

**Town of Pilot Mountain  
Board of Commissioners Work Session  
Thursday, January 19, 2023  
6:00 PM**

**Members Present:** Mayor Evan Cockerham, Mayor Pro-Tem Donna Kiger, Commissioner Scott Needham, Commissioner Dwight Atkins and Commissioner Rachel Collins.

**Staff Present:** Town Manager, Michael Boaz

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**Call to order 6:00 PM**

Mayor Cockerham called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. After a moment of silence, Commissioner Collins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Comment**

Heather Moore, 3170 Westfield Rd, Mt. Airy, NC was present to address the Board. She was present to see if the Board had any follow up on the proposed Scenic Byway. She stated that Surry County has proposed some new ordinances with wording acknowledging the Scenic Byway. She thanked the Board for their time in consideration of this project.

**New Business**

**Brush/Leaf Pick-up Contractor**

Mr. Boaz explained that they have been taking proposals for brush and leaf pick up. Three bids have been received, two bids for \$80K and one bid for \$90K. It is more than the town paid previously but that is to be expected. Of the two bids for \$80K, one is for Hawks Landscaping and the other from R & J Tree Service. Both have strong recommendations and Mr. Boaz recommended that the Board select R & J Tree Service. Commissioner Collins asked if they would provide a schedule like the other bids. Mr. Cockerham stated that he is comfortable with the managers' recommendation. Commissioner Collins asked if there was a stipulation in the contract about a probationary period. Mr. Boaz explained that it could be added to the contract. R & J is asking for a five year contract in order to pay for a grapple truck they will purchase for the brush pick up. Mr. Boaz presented the contract from the previous contractor for the Board to review, noting that the current contract would not include mowing. Commissioner Kiger asked about inflation cost in the contract over a five year period. Mr. Boaz stated that he would have to clarify that with R & J. Discussion ensued about the town bringing the service back in-house and equipment required. Commissioner Atkins made a motion to accept the bid from R & J Tree Service, subject to the agreement that it will be \$80K for the 5 years and the out-clause to be added, and it was unanimous.

**Capital Projects**

Mr. Boaz stated that Mayor Cockerham and Commissioner Needham were trying to meet with Senator Settle to discuss aspirational projects; the streetscape, greenway and maybe water plant park. He asked that the Board look at a list of the projects before it's presented to the state legislation for funding.

### **Scenic Byway**

Mr. Boaz stated that this resolution would ask the County Commissioners to adopt more restrictive land use regulations along the Sauratown Mountains Scenic Byway. Commissioner Needham made a motion to adopt Resolution R2023-02 - Resolution Supporting Restrictions On Commercial Development Along Sauratown Mountains Scenic Byway, and it was unanimous.

### **Administrative Reports**

#### **Town Manager & Staff Reports**

- He thanked Holly and the Public Works department, Brandon, Chris and Rusty for working on the water line and handling the water line break.
- He thanked Jenny Kindy for getting a grant to do some work on the mobile stage. The grant is from the Surry Arts Council.
- He thanked the citizens for being patient with the brush pick up.
- Mr. Boaz stated that at some point in the near future they would need to set up a Recreation advisory board. Applications are available on the town's website. The town will take over payroll and accounts payable effective February 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Depot Street Stream Restoration Project is scheduled to start on Monday.

#### **Mayor and Commissioners Comments**

**Commissioner Needham:** Appreciated the Mayor getting together the group for the clean-up at Armfield Center. He is excited that Old Crow Medicine Show will be coming to the Outdoor Expo in April.

**Commissioner Collins:** She thanked all the staff for their hard work, we're small but we're mighty.

**Commissioner Kiger:** She is excited about the new year and lots of good things happening. Staff showed that they could still run things while our manager was on vacation and that speaks volumes about the commitment of the staff.

**Commissioner Atkins:** He thanked staff and the PW Department for repairing the water main break.

**Mayor Cockerham:** Officer Chrismon is back at work. He will be an SRO at Pilot Mountain Elementary. He's glad to have him back and he will be very approachable with the students. The community clean-up day went well. He thanked everyone involved and hopefully they can do this yearly. He thanked the PW Department for repairing the water line during the night and getting things back up and running.

### **Other Business**

No other business to discuss

### **Adjourn or Recess**

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

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:

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Holly Utt  
Town Clerk

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Evan Cockerham  
Mayor