

TOWN OF COATS
Board of Commissioners
July 9, 2020
OFFICIAL MINUTES

I. ABSTRACT:

A scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners held on July 9, 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 John Raynor and Commissioner Marc Powell were present.

Commissioner Allen Mosby 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 JOHN RAYNOR: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER MARC POWELL
APPROVED, AYES (4), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, GILBERT AND RAYNOR
NOES (0)**

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

RESOLVED, to approve Consent Agenda.

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

V. OLD BUSINESS:

No Old Business

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Code Enforcement Agreement – N-Focus

Nick Holcomb Town Manager presented an agreement with N-Focus for approval with funds included in the 2020/2021 budget. Mr. Holcomb informed the Board that Code Enforcement and Minimum Housing requires most of the attention from the Town. Mr. Holcomb stated that with the assistance from N-Focus, the Town would begin addressing minimum housing issues with ten (10) worse properties and N-Focus will be preparing monthly reports with status updates.(Reference #1)

Mayor Coats questioned if N-Focus would be working here on site for the Town, which Mr. Holcomb stated they would be here to build the case file only.

Commissioner Gilbert inquired about what enforcement authority they would have and how the selection would work. Mr. Holcomb replied that the Board would have to approve any actions and asked the Board to assist with properties they know need attention.

RESOLVED, to approve Agreement with N-Focus.

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

B. Computer Services Agreement – Harnett IT

Nick Holcomb Town Manager presented the Computer Support Service Agreement for approval. Mr. Holcomb stated that the service with our phones and IT support from the County has been a positive decision. (Reference #2)

RESOLVED, to approve Computer Services Agreement with Harnett County IT.

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

C. Online Convenience Fee

Nick Holcomb Town Manager informed the Board that Utility On-Line Payment is now available for our customers. Mr. Holcomb stated that several customers have already used the on-line bill pay. Mr. Holcomb asked approval to update the Town's Fee Schedule to include a Convenience Fee of 3% and would eliminate over the phone payments. Mr. Holcomb commented that the 3% fee would go to offset the cost of Heartland charges.

RESOLVED, to approve to update Town's Fee Schedule to include a convenience fee of 3%.

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

D. Major Subdivision Request- Delma Grimes Rd

Walter Weeks Planning Board Chairman presented a request for a Major Subdivision from property owner Mary Ellen Lauder. Mr. Weeks clarified that this would provide for nine (9) buildable lots off Delma Grimes Rd

in the ETJ Residential Agricultural district. Mr. Weeks added that there are no extension of public water or sewer and no new roads. Mr. Weeks stated that the Planning Board recommends that the Board approve the Major Subdivision. (Reference # 3)

RESOLVED, to approve Major Subdivision.

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

E. Plan for Purchase of Police Vehicle

Nick Holcomb Town Manager informed the Board that Dodge Chargers may be available in the spring of 2021 and that the two (2) 2013 Chargers are having engine troubles. Mr. Holcomb stated the importance of keeping vehicles that identify with Coats Police Department. (Reference #4)

Interim Chief Ken Storicks stated that Dodge Durango could possibly be available in the fall if ordered now, however expressed that he would be pleased with either. Interim Chief Storicks expressed concerns of the importance to purchase a vehicle as soon as possible.

Discussion among the Board were cages for the Durango, mileage difference and the warranty if purchased through State Contract. Interim Chief Storicks stated that warranty is the same coverage, mileage difference is a low factor and cages are installed that work with SUV's.

RESOLVED, to approve of Dodge Durango.

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

Nick Holcomb stated the Durango would be white with Coats stripping.

F. Cemetery Plots

Nick Holcomb presented five (5) cemetery plots for approval purchased by Monica Stewart. Plots 593C-597C. (Reference #5)

RESOLVED, to approve Cemetery Plots 593C-597C purchased by Monica Stewart.

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

VII. MANGER'S UPDATE:

A. Parks Capital Project work session

Nick Holcomb Town Manager asked the Board to plan a work session to address projects for the Park. Mr. Holcomb suggested meeting at the Park and work to have a five (5) year plan for Capital Projects for the Park. Mr. Holcomb asked if the Board would consider having a retreat to discuss plans.

Commissioner Kelvin Gilbert stated that the present park is not in his plans.

Mr. Holcomb added that the discussion and plans can be addressed for a uptown park area.

Mayor Coats stated that the Board could meet at the park and return to the Town Hall to discuss plans.

All Commissioners were in favor of the retreat. Retreat planned for September 12, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.

Nick Holcomb informed the Board:

1. Board of Adjustment meeting which approved for a small business-Barber/Beauty Shop
2. Town will be receiving funds from Harnett County from the State Covid Funds.

Interim Chief Storicks presented stats for the month of June 2020. **(Reference # 6)**

Jeannette Elkins Assistant Library Director presented Library report for June. **(Reference #7)**

Nick Holcomb Town Manager stated that the project on Abattoir Road has received the final approval.

Commissioner Marc Powell questioned the status of the 35 speed limit on Abattoir Road.

Nick Holcomb Town Manager stated that DOT requires a Public Hearing and he can work toward planning that.

Commissioner Kelvin Gilbert asked for verification on the Abattoir Road completion and asked what the status was on the opened position for Police Chief.

Nick Holcomb Town Manager confirmed that the Abattoir Road is completed and is working well and informed the Board that Chief Hall is waiting on Disability Retirement and once that decision is made the opened position will be advertised.

VIII. Public Forum

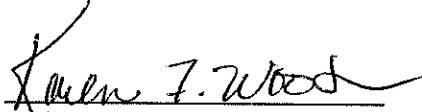
Mayor Coats opened Public Forum and hearing none closed Public Forum.


IX. ADJOURN:

RESOLVED, to adjourn meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.


Karen F. Wooten, Town Clerk


Chris Coats, Mayor