



MARCH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at 6:00 PM

RUTH TOWN HALL

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

David called meeting to order.

INVOCATION

David offered the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present, all Board and Town Manager

AGENDA ADOPTION

Motion made and seconded, agenda adopted with prior addition of Fire coverage protection.

GUEST SPEAKERS

None present

COMMUNITY FORUM

No participants present.

APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES

Minutes approved as read.

OLD BUSINESS

Fire protection conversation was added to agenda and Amie communicated with the board her conversation with Hudlow. Amie discussed rates and interest, Nick and William both wanted to leave it alone and stay where we are.

1. South Mountains Hazard Mitigation Plan.

See attached resolution. This needs to be revisited and if approved, must be communicated before April 1st. Amie will review history of this item during meeting.

In packet December 2020, board expressed concerns and asked me to take back to them and to address. They did and in December of 2021 it was on the agenda but it was not discussed due to swearing in ceremony, etc. Amie reviewed all minutes line by line since the December meeting and it was never put back on the agenda. Amie reviewed the forensic chronology. William's memory was Nick and William differed and Denver broke the tie. So William's memory was also the board had approved it. William is fine to proceed with resigning it and submitting it again. Amie will send to David for signature and then submit. Motion to adopt the SMHMP. Nick seconded, passes unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

2. ARP Status Update

There have been some updates to the requirements/restrictions of ARP funding usages. Amie will update.

Amie communicates changes on how we can spend this ARPA funding. Amie shared the option of revenue replacement and it opening the ability to utilize it for other items. For example, trail enhancements, Christmas decorations, new roof, etc. Amie asked the board to brainstorm what they might want to use it for. Amie can pass on any questions the board might have going forward.

3. Change in Charter for Election terms.

Amie is awaiting documents to be shared from Senator Moffitt on ways to proceed with updating charter to allow for election term change.

Amie asked for an update from David regarding the bill and it's language. David will forward the document.

4. Financial Reports

Reports have been circulated and highlighted for noteworthy items. Amie will review.

Amie forwarded the financial reports to the board and had only one recommended amendment. The motion is to increase investment and mowing of town hall. William moves to amend budget as proposed, Nick seconded, passes unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

5. Headrick Outdoor sign to move another billboard.

Please see attached sign permit request and need to review cost of permltal process.

Amie reminded the board of Headrick's past transgressions. Amie communicated the current push to add another outdoor sign, currently at East Mtn Street needs to be moved 70 ft. Asked about sign permit cost, Amie shared \$500.00. NCDOT told Headrick they must move it because of the road project. Must be moved 75 feet west. Amie believes the GIS shows that property in Rutherfordton, the billboard company had a surveyor survey the property and says it is in Ruth. Amie shared about the abbreviated properties and the people who own it live in MillSpring and are ready to sale it to the billboard company. William is interested in contacting the property owners to see if they would sell to the Town. William made a motion to set the sign fee of \$500.00 per sign, Nick seconded, passed unanimously. William made a motion to approve Headricks sign move in the Town of Ruth. Nick seconded, passes unanimously.

6. Outdoor exercise equipment opportunity.

David wants to share an opportunity to acquire through donation some industrial, outdoor exercise equipment for the Trail. Pictures are attached of equipment uninstalled. David to provide either webstie or pictures of some similar units installed.

David reviewed the opportunity to be gifted exercise equipment like the equipment behind the POPS center in Forest City. A family donated equipment to be gifted and installed. David highlighted the specific equipment pieces available. David reviewed the equipment and it is brand new, still wrapped. The family would like a plaque in memory of their son. David believes there would need to be one or two slabs. Liability is the issue and David would like to consult with legal and Amie said insurance as well. Amie suggests we reach out to those who already have said equipment to explore usage and liability. Amie also highlighted there's no bidding war going on for this equipment and wonders why. She suggests upkeep, security, etc. She feels it would be smart to talk with those who have such things on their trail and see what some of the unforeseen pitfalls might be. Spindale has playground equipment, Rutherfordton has Kiwanis park. Amie will investigate and report back to the board.

7. David has a funding opportunity and ideas for it's use he'd like to share with the board.

David has a unique opportunity for funding from Senator Tim Moffitt. He will explain his ideas for the tunnel lights, roofing at the Town Hall, general estimate for a remodel of the Town Hall, inculding flooring, landscaping: shrubs and flower beds, etc.

David was encouraged by Tim Moffitt to see if there are any specific projects that need funding. Amie mentioned the roof and security lighting, the light tunnel, landscaping around the Town Hall, and Town flooring, etc. Amie wasn't going to get quotes unless the board wanted to proceed. Amie will see about getting quotes for some of those suggestions. He wants ballpark figures not specifics.

8. David has applied for board membership of the Foothills Regional Commission (Formerly IPDC)

This is informational only.

David applied and is waiting to see what falls out.

ADJOURNMENT

Nick made a motion to adjourn, William seconded, passes unanimously.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons who need accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Town Hall at (828) 287-7943 within 48 hours prior to the meeting to request such assistance.