

Minutes of the Work Session of  
The Liberty Town Council  
Held on June 10, 2024 5:30 PM

Present

Mayor: The Honorable Filmore York

Council: Terry Caviness, Larry Coble, Don Herndon, and Greg Carpenter

Town Manager: Scott Kidd

Town Clerk: Jessica Brown

Staff: Police Sergeant; Hubert Elder, Public Works Director; Joseph Walsh, Finance Director; Kathy Bond, Library Director; Brenda Heindl, Assistant Town Manager; Janie Phelps, Interim Parks & Recreation Director; Kolby McPherson, and Safety Director; Bret Pedigo

Town Attorney; Bill Flowe

To Order

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and welcomed everyone and those watching on Facebook. He said Council Member Tyson Nixon was not here.

Adoption of Agenda

Council Member Don Herndon made a motion to adopt the agenda with the addition of a Closed Session per NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (6) at number eleven. Council Member Terry Caviness seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Council Members Larry Coble, Terry Caviness, Don Herndon, and Greg Carpenter voted yes and adopted the agenda with the addition.

Information

**Monthly Reports**

Each Department's Monthly Reports are included for review. Fire Chief Matt Talbott was at a County meeting so Bret Pedigo gave the report. The Fire Department recorded a CPR save of a citizen suffering a cardiac arrest. A-shift, along with Deputy Chief Jason Phillips, were able to perform life-saving efforts resulting in the revival of a patient, who was then transported via EMS. Mayor York commended them for saving a life. Bret Pedigo also gave the Safety Report. Along with Fire Chief Talbott he is monitoring the introduction and review of new OSHA health and safety requirements for firefighters and fire departments. The new rules will directly impact the Liberty Fire Department. Public Works Director Joseph Walsh said two of his employees went to help with locating a

leaking service line leak in Franklinville. They were very pleased and grateful. Park and Rec Director Kolby Mcpherson is preparing for the Celebrate Liberty Festival in July. There will be an addition of a hot dog eating contest this year. The Library was awarded the Large Business of the Year from the Liberty Chamber of Commerce.

### New Business

#### **Public Hearing - Budget 2024-2025**

This is a called hearing to allow public comment for the FY 2024-2025 Budget at the Council Meeting on June 17, 2024 5:30 PM. A sign in sheet will be available and Public Comment Rules will apply.

#### **Public Hearing - Budget Appropriations FY 2024/2025 June 17, 2024 5:30 PM**

This is an advertised Public Hearing for requested budget appropriations to the non profit entities listed for economic development purposes unrelated to real property or business location incentives: \$6,600 to Randolph County Economic Development Corporation, \$4,776 to the Liberty Chamber of Commerce, and \$26,122 to Randolph Senior Adults Association, Inc. There will be a sign in sheet for interested parties who wish to speak at that time.

#### **Public Hearing - Zoning Text Amendments - Remove FAR (floor to area ratio) Requirement, add language to allow conditional zoning for zoning districts, and specify regulations for accessory dwellings June 17, 2024 5:30 PM**

This is an advertised public hearing on proposed Zoning text amendments to remove FAR (floor to area ratio) requirements, add language to allow conditional zoning for zoning districts and specify regulations for accessory dwellings June 17, 2024 5:30 PM June 17, 2024 5:30 PM. Interested parties may speak at this time. Assistant Town Manager Janie Phelps said FAR is typically done in larger cities because they don't have the land. Conditional zoning will allow us to have a better understanding of what is going on at a location and we can make it as specific as we want. Town Manager Scott Kidd said if they want to sell that property they would have to come back. It goes with the land and not the ownership. Accessory dwellings will assist with more affordable housing.

#### **Public Hearing Zoning Text Amendments - Public Nuisance June 17, 2024 5:30 PM**

This is an advertised Public Hearing and there will be a sign in sheet for those who wish to speak on this matter. These are proposed text amendments for public nuisance. Since this is a matter of public safety and not found anywhere else in our ordinance, public safety regulations only need to go through Council. Janie Phelps said the new code enforcement company assisted with looking at the language and making recommendations.

#### **Road Closure Request - July Festival and Fireworks**

This resolution is for the temporary road closure for the Saturday July 13th, 2024 annual festival and fireworks display.

#### **Budget Ordinance FY 2024-2025**

This is a draft of the proposed Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. Town Manager Scott Kidd gave a breakdown per department with the \$.64 tax.

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

This is the consideration of the Fee Schedule and approval of the Resolution to adopt it. The Town Manager said there were not many changes. There were additions to Planning and Zoning to cover staffing and rental fees for the dump truck went up. There were no changes to water/sewer rates.

### **Budget Amendment #24 - Fire Department**

This amendment is to move funds from multiple departments to the Fire Department Salary, FICA and Hospital insurance line item. The Town Manager said they are pulling this from other departments that have excess funds,

#### Manager's Report

Town Manager Scott Kidd gave the report. There will be district meetings about water. Randolph County Schools are looking at three or four properties to possibly build a new school on.

#### Citizen Comments

Town Attorney Bill Flowe read Public Comment rules. Pamela Ingool of 463 E Raleigh Avenue came forward to speak. She is concerned about the rise of property taxes and that have collected less so far in 2023 than in 2022. Some lots have gone up three hundred percent. She did appeal hers and did receive some reduction but she thinks Liberty has had enough of high values and rates and some of her neighbors have left.

#### Mayor Comments

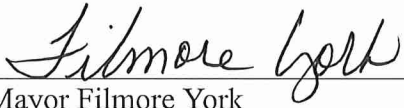
Mayor York said summer is here and to please be safe.

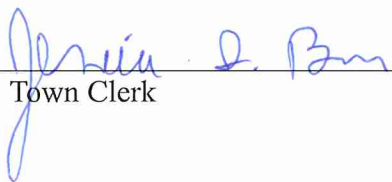
#### Closed Session per GS 143 - 318.11 (a) (6)

Council Member Larry Coble made a motion to go into Closed Session per General Statute 143 - 318.11 (a) (6). Council Member Don Herndon seconded the motion which passed unanimously with Council Members: Larry Coble, Terry Caviness, Don Herndon, and Greg Carpenter voting yes. The Town Council went into Closed Session 6:20 PM. With no further business to discuss in Closed, Council Member Terry Caviness made a motion to come out of Closed Session. Council Member Larry Coble seconded the motion with Council Members: Larry Coble, Terry Caviness, Don Herndon, and Greg Carpenter voting yes. The Council came out of Closed Session at 6:46 PM.

Motion to Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, Council Member Don Hernson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Council Member Greg Carpenter seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Council Member Larry Coble voted yes, Council Member Terry Caviness voted yes, Council Member Don Herndon voted yes, and Council Member Greg Carpenter voted yes. The meeting was adjourned.

  
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Mayor Filmore York

ATTEST:   
Town Clerk