

Minutes of the Work Session of
The Liberty Town Council
Held on November 21, 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 Chief; David Semrad, Finance Director; Kathy Bond, Safety Director; Bret Pedigo, Library Director; Brenda Heindl, NC Fellow; Brice Dalke, Parks and Recreation Director; Logan Maness, and Public Works Director; Joseph Walsh
- Town Attorney; Bill Flowe

To Order

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

Adoption of Agenda

Council Member Don Herndon made a motion to adopt the agenda with the addition of 7.1 ABC Board Report. Council Member Tyson Nixon seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Council Members Larry Coble, Don Herndon and Terry Caviness, JR Beard and Tyson Nixon voted yes and adopted the agenda with the addition.

Information

Monthly Reports

Public Works Director Joseph Walsh said they have been doing a lot of jetting of mains and have had issues with a water main break in front of Depot Street. They added an extra position to concentrate on doing repairs and taps. One route has been read with the new meters while five were hand read. Council Member Beard said we will want to warn people of changes in the bills with the new meters.

Library Director Brenda Heindl said she has received an award for the Summer grant program. They have a new book walk at Paul Henry and they will be updating with a new book every two months. They have permission to put a little free library box at the new laundromat.

Police Chief Semrad said he had nothing to add. Mayor York said they had a very nice letter from Ramseur thanking them for aid on an investigation of a homicide of a young

child. Hubert Elder and Luke Scala tied for Officer of the Year. Officer Elder will lead the Christmas Parade and Officer Scala will go to the Legion Dinner. Fire Chief Matt Talbott could not be at the meeting but he wanted Bret Pedigo to let Council know they have applied for several grants including a federal grant to help pay for new radios.

Administrative

Manager’s Report

Town Manager Scott Kidd gave the report. He had a four hour discussion with Withers Ravenel about our two AIA grants. They discussed a hydraulic model and looked at CIP’s. It puts Liberty in a very good position. The PTRC came to the Planning Board Meeting. We had training on our new website today and it should be up and running by January 1st.

New Business

Council Meeting Schedule 2023

This is the schedule for 2023 Council Meetings.

Holiday Schedule 2023

This is to adopt the holiday schedules for 2023.

Budget Retreat Discussion

This is to consider possible dates for the Budget Retreat. A tentative schedule is: Thursday March 9, 2023 9 AM - 12 PM for Department Heads’ updates and CIP’s, Tuesday March 14, 2023 9 AM - 2 PM - General Fund and Pay discussion, and Wednesday March 15, 2023 9 AM -1PM - Enterprise Fund discussion. Town Manager Scott Kidd said he is also considering possibly doing a day or two outside of Town Hall. He feels like it is too much information to pack into one day. He will come back to Council later with the full Budget Calendar.

Fireworks

This is to discuss the quote for fireworks from the company we used this year (Virginia) and if we want to stay with them or get quotes from other companies. They only raised their transportation fee slightly.

Park Improvements - ARPA Allocation Discussion

This is to discuss suggested allocation of ARPA funds which includes Park Improvements at Freedom Park and Paul Henry. The first round of funds have been used for salaries, digital meters, and our NC Fellow. The Town Manager said we can look at park improvements as well. We could add another tennis court at Freedom and repave the parking lot and add to the playground, repave parking lot at Paul Henry and add sunshades at both. We will need to spend the other miscellaneous amount by 2026 and we need to decide what to spend it on. Council Member Larry Coble said the Fire Department will have to get new radios and to look at adding to their CIP’s to help offset that expense.

Reappointment Marty Bare Planning Board/Board of Adjustment

Marty Bare has agreed to serve another three year term on the Planning Board/Board of Adjustment expiring October 2025. He currently serves as Vice Chair on these Boards.

**Public Hearing RZ-22-3 S. Moore - 6853 NC Highway 49 North - Monday
November 28, 2022 5:30 PM**

There will be an advertised legislative public hearing in relation to a rezoning of a property from R12 Residential to RMF Mulit-Family residential Monday November 28,

2022 5:30 PM at the regular Council Meeting. The Planning Board requested additional information from this applicant and will not meet again until December 14, 2022 so the public Hearing will be continued until the January Council Meeting.

Budget Amendment # 5

This amendment is to move funds from General Fund Appr to Street line items. The monies are fo Invoice # 2848403 Santander - Vacuum Truck to be paid by 11/25/2022. Monies were moved from Salaries to Capital Outlay equipment to pay this. This was not a budgeted item and we may look at adding into ARPA funds.

Budget Amendment # 6

This amendment is to move funds from Misc Revenue to Police Insurance Disbursement. (to pay High Tech Collision Inc Invoice # B6355874) 2017 Chevy Caprice Police Patrol Vehicle.

Budget Amendment # 7

This amendment is to move funds from general fund Appr Adm Bond/Insurance to pay for Insurance Deductible for the High Tech Collision Invoice #B355874 and insurance payment (Ref#BA#6). This is the best way to handle claims. The insurance pays directly and we pay the deductible.

Committee Report

ABC Board Report - Douglas Hardin

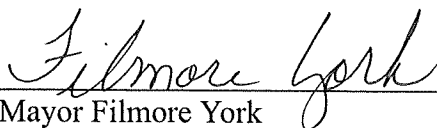
ABC Board Chair Douglas Hardin came forward to give a report. He was unable to be here last month and handed out some copies of the ABC Store’s audit book. He said 2021/2022 has been a good year. The store exceeded budgeted sales from the prior year. Distribution is up 7.4% from last year. Mixed beverage sales are up 35%. The store started in 1978 and has paid out to the Town for the last forty four years. The remodel for shelving and lighting has been approved and he passed out pictures. They may sell the old shelving at a discounted price. Lighting will now be LED. The shelving will be on February 26th. They are looking to repave the parking lot.

Mayor Comments

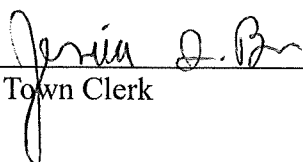
Mayor York reminded everyone they are invited to Hayden Parker’s Eagle Scout ceremony at Mr. Pleasant Church on Sunday at 2 PM. He hopes everyone has a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving.

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 Tyson Nixon voted yes, Council Member JR Beard voted yes, and Council Member Terry Caviness voted yes. The meeting was adjourned.



Mayor Filmore York

ATTEST: 

Town Clerk

