

**Town of Pilot Mountain
Board of Commissioners Meeting
Monday, August 12, 2024
7:00 PM**

Members Present: Mayor Evan Cockerham, Commissioner Rachel Collins, Commissioner Dwight Atkins and Commissioner Scott Needham

Staff Present: Town Manager, Michael Boaz, Town Clerk, Holly Utt and Director of Planning & Community Development, Andy Goodall

Call to order 7:00 PM

Mayor Cockerham called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. After observing a moment of silence, Commissioner Needham led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of Agenda

Commissioner Collins made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented and it was unanimous.

UDO Text Amendment Public Hearing

Mayor Cockerham opened the public hearing. There was no one present to speak. Mayor Cockerham closed the public hearing.

Public Comment

Justin Potts was present to address the Board. He asked when the town was going to settle with him over invoices that were turned in. He stated that it took 147 business days to receive payment. He still doesn't understand why he was charged with trespassing. He just wants to get paid for his hours worked and get it over with.

Anthony Durham was present to address the Board. He owns a business at 109 W Main Street. He stated that things in town are happening that should not be, and the past police department was corrupt. The town is on the wrong path and needs to be straightened out. He doesn't think anyone should come to his place of business and bless his wife out.

Anna Nichols was present to address the Board. Anna thanked the Police Department for National Night Out. She thanked everyone who was involved to make it such a pleasant event.

Crystal Pettit was present to address the Board. She spoke as a concerned parent on behalf of students at Pilot Mountain Elementary School. She hoped to get a better understanding of where the Town stands on regarding an SRO for the school. The children's safety is paramount, and a uniformed officer needs to be on campus. She asked for clarification from the Board on the situation with an SRO. She understands that a grant had been applied for and she wanted an update on that. She said in today's society a panic button is not acceptable. Mayor Cockerham stated that the Board does want a uniformed officer at the school. They originally approached the school board in early spring as asked if they were going to share the cost of an SRO as they did the previous year. They did not hear back from the school board and over the summer was made aware that it was not in the budget at the school

board. The town's budget had already been put together and passed. The town applied for a grant to fully fund the officer but agreed to partially fund the officer for this school year. The way this Board views it, all the other county schools, with their county taxes, get an SRO at their school. The citizens in the Town of Pilot Mountain pay city and county taxes. The Board is trying to protect our taxpayers and at the same time, do the right thing by the school system. After further discussion, Mayor Cockerham stated that he, along with Commissioner Needham, Commissioner Kiger and Mr. Boaz would attend the next county board meeting to present a proposal so that there's a long-term partnership that would make sense for both of our budgets.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Needham made a motion to approve the consent agenda and it was unanimous.

Board and Committee Reports

ABC sales for June 2024 were \$221,924. This was an increase of 15.73% of June 2023 sales of \$191,767.

Unfinished Business

Andy Goodall explained that he had received phone calls from out of state pain management companies that were looking for locations in the community. These are basically suboxone, methadone clinics aka "pill mills" and this text amendment would define the products in more detail and limit to where they can be located. This will provide some standards, so they are not popping up everywhere. They cannot be excluded but if someone is interested in doing this type thing, they would have to be very serious about it. The tobacco/vape/hemp locations that are currently here would be grandfathered in. He also noted that this amendment addresses the use of shipping containers, mobile homes and any type of travel trailer used as a storage building on residential property will not be allowed. Commissioner Atkins made a motion to adopt the statement of consistency and it was unanimous.

2024-UDO-02 Text Amendment

Commissioner Atkins made a motion to adopt the 2024-UDO-02 text amendment and it was unanimous.

Armfield Civic Center PARTF Project

Mr. Boaz explained that in June, the Board looked at a proposal to be the CMAR for this project. This project would rehab the natatorium, which would include the pool, warm water pool, pool equipment and locker rooms, the gym area, build two pickleball courts and a cornhole area. This would be funded by a \$500K grant from PARTF. Since there was only one proposal from Hayco the Board asked for more. Proposals were received from Hayco Construction, Garanco, Coram Construction and WC Constructions. All four proposals were good and would do well with either one of them. He recommended Hayco Construction since they are local and have experience with parks and recreation, government building and pool experience. Commissioner Collins stated that the statute for construction management at risk for public entities would have to have to pre-qualify their first year sub-contractors. Mr. Boaz stated that the statute applied to State contracts, the doesn't pre-qualify anyone on anything. Commissioner Collins asked for clarification from the town attorney. Mr. Boaz stated that he would comply with state statute and that the Board could interview the firms before choosing. No action was taken.

TDA Board Appointments

Mayor Cockerham stated that the former TDA Chair had resigned. He recommended that Commissioner Needham serve as Chairman of the TDA until they can find someone that is ready for that role. Ann Anderson has also applied for a seat on the TDA Board. Commissioner Collins made a motion to appoint Scott Needham as Chairman and add Ann Anderson that the board and it was unanimous.

Main Street Coordinating Committee

Needham made a motion to appoint Flora Havet to the Main Street Coordinating Committee and it was unanimous.

Administrative Reports

Mr. Boaz mentioned that the Town did receive the NC DOT to update the Bike & Pedestrian Plan. This is a \$60K project with a 10% match from the town. Bids on the collection system project will be opened later this month. That will replace one pump station and move to another location, remove two aerial lines and rehabilitation of gravity mains. JR Lynch & Sons will be starting on the water system project. Actual constructions will probably begin in the fall. This will replace the water line on Depot Street and Howard Street, replace a line from Main Street to the Pilot Center tank and replace hydrants and valves to improve service. He addressed the concerns from Justin Potts. The original plumbing invoice was for \$7,500 and the only work done was replacement of three toilets. They did negotiate a price and it was paid to Justin in a timely manner. The end of summer extravaganza will be held this Saturday with 80's Nation. The Labor Day event is planned for September 1st.

Mayor & Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Collins thanked Crystal Pettit for her comments about the SRO. Keeping the children safe is a priority of the town. She gave information about the backpack program for the schools. She stated that the East Surry banners look wonderful. She thanked everyone involved with National Night Out.

Commissioner Needham thanked everyone for National Night Out. He is glad he lives in a town to where community events are available, and he thanked everyone for getting involved. He asked that anyone that ever has an issue, please contact him. He doesn't want anyone to think that the town doesn't value the safety of our children, teachers and community. There is an officer there and they are going to work with the county to figure this out.

Commissioner Atkins stated that there would be a police presence at the elementary school. National Night Out was a great event and he thanked everyone involved.

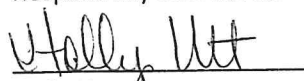
Mayor Cockerham thanked everyone for coming out. They hope to go to the Surry County Board meeting next week and hopefully work something out with an SRO. He thanked everyone that had a part in the National Night Out event.

Other Business – No other business


Adjourn

Commissioner Atkins made a motion to adjourn, and it was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted:


Holly Utt
Town Clerk

Attest:


Evan Cockerham
Mayor