

**TOWN OF COATS
Board of Commissioners
Thursday, February 10, 2022
Official Minutes**

The Town of Coats Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, February 10, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board of Commissioners' Meeting Room at Coats Town Hall.

Members Present:

Mayor Chris Coats
Mayor Pro-Tem Jerry Beasley
Commissioner Allen Mosby
Commissioner Kelvin Gilbert
Commissioner Shirley Allen
Commissioner Marc Powell

Staff Present:

Nick Holcomb, Town Manager
Alton Bain, Town Attorney
Connie Lassiter, Finance Director/Town Clerk
Ken Storicks, Chief of Police
Rodney Pleasant, Public Works Director
Teresa Brown, Library Director

Members Absent:

Staff Absent:

Mike Collins, Parks & Recreation Director

I. CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Mayor Chris 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 Marc Powell, SECOND BY: Commissioner Shirley Allen
APPROVED: 5-0, unanimously approved**

II. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes – January 13, 2022 Regular Meeting
- B. Approval of Attorney Bill – Services Rendered January 1-31, 2022
- C. Review of Financial Statement
- D. Approval of Withers Ravenel – Pay Request #3

RESOLVED, to approve Consent Agenda.

**MOTION BY: Commissioner Kelvin Gilbert, SECOND BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Jerry Beasley
APPROVED: 5-0, unanimously approved**

III. PUBLIC HEARING

- A. Rezoning Request – Drouillard Tract

Mayor Coats opened Public Hearing on rezoning request for Drouillard Tract. After hearing no one, Mayor Coats closed Public Hearing.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proclamation of Robert Eason Day

Mayor Coats presented a proclamation declaring February 11, 2022 as Robert Eason Day in memory of deceased Town of Coats employee, Robert Eason, to Mr. Eason's son as many family members and friends gathered during the reading of the proclamation. **(Reference #1)**

B. Rezoning Request – Drouillard Tract

Town Manager Nick Holcomb introduced the topic of rezoning the 0.69 acre parcel owned by Penny Weaver Drouillard from C-3 to R-6 ND. Mr. Holcomb communicated that the property ties into two (2) other parcels that were rezoned last June and would be a part of that same residential subdivision. Mr. Holcomb mentioned that the subdivision would have a better street alignment which would be a benefit to the Town although it wouldn't add a lot in terms of additional lots. Mr. Holcomb conveyed that the Planning Board has recommended approval based on the consistency statement of Land Use Plan which this property does meet. **(Reference #2)**

RESOLVED, to approve the rezoning request from C-3 to R-6 ND.

MOTION BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Jerry Beasley, SECOND BY: Commissioner Marc Powell
APPROVED: 5-0, unanimously approved

C. Set Public Hearing for Rezoning & Annexation – McLean Tract

Town Manager Nick Holcomb reminded the Board that the annexation maps were presented last month and that the process has been started to verify the legitimacy of the annexation request. Mr. Holcomb mentioned that the request was made for rezoning from R-A Residential Agriculture to R-6 ND Conditional Zoning with four (4) proposed conditions. Mr. Holcomb requested to set Public Hearing for March 10, 2022.

RESOLVED, to set Public Hearing for March 10, 2022.

MOTION BY: Commission Allen Mosby, SECOND BY: Commissioner Shirley Allen
APPROVED: 5-0, unanimously approved

D. N Johnson Street Paving Bids

Town Manager Nick Holcomb introduced the paving project for N. Johnson Street which would add curb and gutter on Hardee's side, better route storm drain pipe and repave making for smooth transition from Johnson Street to Hwy 55. Mr. Holcomb mentioned since initiating requests for bids with little response that he finally has two (2) bids to consider. Mr. Holcomb mentioned that bids were higher than budgeted as it took time to get the bids, so the Board would need to instruct staff to carry out a Budget Amendment if proceeding with paving. **(Reference #3)**

RESOLVED, to accept bid of \$91,561 from Highland Paving Company.

MOTION BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Jerry Beasley, SECOND BY: Commissioner Marc Powell
APPROVED: 5-0, unanimously approved

E. State Budget Office Funds

Town Manager Nick Holcomb informed the Board that the State Budget included \$70,000 to the Town of Coats for the intended purpose of renovating the Community Building. Mr. Holcomb mentioned that he had been hesitant in submitting the documents for funding because the Town is not responsible for the Community Building as it is the Chamber of Commerce that manages the Community Building. Mr. Holcomb indicated that a technical correction had been submitted by Representative Penny so that \$40,000 would be sent to the Town of Coats for Downtown Capital Improvement and \$30,000 to the Chamber for the Community Building Renovations. Mr. Holcomb asked the Board for direction to continue with the paperwork for the technical correction which divides the money and define a project that the Town can do with a portion of funds or if the full \$70,000 is needed for Community Building renovations with the Chamber solely responsible.

Discussion ensued and Commissioners' comments included:

1. The full \$70,000 was needed to complete Community Building renovations
2. Any Downtown project done with these funds could potentially be torn up with the upcoming existing Downtown Project plans

RESOLVED, to give the \$70,000 of State funds to the Chamber of Commerce.

MOTION BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Jerry Beasley, SECOND BY: Commissioner Allen Mosby
APPROVED: 5-0, unanimously approved

V. MANAGER AND COMMITTEE REPORT

Nick Holcomb, Town Manager, updated the Board on the following:

1. Donna's Kitchen has closed, and the property has been sold to a person with intentions of operating as a Sports Bar type business.
2. ST Boutique is moving to new location on Hwy 55. The Chamber has decided to purchase the space vacated by ST Boutique and plans to move out of its current location in the Library by early April.
3. The Chamber Christmas parade will conflict with Angier Christmas parade, and Santa will be going to Angier. Chamber would like to move parade to the second Thursday in December which is the date of the regularly scheduled Board Meeting.
4. The UDO update is proceeding quickly, and we are on track for recommendation by Planning Board in May or June.
5. Downtown Streetscape Master Plan is anticipated to be presented to the Board next month to approve, deny or request changes to the plan.

Ken Storicks, Chief of Police presented the Police Department statistics for the month of January. Chief Storicks informed the Board of the following:

1. The shooting that occurred in Town two nights ago was a spillover from a County incident. There were no injuries or damage to buildings.
2. Commissioner Marc Powell asked if most accidents happened on Hwy 55 to which Chief Storicks responded that the majority of accidents are on Hwy 55 or Hwy 27 with most of the remaining in the IGA parking lot.

3. Mayor Pro-Tem Jerry Beasley asked for update on car, and Chief Storicks replied that March is still the expected date as he has received no additional updates since last meeting.
4. Commissioner Kelvin Gilbert asked about vehicle that was gotten rid of when new vehicle was purchased. Chief Storicks stated that the burgundy Durango was sold.
5. An evacuation drill will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday at Coats Erwin Middle and Coats Elementary to practice a lockdown for active shooter drill. Notification has been made to the public by the School Board and shared on the Town Facebook page.
6. The Police Department is fully staffed and a solid department.
7. Officers are running down a lead on the vehicle breaking and enterings.

Rodney Pleasant, Public Works Director presented the Public Works Department statistics for the month of January. Commissioner Shirley Allen asked if these were the normal statistics, and Mr. Pleasant responded that the limb pickup number was lower than normal possibly due to the cold weather and snow. Mayor Coats asked when Carrie and Main streets would be paved. Mr. Pleasant expressed that it has been difficult getting someone to come for the small jobs, but he is continuing to look.

Teresa Brown, Library Director, presented January statistics for the Library and upcoming events.

VI. PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor Chris Coats opened the Public Forum.

Walter Weeks of 12 Eagle Rd, Coats NC thanked the Board for approving Robert Eason Day to honor Mr. Eason. Mr. Weeks expressed appreciation for the efforts of the Board in planning and zoning issues as well as the Downtown project and many other projects.

Monique Clegg of 67 Hunter View Lane, Coats NC expressed concern about the vehicle break-in at her house as she hasn't heard anything from the officer. Ms. Clegg also expressed that she would like to see more police presence in her neighborhood.

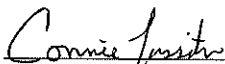
Mayor Chris Coats closed the Public Forum after hearing no one else.

VI. ADJOURN


RESOLVED, to adjourn.

**MOTION BY: Commission Allen Mosby, SECOND BY: Commissioner Kelvin Gilbert
APPROVED: 5-0, unanimously approved**

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.



Connie Lassiter, Town Clerk



Chris Coats, Mayor