

**Town of Pilot Mountain
Board of Commissioners Meeting
Monday February 13, 2023
7:00 PM**

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

Staff Present: Town Manager, Michael Boaz and Town Clerk, Holly Utt

Call to order 7:00 PM

Mayor Cockerham called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Commissioner Collins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of Agenda

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

Luke Hutchens gave an update on the Eagle Scout Project. The total cost for the monument is \$2,221.32 and he would like to have it placed in front of Town Hall near the flag pole. He clarified that he was not asking for a donation, only permission for the proposed placement. It was the consensus of the Board to review the Streetscape Plan and let him know about the placement.

Public Comment

Tim Johnson, 225 S Boyles St, Pilot Mountain, NC was present to address the Board. He stated that there were several issues on W Marion Street that needed to be addressed. The sides of the street are overgrown, there are holes in the road and there is a truck that stays parked between two No-Parking signs making it difficult to drive down the street. He stated that he had been to town hall several times and nothing has been done. He doesn't understand why the tax paying citizens can't get anything done. The school bus can't get down the street much less the fire department. Mr. Boaz explained that the man that parks there is actually parking at his house and there is a drainage issue from neighboring properties and it washes his driveway away. He doesn't have the resources to fix the issue and he has been parking there for years. Mr. Johnson said that he didn't want to be inconvenienced and have to keep driving around the truck. Mayor Cockerham stated that they would look at the options and hopefully find some resources for the individual to repair the driveway.

Patty Wall, 253 S Boyles St, Pilot Mountain, NC was present to address the Board. Ms. Wall stated that about 50 families use that street. It is hard to go down that street and it is a school bus route and cannot be made into a one-way street. She stated the town would be held liable if an emergency occurred and first responders were unable to go down that street. It is very unsettling to know that one person who owns a home and has a driveway cannot repair his driveway. She doesn't think it's fair to use her tax dollars to repair his driveway.

Meigs Needham, 512 W Main St, Pilot Mountain, NC was present to address the Board. He stated that W Marion Street and Butler Street have issues with meeting traffic on those streets. People park on the

sidewalk on Butler Street and don't get ticketed for it. He also stated that not all the streets had been paved as promised and the town is still not connected with water from Mt. Airy.

Consent Agenda

- December 1, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes
- January 19, 2023 Workshop Meeting Minutes

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

Board & Committee Reports

Dennis Manuel announced that he was no longer the chief as of January 7, 2023. He introduced Elijah Childers and the new Chief of Squad 86. He presented the yearly report. Elijah stated that he was very appreciative of the town's support and he is very excited for 2023. They have some extremely good volunteers.

Chairman Pell provided the following sales numbers from the ABC Store:

December 2021 sales: \$360,074

December 2022 sales: \$326,741

Decrease of 10.44%

January 2022 sales: \$200,284

January 2023 sales: \$180,825

Decrease of 11.01%

Mr. Boaz stated that the store is doing well and they are hitting base line sales. King has approved liquor by the drink and an ABC Store and once that opens up it should have some impact on our store.

Unfinished Business

Main Street Maintenance

Mr. Boaz stated that about two years ago the Board had discussed taking over the maintenance of Main Street once the paving was completed. Now that the paving is done, the NC DOT is asking that the Board adopt a resolution allowing the town to take ownership. This would allow the town to continue with their streetscape design and provide more control over re-surfacing, street dining and placement of way-finding signs. Commissioner Needham made a motion to adopt the Resolution from NC DOT Division of Highways Request for Abandonment to State Maintained System and it was unanimous.

Administrative Reports

Town Manager & Staff Reports

- All of the line work on the Mt. Airy Inter-connect project has been completed. The pressure testing has been done, disinfection testing completed and the engineers are ready to certify that part of the work as complete. They will be doing some testing of the system this week and by the end of the week will be purchasing water from them.
- The Streambank Restoration is under construction and it going smoothly.

Mayor and Commissioners Comments

Commissioner Needham: He is excited about the warmer weather and the all the events planned for the year. He thanked Christy Craig for all her hard work and getting those events together.

Commissioner Atkins: He empathized with the citizens on Boyles Street and hopefully that can be worked out in the near future. He has received a complaint from citizens on Westridge Dr and Dodson Mill Road of people feeding feral cats. Mayor Cockerham stated that animal control no longer traps them but there is an ordinance regarding the feeding of wild animals. Commissioner Kiger noted that they could contact a rescue group, Tiny Tigers, and they will try to help.

Commissioner Collins: She commended the successful teams from East Surry. She congratulated the swim teams for their championships. She thanked the parents, teacher and volunteers for the countless hours they dedicate to our students, it does not go unnoticed.

Commissioner Kiger: Thanked Luke Hutchens for keeping the Board updated on his Eagle Scout Project. She wanted to thank the troop for helping with the clean-up at the Armfield Center. This is a great way to get people involved in the community. She reminded anyone that has a little one playing sports, now is the time to get them signed up for East Surry Little League.

Mayor Cockerham: He is excited to have the paving project and streambank restoration underway. He mentioned that he and Commissioner Needham had met with NC Senator, Eddie Settle. They were able to show him projects that we are working on and he was very supportive as far as addressing the infrastructure needs. He credited staff in getting grants supporting infrastructure needs.

Other Business

No other business to discuss

Adjourn or Recess

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

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:

Holly Utt
Town Clerk

Evan Cockerham
Mayor