



SEPTEMBER TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at 6:00 PM

RUTH TOWN HALL

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

David called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION

David offered the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Guy, Commissioners Steppe and Goode, Manager Hanaway

Guest Alan Toney with Foothills Regional Commission

AGENDA ADOPTION

Agenda will need to be modified to include the emergency expenditures at hand for light tunnel and town hall clean up.

Amie explained the agenda as presented does not include the discussion items of the emergent light tunnel repairs and Town hall clean up from air conditioner overflow leak. Amie recommends the agenda be modified to include these two items. William made a motion to amend the agenda to include these items. Nick seconded, passes unanimously.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Alan Toney is present. Amie introduced him and explained how his attendance came about through conversations between he and Amie. Alan spoke regarding his involvement and requests for tonight. He's asking for a motion, second, and vote from the board. He encouraged the board to see him as a bridge and he is always available as a resource. William made a motion to adopt the FRC CTP recommended, Nick seconded, vote passes unanimously.

1. Alan Toney, Transportation planner from our local Foothills Regional Commission RPO, would like to introduce himself and inform the board of their inclusion and importance to the Commission.

<https://foothillsregion.org/>

atoney@foothillsregion.org

COMMUNITY FORUM

No one in attendance

APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES

Nick made a motion to approve last meeting's minutes, William seconded, passes unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

2. NCDOT Local Adoption Resolution
Board will review resolution and make a decision on adoption.
The board has adopted this resolution.
3. These purchases were approved earlier, however, I wanted to review before we act on anything.

1) 3-D Polar Bear 8'x4'x13' - \$12,645

2) Polar Cub - 4' - \$5,118

3) 3-D Majestic Stag - 10' - \$9,485

4) Interactive Sleigh In Lights - 10'x50"x59" - \$10,640

<https://moscadesign.com/catalogs/holiday-champions-catalog/>

Board had previously approved the above purchases, however, Amie has the ability right now to receive a discount. Amie had included a link to the online catalog so the board could peruse the catalog for

ideas and ball park pricing. Amie had also attached photos to their packet of items previously discussed and recommended. Purchases must be made prior to September 30th to access the discounts. William would like to schedule a special meeting now in order to make a decision prior to the end of September. Everyone chooses September the 26th @ 3:00 pm.

4. Notarized Letterhead document for Rosie with Arepitas to Go consenting to beer and wine sales on the premises. Letter is attached.

Discussion regarding the board's approval for Carolinas 64 Quick Stop's alcohol license. Amie had prepared and circulated the letter if the board so chooses to move forward. William reviewed the meeting Rosie attended to ensure an understanding of what Rosie wishes to do. William felt she communicated both cash and carry as well as consumption on premises. William feels he cannot support consumption on premises. William elaborated the intersection is a dangerous one already and the complexion of the intersection will be changing with the new highway in ways no one understands yet. David interjected saying the license she is pursuing is for cash and carry. William asked if the license differentiates on premises or for carry only. David says he believes so. William asked if Amie will modify the letter to specify carry only. William says he's comfortable if the letter says excluding on premises. Amie will be happy to alter the letter. The board votes unanimously to support carry out beer and wine sells at the Quick Stop. Amie will modify the letter, send it to David for signature and he will have it notarized per Rosie's request.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

5. All financial reports were sent prior to meeting. Amie will review.

Only item Amie drew attention to was the line item for waste. Amie communicated she is still investigating as she doesn't know if it's her mistake or if it is reconciliation with the county and GDS. Amie recommends amending this budget item in the future after her investigation is complete. Amie is in the middle of reconciling a document from GDS and from the county to see what is more accurate. It is never going to be perfect as it's a moving target and adequate communication and inventory audit is also moving. Amie will review her findings at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

6. MyRutherfordton Social Media petition for Street name change within Ruth's jurisdiction.

Board would like to discuss this item.

Discussion on MyRutherfordton Facebook page posting. David reviewed the post from August 24th where they state renaming of Southern Street, Reeves Street, Collect Street etc. Some of these fall partially within Town of Ruth's limits. Rutherfordton is utilizing this post to petition it's citizens for renaming. Amie communicated our streets as listed with the NCDOT affected by this post are as follows:

Southern Street 0.28 miles

Southern Street Ext 0.06 miles

Reeves Street 0.08 miles

William asks who is the governing body in these naming's? If it is the County as listed in this post, then we understand Town of Ruth may be omitted from the process. Amie wants to reach out to her contacts at NCDOT and her network of contacts through her yearlong course from UNC SOG.

Amie mentioned when we looked at this before communications, post office, etc. had to be conducted as well as petition from residents effected.

Nick shared when the highway in front of the college had been renamed to College Ave and emergency services had difficulty responding to a call to College Ave and they were not aware of where this street was located.

Amie will gather some information and have it ready at the next meeting.

7. Amie needs to present to the board a necessary product for review by the board and hopeful implementation to our site.

Amie attached the quote and link to the company for Website ADA monitoring she is recommending for board approval. Amie shared background of Monsido and it's affiliation with Municode powered by CivicPlus. In order to be compliant for ADA this toolbox is invaluable for increasing our compliance that is required. Amie advocated for purchasing this product to increase equality and inclusivity for all website traffic. William moved to approve the expenditure. Nick seconded, passes unanimously.

8. John Crotts has notified us of some changes to the condemnation actions and pleadings of the NCDOT. There are four letters we need to review and feel comfortable with as the RRDC will be needing our

consent to move forward. I will review the summation of the changes during the meeting. Documents are attached.

Amie reviewed the documents forwarded earlier to the board. Amie encouraged the board to take some time to read through the documents forwarded. Amie explained this is related to the "takings" for the railroad via the RRDC. She explained we had been dismissed from one of these as it was outside our limits. The second taking does include us and has been changed from a taking to an easement. Amie reads off the reply from the Town's lawyer John Crotts. He explained as follows:

There are two pending condemnation lawsuits: 21 CvS 605 and 21 CvS 975.

Since the affected property in 21 CvS 975 is not located in Ruth's town limits, we are being dismissed completely from that case since it doesn't really involved Ruth.

In 21 CvS 605, the subject property is in Ruth's town limits and the affected area remains the same as in the original filing. However, that filing is being amended to reduce the scope of what the State was attempting to take in the original filing. Now they only want an easement (rather than fee simple ownership) and they acknowledge if they no longer need it they will return the easement to RRDC. In addition, if the area is required for railroad use, DOT is agreeing to return the easement and bear all costs of removing the improvements. This is all in an effort to honor the Surface Transportation Board's order which railbanked the corridor for potential future rail usage while allowing the rail trail construction. Amie communicated they will be called on to "consent" to these amendments. The board will review and we will revisit at our next meeting.

9. Items added when Agenda was amended are as follows:

Amendments to the Town hall

Amie communicates cost of repairs from the drainpipe from new AC unit

Amie shared she had contracted Alicia Morgan to clean Town hall of the debris from the fallen ceiling tiles including insulation. She and Paul even replaced the ceiling tiles with new ones.

Amie recommended to the board we contract Alicia Morgan for monthly cleaning visits. Even from lack of use things deteriorates. \$100.00 with \$20 retainer.

William makes a motion to contract Alicia for \$100.00 a month with initial retainer fee. Nick seconds, passes unanimously.

Accident report and quote for repairs of lighting structure on Rails due to vehicular incident. Amie is pursuing with insurance for some reimbursement. The quote is \$6,497.04. She recommends amending account 10-410-15 Maintenance & Repair Building and grounds of by \$6,072.00 and 10-409-00 NC Sales Tax by \$425.04. William makes the motion to amend these two accounts by quote amounts. Nick seconds, passes unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

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.