

June 12, 2023

Town Hall Meeting

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. Mayor James W. Dunn, Sr. was present along with the following Commissioners: Neal Nichols, Edward G. Venable, Larry W. Adams, and Wanda S. Johnson. Dawn E. Hobson was unable to attend.
2. May 8, 2023 minutes were approved as written.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT: Ronnie Fletcher thanked Gavin Brannon for the work done on the streets and Chief Shore and Officer Russell for all that they do. Dianne Doub reported that her neighbor was putting up vulgar signs in his yard and asked the board to see what they could do about it. It was stated that he did have freedom of speech. Mark Hauser, Alex Nelson, Paige Calloway, Victoria Culler, and Ronnie Fletcher said they were here to support this town and it was great for signs to be up to show new business. They talked about fluttering flags or signs and how they could help new businesses in town. Ben Peacock said that the God & Country Celebration will be on July 1, 2023 this year with the parade starting at 9:30 am, following with the entertainment, craft, food and a night service at East Bend School and fireworks at dusk behind the Senior Center.
4. The Budget for 2023-2024 was presented. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 Budget with the following changes. AD Valorem Tax – Current 192,000.00, East Bend Library 2,000.00 (1,250.00 – Library and 750.00 Friends of the East Bend Library) and the Regional Library 3,000.00. The tax rate stays the same at .50. Yadkin County will continue to collect the tax payment for the Town. Water rates are, based rate inside the city limits 61.48 for the 1st 1000 gallons and 11.98 for each additional 1000 gallons, outside city limits base rate is 79.50 for the 1st 1000 gallons and 14.20 for each additional 1000 gallons. Sewer rates are, inside city limits, residential 61.48 for 1st 1000 gallons and 5.83 for each additional 1000 gallons. Commercial and Industrial inside city limits is 75.26 for 1st 1000 gallons and 8.48 for each additional 1000 gallons. Outside city limits the rate is 116.60 for the 1st 1000 gallons and 10.60 for each additional 1000 gallons. Commissioner Venable seconded. The motion carried 4-0.
5. Andy Snow presented the Planning Boards recommendations about the Zoning Ordinance 1011c for modifying the ordinance about flashing,

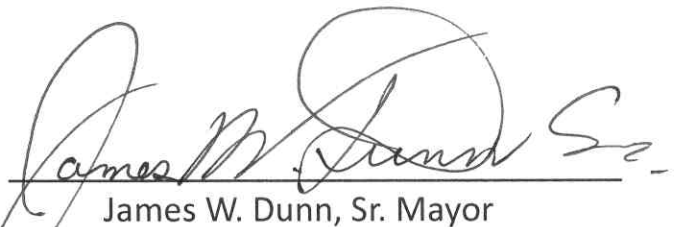
fluttering, swinging, wind-activated, rotation, animated signs and other digital or electronic message boards. The Town Board asked the Planning Board to do some more work on it and bring it back to the Town Board in August. It was decided that the Zoning Administrator would hold off on acting on the ordinance until the Board finished working on it.

6. Andy Snow said that he looked at the 20-year plan and a 3-year plan and he really did not have time to work on it. He asked about consulting with an expert and hiring them to help with it like was done in 2014. The Planning Board asks for guidance on this plan.
7. Victoria Culler from Ba Loos thanked everyone for their support and said that she would support whatever the decision that was made about the flag. The fluttering flags gets people's attention and helped with business and wasn't that what we all wanted?
8. Alex Nelson also talked about signs. He would like to see a big sign listing all the businesses in town. Some people in this town do not know that we have a pool. He would also like to be able to put signs on the fence at the pool.
9. The Zoning Administrator was told again to hold off on enforcing signage until the Boards could make decisions.
10. Mayor Dunn talked about the Conflict-of-Interest Policy.
11. Mayor Dunn read the Mayor's Moments.
12. Austin Jones gave a sewer report and said everything looked really good. All samples are good, and Mitch is trying to get filters for the blowers.
13. Attorney Price is still working on the policy on wells in the city limits.
14. Gavin Brannon is still working on getting quotes on meters and setters for water tap fees.
15. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to approve the contract for Charles E. Scott CPA. P.A. to prepare for the audit. Commissioner Venable seconded. The motion carried 4-0.
16. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to approve the contract for Gibson & Company, P. A. to do our audit. Commissioner Johnson seconded. The motion carried 4-0.
17. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to approve the Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Town Square Funds on Completion of the Project. Commissioner Adams seconded. The motion carried 4-0.
18. It was decided not to change the golf cart ordinance.
19. Commissioner Adams made a motion for water customers that are given extra time to pay their water bills because of leaks, etc. that if they do not

entire bill before the water is cut back on. Commissioner Nichols seconded. The motion carried 4-0.

20. Commissioner Nichols talked about purchasing equipment or hiring Hennings Construction Co. when we have water leaks to fix.
21. Commissioner Venable said he still could not get anyone to return his calls about the old mill.
22. Commissioner Venable made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #1. Commissioner Nichols seconded. The motion carried 4-0.
23. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #2. Commissioner Venable seconded. The motion carried 4-0.
24. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #3. Commissioner Adams seconded. The motion carried 4-0.
25. Commissioner Venable made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #4, 5, & 6. Commissioner Adams seconded. The motion carried 4-0.
26. Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve Budget Amendment # 7, 8, & 9. Commissioner Nichols seconded. The motion carried 4-0.
27. Chief Shore gave a police report. Everything is going well. Officer Robert Russell is working at nighttime now and doing a great job. The new Police Car is here, and it came in under budget.
28. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to approve all bills and any that come in until the next meeting. Commissioner Venable seconded. The motion carried 4-0.
29. Commissioner Venable made a motion to go into Closed Session for Personnel Reasons. Commissioner Nichols seconded. The motion carried 4-0.
30. After coming out of closed session, Commissioner Nichols made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Venable seconded. The motion carried 4-0.

July 10, 2023
Date


James W. Dunn, Sr. Mayor


Vickie J. Matthews, Town Clerk/Administrator