

**TOWN OF TRYON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DECEMBER 21, 2021
TRYON TOWN HALL – MCCOWN MEETING ROOM
7:00 P.M.**

Present: Mayor J. Alan Peoples Mayor Pro Tem Chrelle Booker

Commissioners: Crys Armbrust, Bill Crowell, Bill Ingham

Staff Present: Town Manager Zach Ollis Town Clerk Susan Bell
 Police Chief Jeff Arrowood Planning Director Tim Daniels
 Fire Chief Josh Walton Town Attorney William Morgan

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Peoples called the meeting to order. He asked for a moment of silence. Mayor Pro Tem Booker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ADOPTION

Mayor Peoples added the Public Hearing for the Historic Preservation Commission Text Amendment. He then asked if there were any additions, deletions or corrections. Being none, he entertained a motion to adopt. Commissioner Ingham so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA ADOPTION

Mayor Peoples added the application for the Tourism Board as item 5c. He then asked if there were any other additions, deletions or corrections. Being none, he entertained a motion to adopt the consent agenda which includes the board minutes, the financial report and the application from Jeff Fisel for the Tourism Board. Commissioner Armbrust so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

SWEARING IN OF RE-ELECTED MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS

Town Clerk Bell swore in re-elected J. Alan Peoples as Mayor and re-elected Bill Crowell and Bill Ingham as Commissioners.

VOTE FOR MAYOR PRO TEM

The Board agreed that Chrelle Booker should stay as Mayor Pro Tem. Mayor Peoples entertained a motion for Chrelle Booker to continue as Mayor Pro Tem. Commissioner Ingham so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LEASE TO SALUDA LAND TRUST FOR THE 40 ACRES

Town Manager Ollis explained the Resolution to continue the lease with Saluda Community Land Trust for the missing 40 acres is before you. This has been discussed several times. The notice has been advertised. It is up to you now. Mayor Peoples entertained a motion to accept the lease with the Saluda Community Land Trust for up to ten years. Commissioner Crowell so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING: HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Mayor Peoples opened the Public Hearing. Town Manager Ollis reported the Historic Preservation Commission Ordinance had been brought before the Planning Board and they voted to allow more time for them to look it over. It will be back before the Planning Board at their next meeting and then it will come before you again at your next meeting. Attorney Morgan explained the ordinance had not been updated in ten years. It now allows for state landmarks, whether it be a battlefield, a house or building and the planning board wanted more time to look over some of the changes that were being requested.

Mayor Peoples asked if there were any comments from the public. Being none, he entertained a motion to recess the public hearing until January 18, 2022 at 7:00 pm here in the McCown Room.

Commissioner Armbrust so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

SOUTH MOUNTAINS REGIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Town Manager Ollis explained the plan was presented to you months ago. This plan is required by FEMA in order for the Town to remain eligible for certain types of FEMA hazard mitigation program funding. Mayor Peoples entertained a motion to adopt the South Mountains Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Commissioner Crowell so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

INSURANCE ADOPTION FOR EMPLOYEES HIRED UNDER PREVIOUS PERSONNEL POLICY

Town Manager Ollis explained the board has discussed the previous personnel policy many times. This for those employees hired during that time. The previous Personnel Policy covered health insurance for employees who worked 30 years, until they reached the age of 65. Attorney Morgan would like to go into closed session if you would like to discuss legalities. Mayor Peoples explained he feels we are all in agreement, so he entertained a motion to approve the health insurance for those seven or eight employees that were hired under the previous Personnel Policy that covered health insurance for employees that had worked for 30 years with the Town of Tryon. Commissioner Armbrust so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

MINIMUM HOUSING UPDATE

Planning Director Daniels reported:

1. 45 Canady Lane-he is getting estimates
2. 160 Cleveland-he sent violation letters and can continue to talk with them
3. There is another house two doors down that he will be looking into what is happening there
4. 536 N. Trade Street-he has sent letters concerning all the vehicles that are parked there
5. Comprehensive Plan Survey-they have sent out the survey and are trying to get more data and will be trying to get more people to respond

Commissioner Armbrust asked about 41 or 43 Broadway. Daniels has spoken to the purchaser and he is ready to get started.

TDDA UPDATE

Town Manager Ollis explained Paige is at home sick tonight and reported that her update walks through various points of what she has been doing. She has been slammed with Christmas. He and she would like to thank the Fire Department and Police, as well as the public works department for helping with

the decorations in town and with traffic control for the Christmas Stroll and Parade. They all have taken time out of their schedule to help and he appreciates that. Commissioner Armbrust was pleased to see horses in the parade.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/TOWN PROJECT PRIORITIZATION, AND CITIZEN INPUT

Town Manager Ollis reported:

1. Public Works have been working extremely hard on the breaks and the discharges we have had. They have been putting band-aid after band-aid on the issues for years. The guys came in the other night at 2:00 am, crawled through a bunch of canes which took some time and the repair only took 30 minutes.
2. He thanked the police. He has been getting good reviews from citizens.

He stated we are grateful to have the employees we have and appreciate our staff.

COUNCIL/MAYOR REPORT

Commissioner Crowell thanked the town employees. Men without jobs will be back next year to ride in the Christmas parade. They had a great time. Merry Christmas to staff and see you all next year.

Commissioner Ingham thanked the staff and the Town for their service. He also thanked the Town for being able to serve for another four years. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Commissioner Armbrust thanked the Town of Tryon employees. You do a valued service for us. Have a great holiday.

Mayor Pro Tem Booker notified everyone starting next year she will be on Board of Directors for the National League of Cities. She is chairing the Information of Technologies for the Communications Committee. She will be the 2nd Vice President for the Women in Local Government. She will be looking for presenters throughout the United States, especially here in Polk County. It's for a year and she hopes everyone will be thinking about helping her out and give her a lot of support. She thanked all the workers, citizens and everyone who is part of this nice place. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Safe New Year.

Mayor Peoples explained that a lot of the town employees he either taught or was the principal while they were in school. In spite of that they all turned out really good. Thank you. He has a young man who runs track for him that held first place for nine days with the number one time in the country for the 500 meter. He still has the number two position in the nation and the number one time in North Carolina. He hopes to have another state champion. He thanked all the employees. Nearly Perfect, Always Tryon.

CITIZEN COMMENTS & RESPONSES

Julia Mathis is from Gillette Woods and has a petition of 60 signatures asking for access to Lake Lanier. She thought when she moved here, she had access and has found out she doesn't. She asked doesn't her tax dollars pay for what happens there. Mayor Peoples explained to her that we are responsible for the lake, but we can't use it. Commissioner Crowell explained that he has been asking for kayak access for a while now. Commissioner Ingham stated we have discussed access to Lake Lanier. Town Manager Ollis will take her petition. Mayor Peoples would love to see that happen. The lake was given to us and

has been nothing but a headache. Fire Chief Walton explained there are two boards for the lake. The Foothills Fire Commission and the Lake Lanier Civic Association. Some of the members are on both boards. The Foothills Fire Board meets every other month at Tryon Fire Department. He could notify her when they meet again. She will get with the fire chief.

Commissioner Ingham explained all the property owners are in South Carolina. Crowell stated it is not their lake. He wants to put in a kayak dock, with a camera set there and let dispatch watch. We have all rights.

Karandall Gary asked that we check the street light on Shepherd Street. The board thanked Mr. Gary for letting them know. We will contact Duke Energy.

ADJOURN

Mayor Peoples entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Ingham so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

J. Alan Peoples, Mayor

Attest:

Susan B. Bell, Town Clerk