

Minutes of the Work Session of
The Liberty Town Council
Held on April 18, 2022 5:30 PM

Present

Mayor: The Honorable Filmore York

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

Town Manager: Scott Kidd

Town Clerk: Jessica Brown

Staff: Police Sergeant; Andre Murphy, Safety Director; Bret
Pedigo, Library Director; Brenda Heindl Hornsby,
Public Works Director; Joseph Walsh, Finance Director;
Kathy Bond, and Parks and Recreation Director; Logan
Maness

Town Attorney; Bill Flowe

To Order

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and welcomed everyone in attendance and those watching on Facebook.

Adoption of Agenda

Council Member Don Herndon made a motion to adopt the agenda.. Council Member Terry Caviness seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Council Members Larry Coble, Don Herndon, JR Beard, Tyson Nixon and Terry Caviness voted yes and adopted the agenda.

Budget Appropriation Requests

Experience Liberty

Chair of Experience Liberty Billy Hardin came forward to speak. He said he appreciates Bret coming to their meetings. He would like to see employees assigned to Experience Liberty and a better website with more up to date information on events.. He suggested tourism handouts that could include information about the Antiques Festival. They do try to spend money wisely and have the downtown squared away. Now we need to get people to come. Council Member Terry Caviness asked about a new website and the Town Manager said we are working on getting the costs of that together. Mr. Hardin asked about the Beer Garden at the Spring Festival. and the Town Manager said there are a lot of regulations and it may not happen at the April 30th Festival. Mr. Hardin said we have had before using Four Saints Brewery and Chris Compton said they could use his parking lot.

Randolph EDC

Kevin Franklin with the Randolph EDC (Economic Development Corporation) came forward to speak. He appreciates long term support of their organization. Efforts are paying off. They have always previously asked for six thousand dollars. There is a lot of activity right now and still continue to work on retention of industry. They are asking for ten percent to be added which would make the total \$6,600.00.

Mayor York mentioned that the EDC meeting will be here in the Council Chambers on April 26th.

Liberty Arts Guild

Sandra Martin with the Liberty Arts Guild came forward to speak. They have applied for the appropriation of \$18,380.00. They would like to establish a permanent site. There is a cover letter attached with more details. They have been meeting at the First Methodist Church but art can be messy and there are some things they cannot do at the church. Getting their name out has been their main focus. Council Member Larry Coble asked if they have any other sources of income. Ms Martin said they do plan to fundraise. Council Member Don Herndon said he went to their exhibit at the Arts Incubator in Siler City and it was very good.

Liberty Chamber

Travis Kivett with the Liberty Chamber came forward to speak. With the new Toyota plant there is a lot of growth and retail development. They work with grand opening for new businesses, after hours, and the Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting and assist with the Celebrate Liberty Festival. They plan to have Business Leader Development classes. They are looking at a digital marketing program called Chamber Master that has a digital calendar that anyone can add to. The Asheboro Chamber uses and recommends it. Town Manager Scott Kidd is the liaison between the Chamber and the Board. The Town needs the Chamber as much as they need the Town. He has also placed Parks and Recreation Coordinator Logan Maness on the Chamber as well so it can be a joint effort moving forward. Mr. Kivett thanked Scott for meeting with them. They are requesting \$5,000.00.

Information

Monthly Reports

The Town Manager has included the monthly reports from Department Heads and can discuss any comments or questions. Public Works Director Joe Walsh said the Water Department has had a lot of broken meters and setters to repair and are billing the homeowners. Greg Hanyok has worked his last day at the Sewer plant and is retiring. The Streets Department has been repairing the gravel roads at Dameron. It would be \$6,000.00 to pave a single lane but the money would have to come from the General Fund instead of Powell Bill. Some homeowners may be upset with encroachment. Council Member Larry Coble said we should pave and do it right. Council Member JR Beard said it would make it easier for emergency vehicles. Mr. Walsh said he will proceed with the surveying. He has given the Council a handout about mowing Right of Ways. They will be taking over the interchanges at Old Liberty and 421. It will be about twenty acres a month. They will be reimbursed and are working on the figures.. They are done with leaf season and all must be bagged now. Michael Morris will be working on getting the truck cleaned up and maintained to prolong its life. The Fire Department had nothing to add. Mayor York said they had hosted a dental clinic there which helped twenty people.

Library Director Brenda Heindl said they had installed a story walk at Freedom Park but it has already been vandalized. She had five panels hit with rocks and the plexiglass was damaged.

Parks and Recreation Director Logan Maness said they have applied for a Kabota grant of \$100,000.00 which they would like to use to help with fencing and upgrades at Paul Henry Park. Mayor York said the Eagle Scout did a great job with the signs at Freedom Park. Council Member JR Beard suggested inviting the Eagle Scouts that have helped with Town projects to be recognized at a Board meeting.

Administrative Reports

Manager's Report

Town Manager Scott Kidd gave a report. He spoke at the State Water Infrastructure Authority and gave an update on grants. The CDBG performed our last monitoring visit. They have looked over maps and digitized them for the AIA Grant. We have two and a half years to spend the money from the LWCF grant. They have put out an RFQ for an engineering firm. There is an Ethics course online for elected officials on May 26th and the Council consensus was to go ahead and register and they can watch together in the Council Chambers.

Finance Report

Finance Director Kathy Bond gave the report. Sales and Use tax is up nineteen percent. Utilities revenues are up two percent. DMV NE Fire tax is down twenty seven percent. Property tax revenues are up sixty percent.

New Business

Resolution Road Closure Hurricane Jane's Breast Cancer Benefit

This resolution is for the temporary road closure at W Raleigh Avenue for Saturday June 4, 2022 Breast Cancer Benefit at Hurricane Jane's from 10:30 AM -11:00 PM.

Mayoral Proclamation - National Day of Prayer - May 5, 2022

The Mayor is proclaiming Thursday may 5, 2022 as a "Day of Prayer."

Budget Amendment #21

This amendment is to move funds from the Enterprise Fund Appr to the Sewer Department for NCDEQ Clean Water payment that was not budgeted. The Town borrowed money in 2009 and it was an oversight that it was not included in the budget.

Budget Amendment #22

This amendment is to move funds from the revenue Library Donation line item to expenditure line for books for books and programs. (Junior Library Guild Invoice Earmarked).

Resolution Surplus property PD Caprice

This resolution declared the Police Department's 2014 Chevrolet Caprice as Surplus property and eligible to sell on Ebay or GovDeals.

Committee Reports

ABC Board Update - Douglas Hardin

ABC Board Chair Douglas Hardin said he had six months to go over. Profits are up since last year. December was the best month they had ever had. January was down but they had closed the showroom for remodeling. Their cameras help apprehend a thief and someone using stolen credit cards. They have new industrial shelves in the back. They are

working on getting new items. He wants them to hit \$200,000.00 in sales. They have new floors and new counters. He would like to repave the parking lot.

Citizen Comments

Sandra Martin of the Liberty Arts Guild said the new set up in the Council Chambers looks very nice.

Council Comments

Council Member Tyson Nixon asked why we were not having a Beer Garden at the Festival. Town Manager Scott Kidd said it was just a little late to get in place with just two weeks notice. Council Member JR Beard said he went to a program on Gaming establishments by Chris Poole and it was very informative. He talked about related ordinances that have helped other places.

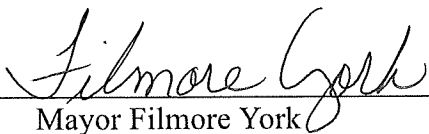
Closed Session NCGS 143.318.11 (5) and NCGS 143.318.11 (6)

Council Member Tyson Nixon made a motion to go into Closed Session per NCGS 143.318.11 (5) and (6). Council Member Larry Coble seconded the motion which passed unanimously with Council Members: Terry Caviness, Larry Coble, Don Herndon, JR Beard, and Tyson Nixon voting yes. The Liberty Town Council went into Closed Session at 6:50 PM.

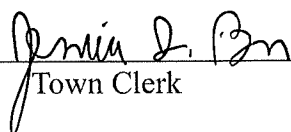
Council Member Tyson Nixon made a motion to come out of Closed Session. Council Member Don Herndon seconded the motion which passed unanimously with Council Members: Terry Caviness, Larry Coble, Don Herndon, JR Beard and Tyson Nixon voting yes. The Liberty Town Council came out of Closed Session at 7:40 PM.

Motion to Adjourn

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



Mayor Filmore York

ATTEST: 

Town Clerk