation to the Admin Department expenditure line items to bring them into balance.

Budget Amendment #30

This amendment is to move funds from General Fund Appropriation to the Fire Department expenditure line items to bring them into balance.

Budget Amendment #31

This amendment is to move funds from General Fund Appropriation to the Street Department expenditure line items to bring them into balance.

Budget Amendment #32

This amendment is to move funds from General Fund Appropriation to the Parks & Recreation Department expenditure line items to bring them into balance.

Budget Amendment #33

This amendment is to move funds from General Fund Appropriation to the Library Department expenditure line items to bring them into balance.

The previous Budget Amendments are due to the FY20-21 Budget being at a minimum due to COVID 19 and its unknown expectations.

Budget Amendment #34

This amendment is to move funds from General Fund Appropriation to the Library Department expenditure line items. (Monies are being transferred from the Ella Lowe NCCMT account into the General Fund.)

Budget Amendment #35

This amendment is to move funds from General Fund Appropriation to the Admin Department expenditure line items. (For Piedmont Triad Regional Council - ADA Assessment and Transition Plan for the Town of Liberty.)

Budget Amendment #36

This amendment is to move funds from General Fund Appropriation to the Water & Sewer Administration Department expenditure line items. (For Piedmont Triad Regional Council - ADA Assessment and Transition Plan for the Town of Liberty.)

Farmers Market

Town Manager Scott Kidd said he has been asked to waive Farmers Market fees this year to encourage vendors to come. We will vote next week in the Consent Agenda.

Committee Report

Police Department Building Committee Update - Del Pearce

Del Pearce came forward to speak. He said they have submitted a couple of packets for Council review. One of them is a steel building. They went to look at the Chatham Transit building which is similar. It is a 5,000 square foot building. The interior is broken down to usable portions. Two years ago it cost \$820,000. Based on the PD's wish list they would want a 6200 square foot building where rooms can be changed. A 5000 square foot building cost \$200,000 just the building and slab installed and that is not in writing.

Committee member Billy Judson came forward to speak. They have reached out to ten to twelve contractors but they are reluctant to give estimates. Estimates that they did receive range from \$800,000 - 2.2 million. Robinson's Welding gave an estimate of \$900,000 and \$300,000 for site work. They will plan to give a full presentation at the April meeting. Council Member JR Beard said he would like to see some options with existing buildings. They Mayor thanked them for all they have done.

Council Comments

Council Member Don Herndon said he is planning a Community clean up event Saturday April 10th and the rain date will be April 17th.

Mayor Comments

Mayor York said Sheriff Greg Seabolt will be hosting a hot dog supper this Thursday the 18th at the Fire Department for 6PM - 8PM.

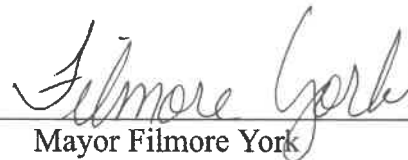
Closed Session - Legal Matter NCGS 143.318.11 (4)

Council Member Larry Coble made a motion to go into Closed Session under NCGS 143-318 11 (4). Council Member Chris Compton seconded the motion which passed unanimously with a roll call vote: Council Member Larry Coble voted yes, Council Member Don Herndon voted yes, Council Member JR Beard voted yes, and Council Member Chris Compton voted yes. The Council went into a Closed Session at 6:40PM.

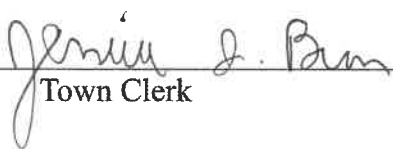
Council Member Don Herndon made a motion to come out of Closed Session at 7:40PM/ Council Member Chris Compton seconded the motion which passed unanimously with a roll call vote: Council Member Larry Coble voted yes, Council Member Don Herndon voted yes, Council Member JR Beard voted yes, and Council Member Chris Compton voted yes. The Council came out of the Closed Session.

Motion to Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, Council Member JR Beard motioned to adjourn the meeting and Council Member Larry Coble seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Council Member Larry Coble voted yes, Council Member Don Herndon 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