

**Town of Pilot Mountain
Board of Commissioners Meeting
Monday, August 9, 2021
7:00 PM**

Members Present: Mayor Evan Cockerham, Commissioner Rachel Collins, Commissioner Donna Kiger, and Commissioner Dwight Atkins

Staff Present: Town Manager, Michael Boaz, Town Clerk, Holly Utt, Police Chief Robbie Jackson and Town Attorney, Ed Woltz

Call to order 7:00 PM

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

Mayor Cockerham presented a plaque to Olivia Jessup for her article in Our State Magazine. Christy Craig was presented a plaque for her article in Winston-Salem Monthly. Both were recognized for their efforts to spotlight Pilot Mountain.

Adoption of Agenda

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

Public Comment

Cory George, Pilot Surveying and Engineering, 106 S. Depot St, Suite D, was present to address the Board. Mr. George expressed disappointment in the town's selection process for On Call Engineering RFQ. He stated that he was not upset that his firm wasn't selected, but he was not given a fair evaluation. He stated that there was misrepresentation from the town manager to the Board and lack of communication from town administration. He noted several items that were discussed at the meeting that were not requested in the RFQ's and him, nor have the other companies received any official notification that they were not selected.

Jessica George, 106 S Depot St, Suite D, was present to address the Board. She explained that they moved their family to Pilot Mountain and started a business here. They hire local and believe in stimulating the local economy and to not get any consideration on their proposal was disturbing. Their business was misrepresented by their size, pricing and openly admitting that they did not know what their capabilities were in regards to grant writing and funding. She suggested that in the future when they were discussing local businesses on a live feed at least be accurate and do not discredit small businesses that are fully capable of serving the town. She asked that staff respond to emails and not ignore their business.

Presentations

Luke Hutchens, representing Troop 561 & 539, gave a presentation to the Board. He gave background into what encouraged him to get involved in scouting and thanked friends and family for helping him achieve his goals. He will be working on his Eagle Scout project in Pilot Mountain and would need Board

approval. He asked the Board to consider approval for a Veterans Memorial at the cemetery. He will come back to the Board with plans at a later date.

Consent Agenda

- June 14, 2021 Regular Meeting
- June 16, 2021 Recessed Meeting

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

Board & Committee Reports

June 2021 sales were \$170,020, an increase of 10.74% over June 2020 sales of \$149,445. On behalf of Billy Pell, Mr. Boaz commended the employees of the ABC Store for their hard work and especially store manager, Paula Jones. In July 2021 the store did over \$200K in sales. Mr. Boaz reminded everyone that all of the ABC Store profits are distributed to the town's general fund which helps with the property tax rate.

New Business

ARPA Capital Project Ordinance

Mr. Boaz stated that the town had received the first round of ARPA funds of \$225K. In order to expend the funds, the LGC has recommended that we create a Capital Project. The expenditure are broken down as the Board previously discusses. Commissioner Atkins made a motion to approve the Project Budget Ordinance – American Rescue Plan Act Project and it was unanimous.

FY 2021-2022 Budget Amendment 1

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve FY 2021-2022 Budget Amendment 1 and it was unanimous.

Stream Bank Restoration Capital Project Ordinance

Commissioner Atkins made a motion to adopt Project Budget Ordinance – Stream Bank Restoration Capital Project and it was unanimous.

Mount Airy Interconnect Loan and Grant Funds Acceptance

Commissioner Kiger made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-08 authorizing town acceptance of Mount Airy Interconnect Loan and Grant Funds and it was unanimous.

Sunset/Simmons Water Line Funds Acceptance

Mr. Boaz explained that the state had approved the funding request for the Sunset/Simmons water line project. Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-09 and it was unanimous.

Mount Airy Interconnect Project Amendment 1

Commissioner Atkins made a motion to approve the Mount Airy Interconnect Capital Project Ordinance Amendment No. 1 and it was unanimous.

Mount Airy Interconnect Easement Condemnations

Mr. Boaz explained that there were six properties that, despite efforts to contact them, the Board will need to condemn the easements. These are simple easements of 15'. Commissioner Atkins made a motion to authorize the condemnations needed for easements and it was unanimous.

Administrative Reports
Town Manager's Report

- There will be a pre-construction meeting tomorrow with DOT on the paving project. There will be some water and sewer line work completed before the paving begins.
- Paving should be completed on Sunset/Simmons Street this week
- Speed bumps have been installed on N. Depot St. There has been positive feedback received from the residents in the area
- The music on Main Street is not working. There are a number of issues with the line and they are trying to decide if they want to repair the line or upgrade the system

Mayor and Commissioners Comments

Commissioner Atkins: Commissioner Atkins thanked Luke Hutchens for his presentation. He noted that the car show was a great success. He asked about the charging stations. Mr. Boaz stated that they were waiting for an electrician to install.

Commissioner Kiger: Commissioner Kiger thanked Luke Hutchens for his presentation. She missed the National Night Out event, but expressed appreciation for everyone that made the event successful.

Commissioner Collins: Commissioner Collins expressed her appreciation to the Police Department for the National Night Out event. She thanked Luke Hutchens for his presentation. She also thanked Cory and Jessica George for coming out. She explained that the Board had spent a good amount of time reviewing the information received from the engineering companies before the meeting took place.

Mayor Cockerham: Mayor Cockerham explained that the six minutes that was spent on making a decision for engineering didn't reflect the amount of time that the members spent reviewing the documents. Multiple factors went in to that decision. He offered his apology to Cory George since he thought his business had been misrepresented, that was certainly not the intention. Mayor Cockerham thanked Luke Hutchens and commended him for his efforts to better the community.

Other Business

No other business to discuss.

Adjourn or Recess

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

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:

Holly Utt
Town Clerk

Evan Cockerham
Mayor