

TOWN OF COATS  
Board of Commissioners  
December 9, 2021  
**OFFICIAL MINUTES**

**I. ABSTRACT:**

A rescheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners held on December 9, 2021 in the Board of Commissioners' Meeting Room at Coats Town Hall.

**II. ROLL CALL:**

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

Town Attorney Alton Bain was not 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 (5), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, MOSBY, RAYNOR  
AND GILBERT  
NOES (0)**

**IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

**RESOLVED**, to approve Consent Agenda.

**MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER JOHN RAYNOR: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER KELVIN GILBERT  
APPROVED, AYES (5), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, MOSBY, RAYNOR  
AND GILBERT  
NOES (0)**

**V. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING:**

A. Recognition of Outgoing Commissioner

Mayor Coats recognized Commissioner John Raynor and expressed the Town's appreciation for his service and for the service; he has given to our Country serving in the Military. Commissioner Raynor received a gift from the Town.

B. Oath of Office

Harnett County Clerk of Superior Court, Renee Whittenton administered the Oath of Office to the following Mayor and Board of Commissioners. (**Reference #1**)

- Mayor Chris Coats
- Commissioner Jerry Beasley
- Commissioner Allen Mosby
- Commissioner Shirley Allen (newly elected)

C. Mayor Pro-Tempore

Commissioner Allen Mosby nominated Commissioner Jerry Beasley and Commissioner Beasley accepted the nomination.

**RESOLVED**, to appoint Commissioner Jerry Beasley as Mayor Pro-Tempore.

**MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER ALLEN MOSBY: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER MARC POWELL  
APPROVED, AYES (5), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, MOSBY, ALLEN  
AND GILBERT  
NOES (0)**

**VI. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:**

A. Planning Board

Nick Holcomb Town Manager informed the Board of one vacant seat on the Planning Board due to Shirley Allen's elected position on the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Holcomb stated that there are two (2) applications for in-town.

1. Lawrence Denning
2. Don Plessinger

Mr. Holcomb stated that there are four (4) applications for the ETJ.

1. Robert Barefoot
2. Misty Gil
3. Edward Lauder
4. Alan Pope

**RESOLVED**, to vote by written ballots.

**MOTION BY: MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER ALLEN MOSBY  
APPROVED, AYES (5), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, MOSBY, ALLEN  
AND GILBERT  
NOES (0)**

Mayor Coats instructed the Board to select one (1) for the in-town position and select two (2) for the ETJ position. Ballots received by Mayor Coats, which stated the following results.

In-Town

Lawrence Denning – 1  
Don Plessinger -4

ETJ

Robert Barefoot – 1  
Misty Gil – 5  
Edward Lauder – 0  
Alan Pope – 4

B. Board of Adjustment

Nick Holcomb informed the Board of the structure for the Board of Adjustments due to the changes with the 160D, which removed any elected Commissioner. Mr. Holcomb stated that the Board of Adjustment consist of five (5) members, four (4) members who shall reside with the Town Limits and one (1) member who shall reside within the Town's area of extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ). Mr. Holcomb expressed the importance of the most experienced to hold the five (5)-member board and the two (2) least experienced be appointed as the alternates, which would require one (1) of the newly appointed to hold the ETJ position.

**RESOLVED**, to approve the four (4) existing members and appoint Misty Gil to represent the ETJ.

**MOTION BY: MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER ALAN MOSBY  
APPROVED, AYES (5), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, MOSBY, ALLEN  
AND GILBERT  
NOES (0)**

C. Cemetery Committee

Nick Holcomb informed the Board that two (2) existing applications and three (3) verbal applications been received.

**RESOLVED**, to approve the existing five (5) members presently active on the Cemetery Committee.

**MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER ALLEN MOSBY: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER KELVIN GILBERT  
APPROVED, AYES (5), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, MOSBY, ALLEN  
AND GILBERT  
NOES (0)**

D. Parks and Recreation

Nick Holcomb Town Manager expressed to the Board that he received no applications for the Recreation Committee. Mr. Holcomb stated that it has been impossible to fill a Parks Committee with zero interest from the community volunteers. Mr. Holcomb recommended reappointing the existing Parks Committee members and to hold meetings only as requested by Town Council.

**RESOLVED**, to appoint existing Parks Committee and meet only as requested by the Board.

**MOTION BY: MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER MAC POWELL  
APPROVED, AYES (5), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, MOSBY, ALLEN  
AND GILBERT  
NOES (0)**

**VII. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Budget Amendment #2 – USDA Grant**

Nick Holcomb Town Manager updated the Board concerning the USDA Grant for a Downtown Master Planning for Forty Six Thousand Dollars (\$46,000). Mr. Holcomb stated that a budget amendment is needed in order to account for expenditures and reimbursed revenues from USDA. The budget amendment would allocate Forty Six Thousand Dollars (\$46,000) for expenditures matched by the same amount of revenues, which would come from the grant reimbursement. Mr. Holcomb informed the Board that WithersRavenel has begun billing for services received with the first payment being Eight Thousand One Hundred Eighty Eight Dollars and Seventy-Four Cents (\$8,188.74). Mr. Holcomb commented that there will be four (4) to five (5) additional payments totaling the grant. Mr. Holcomb requested the Board to approve the Budget Amendment #2 and to give approval for future payments to WithersRavenel to be included with the consent agenda as needed. **(Reference #2 & #3)**

**RESOLVED**, to approve Budget Amendment #2 and agree to include future payments to WithersRavenel in the consent agenda as needed.

**MOTION BY: MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER ALLEN MOSBY  
APPROVED, AYES (5), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, MOSBY, ALLEN  
AND GILBERT  
NOES (0)**

**RESOLVED**, to approve payment to WithersRavenel for Eight Thousand One Hundred Eighty Eight Dollars and Seventy-Four Cents (\$8,188.74).

**MOTION BY: MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER MARC POWELL  
APPROVED, AYES (5), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, MOSBY, ALLEN  
AND GILBERT  
NOES (0)**

B. Public Records Retention Update

Karen Wooten Town Clerk/Finance Officer informed the Board concerning updates for the Records Retention and Disposition Schedule. Ms. Wooten requested the Board to approve the Resolution adopting the updated Municipal Records Retention and Disposition Schedule. (Reference #4)

**RESOLVED**, to approve Resolution Adopting the Municipal Records Retention and Disposition Schedule.

**MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER ALLEN MOSBY: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER KELVIN GILBERT  
APPROVED, AYES (5), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, MOSBY, ALLEN  
AND GILBERT  
NOES (0)**

C. Cemetery Plots

Nick Holcomb Town Manager presented three (3) Cemetery Plots purchased by Richard B Williams. Plots numbers are Section C 614, 615 and 616. (Reference #5)

**RESOLVED**, to approve purchase of Plots C 614, 615 and 616.

**MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER ALLEN MOSBY: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER MARC POWELL  
APPROVED, AYES (5), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, MOSBY, ALLEN  
AND GILBERT  
NOES (0)**

D. Carrie St. Water Valve

Nick Holcomb Town Manager updated the Board concerning the ongoing water leak on Carrie Street. Mr. Holcomb stated that the issue of repairs are the inability to cut water off because of the surrounding valves will not cut water off to allow for repair in the area. Mr. Holcomb informed the Board that the issue is one valve on six-inch (6") line and one valve on three-inch (3') line that are no longer functioning.

Rodney Pleasant Public Works Director informed the Board that he has worked to get quotes, however, at this time no one has followed up with coming and examining the problem and a price to repair. Mr. Pleasant stated that the cost estimates around One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) per inch to replace. Mr. Pleasant commented that someone is scheduled to come out on Friday and hopefully they will be here.

Mr. Pleasant responded to Mayor Pro-Tem Jerry Beasley on the issues of not being able to cut off the section for twenty-four (24) hours, which would affect both sides of Town.

Nick Holcomb Town Manager requested approval to approve quote for repairs if possible to have repairs done immediately.

**RESOLVED**, to approve authorization to Town Manager and Public Works Director to make payment for repair as needed.

**MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER KELVIN GILBERT: SECOND BY: MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY  
APPROVED, AYES (5), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, MOSBY, ALLEN  
AND GILBERT  
NOES (0)**

E. Chamber Request to Amend Lease

Nick Holcomb Town Manager presented to the Board the present lease with Coats Chamber, which is a two year (2) contract that allows for the use of three (3) offices. Mr. Holcomb commented that the Director Tricia Bristow presented the attached letter and space draft to him. Mr. Holcomb stated that the Chamber has increased their staff and are requesting additional space. (Reference #6)

Tricia Bristow Chamber Director shared with the Board the need for extra space to have the ability to spread out and manage all the projects and paper work for the Chamber to operate effectively. Ms. Bristow requested an additional office and a workroom.

Discussion among the Board was the uncertain changes that will take place with our Library going under Harnett County Library. The Board feels that the County Library may need additional space and are hesitant to amend the Chamber lease. The Board expressed the importance of the Library to be a large part of the budget workshop next year and felt that it would not be feasible to amend the Chamber lease agreement at this time. Mayor Pro-Tem Jerry Beasley suggested that if more space is needed for work to turn the breakroom into office space.

Mrs. Bristow stated that the front office space would be a greater asset for the Chamber and the Town because so many people come through those doors needing directions for the Town Hall, Police Department and Water Department. Mrs. Bristow mentioned to move Teresa to the breakroom and let the Chamber have the front office.

Nick Holcomb Town Manager stated that giving up the front office now could cause an issue once Teresa's position becomes full time with Harnett County Library.

**RESOLVED**, not to amend the Chamber contract and allow the use of the breakroom until a decision is made about the transition with Harnett County Library.

**MOTION BY: MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER MARC POWELL  
APPROVED, AYES (4), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, MOSBY AND  
ALLEN  
NOES (1) COMMISSIONER GILBERT**

**VIII. MANAGER & COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Nick Holcomb Town Manager updated the Board of the following:

1. Connie Lassiter training to replace the Town Clerk/Finance Officer position.
2. Request for the Planning Board to rezone another two (2) acres on Hwy 27
3. Annexation and Rezoning request on Brickmill Road near the Elementary School. Will be quality neighborhood.
4. Concerns with Highway 55 and paving
5. Christmas parade Monday December 13, 2021
6. Staff Christmas party Wednesday December 22, 2021
7. Mid Carolina Regional Council Annual Meeting and BBQ Supper, January 27, 2022 ( Please inform if you are planning to attend)

Mayor Coats updated the Board concerning the funds received from the State under Representative Howard Penny. Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) to the Town and Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) to the Chamber. Mayor Coats stated that additional funds are available and a list is being compiled to be presented for reallocated monies.

Rodney Pleasant Public Works Director presented his November reports. **(Reference #7)**

Mike Collins Recreation Director updated the Board on activity with Parks and Recreation.

1. Softball has finished
2. Soccer free clinic for ages six and eight had four and five sessions. Clinic received well.
3. Basketball is under way; however, the County will only allow use of gyms on Saturdays. Three age groups
4. Preparing ideas for budget workshop

**IX. Public Forum**

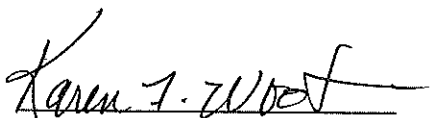
Mayor Coats opened Public Forum and hearing no one closed Public Forum.

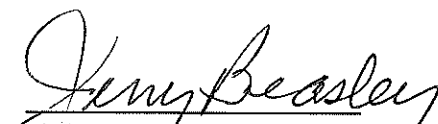
**X. ADJOURN:**

**RESOLVED**, to adjourn meeting.

**MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER ALLEN MOSBY: SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER MARC POWELL  
APPROVED, AYES (5), MAYOR PRO-TEM JERRY BEASLEY, COMMISSIONERS POWELL, MOSBY, ALLEN  
AND GILBERT  
NOES (0)**

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

  
Karen F. Wooten, Town Clerk

  
Chris Coats, Mayor  
Jerry Beasley, Mayor Pro-tem