

TOWN OF COATS
Board of Commissioners
June 11, 2020
OFFICIAL MINUTES

I. ABSTRACT:

A scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners held on June 11, 2020 in the Board of Commissioners' Meeting Room at Coats Town Hall. The Board exercised social distancing, with five Board members, Town Attorney Alton Bain, Town Manager Nick Holcomb and Town Clerk Karen Wooten.

II. ROLL CALL:

Mayor Chris Coats, Mayor Pro-Tem Jerry Beasley, Commissioner Kelvin Gilbert, Commissioner Allen Mosby and Commissioner Marc Powell were present.

Commissioner John Raynor was absent.

Attorney Alton Bain was present.

III. CALL TO ORDER:

A quorum being present, Mayor Coats called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Coats delivered the invocation and led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

RESOLVED, to approve Agenda.

**MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER ALLEN MOSBY: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER MARC POWELL
APPROVED, AYES (4), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, GILBERT AND MOSBY
NOES (0)**

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

RESOLVED, to approve Consent Agenda.

**MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER KELVIN GILBERT: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER ALLEN MOSBY
APPROVED, AYES (4), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, GILBERT AND MOSBY
NOES (0)**

V. EVIDENTIARY HEARING – CONDITIONAL USE:

Mayor Coats opened Evidentiary Hearing. **(Reference #1)**

Nick Holcomb Town Manager informed the Board of the recommendation from the Planning Board to approve a conditional use permit to allow for a Customary Home Occupation business for Dawn Champion-Arnold to operate a dog kennel. Dawn Champion-Arnold was not present for the hearing. **(Reference #2)**

Christy Ross, 930 S. Lincoln Street, Coats, NC – Inquired if the permit would change the Zoning District

Nick Holcomb Town Manager replied that this does not affect Zoning.

Jimmy Lee, 2482 Oak Grove Church Rd, Angier, NC – Expressed concerns about the noise and not wanting to hear it.

Commissioner Gilbert commented that the kennel doors would close at night.

Brian Turlington, 1117 S. Lincoln Street, Coats, NC – Questioned what standards would be put into place to insure the safety of the horses and other animals in the area?

Nick Holcomb Town Manager stated that the dog runs would all be in a fenced area.

Brian Turlington inquired to the actual location of the kennels, what actions to insure no more than 10 runs and expressed concerns about the security of the dogs.

Mayor Pro-Tem Jerry Beasley questioned if the individual requesting the permit knew about the meeting tonight.

Nick Holcomb Town Manager stated that he had spoken to Mrs. Arnold on Friday after the Planning Board meeting and communicated with her to be at the Council meeting.

Commissioner Powell questioned who would be attending to the dogs 24/7.

Nick Holcomb Town Manager replied that Mrs. Arnold's college son would be living on the property.

Christy Ross expressed concerns as to the actual location of the kennels.

Brian Turlington expressed concerns with a college student having the responsibility to care for the dogs and who would be taking care of the dogs during the day.

Nick Holcomb Town Manager explained that the applicant had to meet seven (7) conditions/provisions, listed in Zoning Section 3.3. Mr. Holcomb stated that there had been no evidence presented tonight, however all comments were understandable. Mr. Holcomb felt the provision number two (2) could be a concern but is not evidence.

2. The requested use will not impair the integrity or character of the surrounding or adjoining districts, nor be detrimental to the health, morals or welfare.

RESOLVED, to move forward with the meeting due to the applicant not being present to answer questions.

Mayor Pro-Tem Jerry Beasley stated that if the applicant wanted a conditional use permit they should have showed up for the meeting and stated to move on with meeting.

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER ALLEN MOSBY: SECOND BY: MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY APPROVED, AYES (4), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, GILBERT AND MOSBY

NOES (0)

VI. PUBLIC HEARING – FY 20-21 BUDGET:

Mayor Coats opened Public Hearing and hearing no one closed Public Hearing.

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Option to Approve FY 20-21 Budget

Nick Holcomb Town Manager presented the 20-21 proposed Budget and stated that he had spoken to each Board member informing them that this is a tight budget with the unsure issues of the sales tax and water payments data. Mr. Holcomb asked that the Board revisit this budget in December with current data to address; (**Reference #3**)

1. Salary increase for employees
2. Increase funds for demolition
3. Improving flooring, signage, parking area

Mayor Pro-Tem Jerry Beasley stated that this was a good budget, however some things he did not agree totally with but wanted to revisit this budget in December's meeting.

RESOLVED, to adopt Fiscal Year 20-21 Budget.

**MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER MARC POWELL: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER ALLEN MOSBY
APPROVED, AYES (4), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, GILBERT AND MOSBY
NOES (0)**

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Conditional Use – Lincoln Street

Mayor Coats asked the Board if there were any questions or concerns pertaining to the evidentiary hearing concerning the Conditional Use permit.

Mayor Pro-Tem Jerry Beasley stated that the Board had heard some good issues to consider and that if Mrs. Arnold wanted a permit she should have been at this meeting.

Commissioner Allen Mosby stated that he agreed with Mayor Pro-Tem Jerry Beasley and felt that there were questions that needed answering from the applicant and the Planning Board concerning no conditions recommended.

Commissioner Kelvin Gilbert stated that the applicant might not have known the importance of being at this meeting. Commissioner Gilbert informed the Board that he was at the Planning Board meeting and with the recommendation to the Board Ms. Arnold might have felt there was no need to be at the Council meeting. Commissioner Gilbert stated that he would like to inform Ms. Arnold the importance of being here before the Board and if she did not show up then we could make a decision that she might not feel comfortable about.

RESOLVED, to deny Conditional Use permit.

MOTION BY: MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER MARC POWELL APPROVED, AYES (3), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL AND MOSBY NOES (1), COMMISSIONER GILBERT

B. Amendment to Personnel Policy

Nick Holcomb Town Manager presented an amendment to the Town's Personnel Policy, which would allow for implementation of N.C. General Statute 143-166.142 Lump Sum payment for qualifying police officers. Mr. Holcomb informed the Board that the amendment related to the Separation Allowance for qualifying Police Officers that meet certain requirements, but do not qualify for the mandatory state separation allowance. Mr. Holcomb informed the Board that the Attorneys with the North Carolina League recommended this amendment. (Reference #4)

RESOLVED, to Amend Personnel Policy adding Discretionary Lump Sum Separation Payouts.

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER MARC POWELL: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER ALLEN MOSBY APPROVED, AYES (4), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, GILBERT AND MOSBY NOES (0)

C. Cemetery Plots

Nick Holcomb Town Manager presented two (2) Cemetery Plots for approval to purchase from Russell Akerman. C Section Plots 469 and 470. (Reference #5)

RESOLVED, to approve plots C-469 and C- 470 purchased by Russell Akerman.

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER ALLEN MOSBY: SECOND BY: MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY APPROVED, AYES (4), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, GILBERT AND MOSBY NOES (0)

IX. MANAGER'S UPDATE:

Nick Holcomb Town Manager updated the Board on items listed;

- A. Abattoir Rd. Water Line – waiting on Bacteria samples – Harnett County decision to not require the back flow, saving Nine Thousand Dollars (\$9,000)
- B. Carrie St. Water Tank – Duke Energy cost of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to temporary relocate utility lines. Work to begin on the Tank around September/October. Mr. Holcomb asked the Board to consider a Logo/Branding on the Water Tower, which would need to be address within two months.
- C. Parking Area – Chamber received a portable stage from Campbell University. No need to plan to build permanent stage.
- D. Governor Cooper's extended Executive order 124/ 142 through July 30th
- E. Variance request for 110 Railroad Street – Board of Adjustment meeting set for July 2, 2020 at 6:30
- F. Permit issued to Dr. Dixon on property at 458 S. Railroad Street.

Mike Collins Recreation Director thanked the Board for passing the 2020/2021 budget. Mr. Collins updated the Board of park improvements of painting, landscaping, new fencing, video cameras, marking of parking lot lines and removal of the bars from doors and windows. Co-ed softball begins end of June with 200 participants.

Implementing all safety and restrictions guidelines. Plans to have a recreation committee meeting and have the committee walk the park for suggestions to improve the park.

Rodney Pleasant Public Works Director presented his report for the month of May and commented on the increase of tonnage from earlier months. Mr. Pleasant shared with the Board how well the Abattoir Road water lines has worked out, hoping to have the connection on Monday/Tuesday of next week depending on the weather. **(Reference #6)**

X. PUBLIC FORUM:

Mayor Coats opened Public Forum.

Sandra Butler, 56 S. McKinley Street, Coats, NC - Asked for assistance with Waste Management to obtain a storage bin. Ms. Butler thanked the Board for the march that was peaceful.

Mayor Coats closed Public Forum.

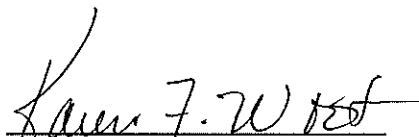
Commissioner Gilbert shared with the Board of his love for the Town and shared they he contacted Nick Holcomb Town Manager concerning the march held on Sunday and hoped that all the Commissioners were contacted with the information. Commissioner Gilbert informed the Board there were communications with the Police Department and challenged the Commissioners to be involved with all activities in the Town. Commissioner Gilbert expressed his appreciation to the Town and that there were no incidents during the march.

XI. ADJOURN:

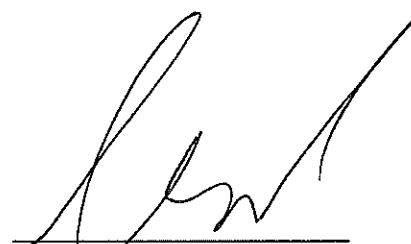
RESOLVED, to adjourn meeting.

**MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER ALLEN MOSBY: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER MARC POWELL
APPROVED, AYES (4), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, GILBERT AND MOSBY
NOES (0)**

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.



Karen F. Wooten, Town Clerk



Chris Coats, Mayor