

Minutes of the Work Session of  
The Liberty Town Council  
Held on June 21, 2021 5:30PM

Present

Mayor: The Honorable Filmore York

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

Interim Town Manager: Scott Kidd

Town Clerk: Jessica Brown

Staff: Parks & Recreation Assistant; Logan Maness, Parks &  
Recreation; Kolby Riddle, Police Sergeants; Andre  
Murphy and William Hargrove, Fire Chief; Matt Talbott,  
Finance/HR Director; Kathy Bond, Library Director;  
Brenda Heindl Hornsby 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 there and those streaming on Facebook.

Adoption of Agenda

Council Member Chris Compton made a motion to adopt the agenda with the additions of 6.05 to New Business - Kevin Franklin with the Randolph EDC will address the Council, 6.14 AIA Water Resolution, and 6.15 Budget Amendment #46. Council Member JR Beard seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Council Members Larry Coble, Don Herndon, Tyson Nixon, JR Beard and Chris Compton voted yes and adopted the agenda with the additions.

Information

**Monthly Reports**

The Town Manager has included the monthly reports from Department Heads and can discuss any comments or questions.

Library Director Brenda Hornsby Heindl said they will be providing a “little free library” at Freedom Park, Paul Henry Park, the laundromat, and the Johnson Mobile Home Park. Former Library Director Charity Neave Johnson had applied and received a grant for a permanent Book Walk at Paul Henry Park. They had a Juneteenth event at Paul Henry

Park and had a great turnout. The porch in front of the library is now paved and they just finished putting a garden in the center. Summer Reading has kicked off.

Police Sergeant Andre Murphy said they have a full Department now.

Logan Maness with Parks and Recreation said they are still having the Farmer's Market and working to keep it looking good. They are having football and cheer registrations.

They have ten soccer teams and have repaired ruts at the Football field. They are trying to complete at least one project per week.

Public Services Director Terry Crouse said it has been a busy month for water and sewer. Last Friday a manhole cover came off and damaged two vehicles. They will be replacing the manhole. They have rented a street sweeper this week for \$3,400.00. Some workers are coming in at midnight to run it. Holly trees were taken out at the cemetery since they were way overgrown. Council Member Tyson Nixon asked if any hedge will be put back? Mr. Crouse said they can look at it once it drains properly. Council Member Nixon then asked if there are any plans for the large pine trees? Mr. Crouse said their next project is to get tree service to cut down the Oaks. He has not made plans for the pine trees yet but will look at them. Council Member Nixon asked about using Streets money since the Pines are growing under the pavement. Council Member JR Beard said there are a lot of holes Near Asheboro Street at the railroad tracks. Could we use Powell Bill funds? Mr. Crouse said any work there will have to have the railroad's cooperation. The majority of Powell bill funds will be spent on drainage issues.

Fire Chief Matt Talbott said they removed one of the rock beds at the Fire Station and thanked Public Works for their help with that. They had a \$7,000.00 bid for the Pierce fire truck and they should be picking it up July 11th.

### Administrative Reports

#### **Manager's Report**

Town Manager Scott Kidd said all point repairs for the CDBG are in place. There will be an Alternative Housing Solutions Workshop on June 25th. This is part of the CDBG requirements and it should have some very good information. He added an AIA resolution to accept funds to the agenda. Work continues downtown. They are working on new windows, awnings and pressure washing streets. They are still waiting on information from the state for the ASADRA grant. The 1990 Pierce fire truck sold for \$7,000.00 on govdeals. Hurricane Jane's has requested a road closure on Raleigh Street on July 10th. They are going to replace a manhole on Fayetteville Street that has sunk with Golden Leaf funds. Council Member Nixon asked if there were any funds left in the Downtown Grant? He said they are requesting more funds from Representative Allen Mcneill and looking at other areas.

#### **Finance Report**

Finance Director Kathy Bond gave the report. Sales and Use taxes are up eight percent. Solid waste is down three percent. ABC revenue is down three percent. She met with the new auditor and said she was very nice and educating. She will have a lot of Budget Amendments at the next meeting.

### Old Business

#### **Budget Ordinance FY 2021-2022**

This is a draft of the proposed Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

## New Business

### **Kevin Franklin - Randolph EDC (Economic Development Corporation)**

Next week there will be a Public Hearing to formally make a request for funds for the EDC the same as we have for the last three years. We have been active in working with the town for the last year. They thank the Town for their participation in a water/sewer study for the Newlin site and the EDC contributed a little over \$10,000.00 to this study. There has been a lot of activity in the past year and continues to anticipate more. Funding is critical

### **Consideration of Fee Schedule and Resolution**

This is the consideration of the Fee Schedule for the new fiscal year and resolution.

### **Public Hearing economic development appropriations**

The proposed Town of Liberty budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 includes appropriations to non-profit entities for economic development purposes unrelated to real property or business location incentives. There will be a Public Hearing at the Council Meeting June 28, 2021 5:30PM to hear comments on the subject.

### **Call for a Public Hearing - RZ - 21-1 July 28, 2021**

This is a called hearing to allow public comment for the rezoning of 605 N Asheboro Street from CU-B2 Commercial R12 Residential on Monday July 28, 2021 5:30PM.

### **Adoption of CIP's**

This is to adopt Department Heads' CIP's (Capital Improvement Plans).

### **Adoption of Water/Sewer CIP**

This is to adopt the Water/Sewer CIP (Capital Improvement Plan).

### **Appointment Patterson Cottage Committee - Les Caison III**

Les Caison III has applied for the Patterson Cottage Committee.

### **Resolution ASADRA**

This resolution affirms that the Town of Liberty does hereby accept the loan from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund offer of \$3,060,000.00.

### **Consideration and adoption of grant project budget ordinance - ASADRA**

This is a budget ordinance for the ASADRA (Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act 2019) which will be used for liberty collection system improvements relocating the Starmount Pump Station and rehabilitation of the Kinro Pump Station.

### **Resolution 2021-7 - Road Closure Fireworks**

This resolution is for the temporary road closure for the July 10th, 2021 annual fireworks display.

### **American Rescue Plan Discussion**

This is an update on American Rescue Plan funds. We should get half the funds totalling \$780,000.00 now and half later. We want to continue to look at Water/Sewer infrastructure and digital meters.

### **Property/Liability Insurance Discussion**

We asked for a quote from NCLM for Property/Liability Insurance. We currently have our employee health insurance with them. It is best practice to get additional quotes periodically. They are significantly cheaper than the current company and the staff recommends going with them for the Property/Liability Insurance as well.

### **Budget Amendment #44**

This amendment is to move funds from the General Fund Appropriated to Planning/Zoning Minimum Housing and Legal & Professional line items.

#### **Budget Amendment #45**

This amendment is to move funds from Water Capital Reserve to Water Capital Outlay Equipment to purchase a Portable Camera System.

#### **Budget Amendment #46**

This amendment is to move funds from General Fund Appropriated to Library line items. This is to cover construction and equipment needed for the improvement of the library. (Monies will be transferred from the Lowe Account into General Fund Appropriated.)

#### Citizen Comments

Del Pearce at 521 Dogwood wanted to know what had been decided about the building the Council had toured as a possible site for the Liberty PD. Mayor York said they have discussed and the Town Manager is negotiating with the owner. He also said someone had dumped a dishwasher at the Dogwood entrance of Freedom Park. Are there any plans to put a camera there? Council Member JR Beard said maybe the PD could look into this.

Michelle Ravenel of N Staley Street came forward to speak. She said the Juneteenth event at Paul Henry Park was very successful. She is concerned that the bathroom there had to be locked due to vandalism. She feels the community needs to be more mindful and vigilant. She is interested in her hometown of Liberty and what is going on in the community. She would like to present other projects to the Town at other times. She is trying to revitalize some committees.

#### Council Comments

Council Member Tyson Nixon mentioned that a customer had a leak and their water bill more than doubled. The Town Manager situations and leave a door hanger but we don't always catch it.

#### Mayor Comments

Mayor York said Liberty Elementary School will be getting a new principal this fall.

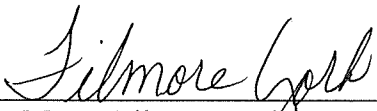
Closed Session - GS 143.318.11 (5)

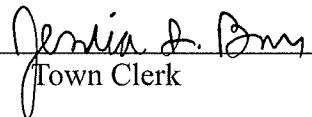
Council Member Tyson Nixon made a motion to go into Closed Session per North Carolina General Statute 143.318.11 (5). Council Member Larry Coble seconded the motion which passed unanimously with Council Members Larry Coble, Chris Compton, Don Herndon, JR Beard and Tyson Nixon voting yes. The Town Council went into Closed Session at 6:55PM.

Council Member JR Beard made a motion to come out of Closed Session at 7:12 PM. Council Member Tyson Nixon seconded the motion which passed unanimously with Council Members Chris Compton, Larry Coble, Don Herndon, JR Beard, and Tyson Nixon voting yes. The Town Council came out of Closed Session at 7:12PM.

Motion to Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, Council Member Tyson Nixon 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 Tyson Nixon, Council Member JR Beard and Council Member Chris Compton voted yes. The meeting was adjourned.

  
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Mayor Filmore York

ATTEST:   
Town Clerk

