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Minutes of the Work Session of  
The Liberty Town Council  
Held on September 16, 2024 5:30 PM

Present

Mayor: The Honorable Filmore York

Council: Terry Caviness, Larry Coble, and Tyson Nixon

Town Manager: Scott Kidd

Town Clerk: Jessica Brown

Staff: Public Works; Joseph Walsh, Library Director; Brenda Heindl, Assistant Town Manager; Janie Phelps, Safety Director; Bret Pedigo and Police Chief; David Semrad

Town Attorney; Robert Giles II

To Order

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and welcomed everyone and those watching on Facebook. Council Members Don Herndon and Greg Carpenter are unable to be here but we do have enough for a quorum.

Adoption of Agenda

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

Rose Garden Club Proposal - Farmer's Market

Ed Lee came to the front to talk about the beautification of the area between Veterans' Memorial Park and the Farmer's Market. They are looking for a permanent fix to the drainage problem. They negotiated with Carolina Water for a discount on the pipe. He feels this is a better way than to keep doing maintenance. The grant the Rose Garden received was for \$3,000. The total estimated cost to repair \$23,156.76. This includes taxes. Public Works Director Joseph Walsh said the labor and equipment they put in will be at no cost. Town Manager Scott Kidd said the \$3000 would cover mulch, dirt, and flowers. The additional funds are for a pipe and to build up the ditch with riff raff rocks. Mr. Walsh said the key is proper maintenance no matter which route is decided. Council Member Nixon said he does not like the way riff raff looks. Mr. Walsh said it would act as a catch basin. The Town Manager said there would have to be a Budget Amendment for money to come out of the General Fund. He can pull some revenue projections together and have a better idea next week.

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### Monthly Reports

Council Member Larry Coble said looking at the PD report, vehicle maintenance is costing more and more and we might need to look at the position for maintenance again. Scott Kidd said we have a new hire in Streets who starts in October and he has some experience in this. We also have a Full Time person in the Fire Department that has some experience. There is a national referee shortage for Parks and Recreation.

### New Business

#### **Certification of Annexation Petition for RCC**

This is a petition requesting annexation for 5269 Hwy 49 N, Liberty NC 27298. There is a letter for the Town Clerk certifying that request.

#### **Public Hearing Annexation Request RCC (Randolph Community College)**

**September 23, 2024 5:30 PM**

This is an advertised legislative public hearing request by applicant Richard Weldon on behalf of Randolph Community College, for a voluntary annexation of parcels 8725963334 and 8725958598, approximately 21.963 acres located at 5269 NC HWY 49N, Liberty, NC 27298. The Town Council will be meeting September 23, 2024 5:30PM to discuss and hold a public hearing. There will be a sign in sheet for anyone who wishes to speak on this matter.

#### **Road Closure Request - Homecoming Parade Providence Grove**

This is a road closure request/resolution for the temporary road closing Friday November 1, 2024 for the Providence Grove Homecoming Parade. The updated map is included. They will start at the State Employees Credit Union and just past the gas station end at W Starmount Avenue (turning left off of N. Greensboro Street going towards Liberty School.)

#### **Road Closure Request - Fit for Liberty Event**

This is a road closure request/resolution for the temporary road closing Saturday November 23, 2024. A map is attached and follows the same layout as our other downtown festivals.

#### **Road Closure Request - The Kingdom**

This is a road closure request/resolution for the temporary road closing Saturday October 26, 2024. This is downtown and a map is included.

Council Member Larry Coble said he has concerns about this affecting the other downtown businesses.

#### **Budget Amendment # 6 - Library**

This amendment is to move funds from the General Fund Appropriation to the Library Department expenditures line item to pay Pulse Designs Invoice. This invoice was paid in June 2024, however the company never received the payment. The payment was voided and a stop payment was issued.

#### **AIA Grant Application**

This resolution states the Town of Liberty has need for and intends to construct, plan for or conduct a study in a project described as the Liberty Water AIA Project and the Liberty Sewer AIA Project and intends to request State loan and/or grant assistance for this project. This will provide data for our future development and it gives Withersravenel funds to complete the application.

#### **Recommendation for RFQ for the Library Expansion**

This is the recommendation for the firm that will perform the preliminary design for the Library expansion. The letter of recommendation is attached. The selection committee

was made up of Town Manager Scott Kidd, Assistant Town Manager Janie Phelps and Library Director Brenda Heindl. The committee recommends HBM Architecture and Interior Design.

#### Manager's Report

Town Manager Scott Kidd gave a report. We started the application for the LWCF grant in 2019 and continue to move forward at Freedom Park. It has taken more time due to COVID and inflation. Assistant Town Manager Janie Phelps gave some legislative updates as they relate to zoning. She is working on updating the website and a digital permitting system. EHC Builders has started clearing for the townhomes.

#### Committee Reports

##### **ABC Board Update - Chris Compton**

ABC Board Chair Chris Compton came forward to give the quarterly update. Sales are up and they are projecting more profit than last year. They have a great accountant who realized the company they were using was not sending the reports they needed for the ABC Commission and it is now straightened out. They will have a new sign the first of October. They are in the process of building a new loading dock in the back.

#### Closed Session NCGS 143-318.11

Council Member Tyson Nixon made a motion to go into Closed Session per NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (6). Council Member Terry Caviness seconded the motion which passed unanimously with Council Members Larry Coble, Terry Caviness, and Tyson Nixon voting to go into Closed Session. The Liberty Town Council went into Closed Session at 6:45 PM.

Council Member Tyson Nixon made a motion to come out of Closed Session. Council Member Larry Coble seconded the motion which passed unanimously with Council Members: Larry Coble, Terry Caviness, and Tyson Nixon voting yes. The Council came out of Closed Session at 7:15 PM.

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Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss Council Member Tyson Nixon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Terry Caviness seconded the motion which passed unanimously with Council Members: Larry Coble, Terry Caviness, and Tyson Nixon voting yes. The meeting was adjourned.

*Filmore York*

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Mayor Filmore York

ATTEST:

*Jerina J. Brun*  
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Town Clerk