

**TOWN OF TRYON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FEBRUARY 15, 2022
TRYON TOWN HALL – MCCOWN MEETING ROOM
7:00 P.M.**

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Chrelle Booker

Commissioners: Crys Armbrust, Bill Crowell, Bill Ingham

Absent: Mayor J. Alan Peoples

Staff Present: Town Manager Zach Ollis Town Clerk Susan Bell
 Police Chief Jeff Arrowood Planning Director Tim Daniels
 Fire Chief Josh Walton TDDA Director Paige Henderson
 Town Attorney William Morgan Public Works Director Jody Morse
 Harmon Field Supervisor Travis Aldred

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Booker called the meeting to order. She asked everyone to think on what they wanted to think on or pray for what you want to pray for. Then she led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ADOPTION

Mayor Pro Tem Booker added 6a Paige has someone here asking about a parade, 6b will be the appointment to the Planning Board and 6c will be the amendment to the audit contract. Commissioner Ingham made a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Booker entertained a motion to adopt the consent agenda, which included tax releases for Tryon Mountain Estates, LLC (\$12.51), Public Service Company (\$23.72), Eleanor Miller (\$13.16), the Financial Report for month ending January 31, 2022 and the 2021 Tax Advertisements for Personal Property and Real Property. Commissioner Ingham so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

PARADE REQUEST

Greg Lobas and Peg Brunk want to hold a St. Patrick's Day parade in downtown Tryon. They were conversing about this and being nothing, much is held here, they thought it would be a good idea. They want to honor the man that brought Christianity to a pagen island. They are here to celebrate Christian culture, national heritage and family tradition. Tryon is a perfect place for this. 3rd largest event is held in Georgia. They feel this will pull in a lot of people. March 17th. Commissioner Armbrust asked who the sponsor is. Mr. Lobas replied the Knights of Columbus have agreed to be the sponsor. Commissioner Ingham stated they will need to vote to close the street tonight. Mrs. Lobas replied this is our first parade. Armbrust stated we have held St. Patrick Day parades before. Commissioner Crowell responded later it was moved to April Fool's Day and then cancelled. What time of day will it be. Mr. Lobas responded they were thinking about 4:00. Different times were discussed and 4:30 stands. Fire

Chief Walton asked if it was just going to be a short parade that follows the regular route. Mrs. Lobas replied yes, we are going to start at Rogers Park and go downtown and ends up near Morris. Armbrust suggested using McCown Street if they were planning anything else at the end of the parade. Ms. Brunk replied only a parade at this time. They are going to solicit some Irish dancers from Spartanburg and bagpipers if anyone knows of one, please let them know. Commissioner Crowell recommended the people that run the Standing Stone Bakery in Green Creek as bagpipers.

Mayor Pro Tem Booker entertained a motion to close Trade Street for the St. Patrick's Day parade on March 17th from 4:00-6:00. Commissioner Armbrust so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENT(S) TO THE BOARD OF PLANNING AND ADJUSTMENT

Town Manager Ollis stated Sara Helmkamp has made application for the Board of Planning and Adjustment. Mayor Pro Tem Booker entertained a motion to appoint Sara Helmkamp to the Board of Planning and Adjustment. Commissioner Crowell so moved.

AMENDMENT TO THE AUDIT CONTRACT

Town Manager Ollis stated we have an amendment to the audit contract, since we are changing the parameter, we need to make an amendment. We have to turn this into the LGC. The modified fees are changing from \$30,000 to \$33,000. He could forward the email from them if you wish. Commissioner Ingham made a motion to accept the amended contract. The motion carried unanimously.

CHANGES TO TRYON FIRE DEPARTMENT BYLAWS

Town Manager Ollis reported the changes to the Fire Department Bylaws was discussed earlier if anyone wants to hear Fire Chief Walton, he can go over it again. No comments were received.

Below is part of the proposed changes decided on with more to follow and will be presented for Council vote next month.

Officer Eligibility- Assistant Chief, Captain, and Lieutenant removed ICS classes. Requiring officers to meet the response and meeting requirements.

Eligibility to vote, and membership, Changed the percentage of calls needed. Training meetings remained same.

Stipend- Changed to must meet the call response percentage and meeting percentage to be eligible for the stipend.

This is a rough draft. All final changes will be emailed to council for approval and for vote at next council meeting.

FIRE DEPARTMENT APPARATUS DISCUSSION

Town Manager Ollis reported the fire department is looking to purchase a new fire truck. Fire Chief will receive bids and then will take to the town attorney to make sure which ones we can approve and then we go from there.

MINIMUM HOUSING UPDATE

Planning Director Daniels reported 45 Canady Lane is waiting on an estimate from SVR. 136 & 144 Cleveland he is drafting letters for communication and possible inspections.

In planning they are working on the comprehensive plan still. The last of the final survey data has been received. They will get started in March working on recommendations for the zoning map and such.

TDDA UPDATE

TDDA Director Henderson reported this spring they are going to be working a lot on the branding and the MSD. She has talked with several property owners about the MSD. She feels she will have a lot of support for this. She will work on getting petition letters mailed out. Commissioner Armbrust asked what percentage of property owners has she spoken to. Henderson reported 40%. Her main concern is the ones that are out of state. She is going to do everything she can to try and reach them. Going to hold planning workshops also in the spring. TDDA has to hold their annual meeting to discuss budget and planning. She will be working with Main Street for some of that training.

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

Town Manager Ollis reported he will be meeting next week with Conserving Carolina regarding the Saluda Grade Rail Trail. He will keep everyone informed. He is looking at getting an intern this year. City of Saluda will be coming with WithersRavenel to the March meeting to discuss the findings of the interconnect report. The report showcases the damages to the Howard Gap Interconnect line and the cost to replace the lines. Going to take it to the State to ask for forgiveness of the SRF (State Revolving Fund) debt. He is working with people from Owens Pharmacy. Held discussions about funding for public restrooms in that building. Been receiving interest in the concession stand at Harmon Field. Insurance company has offered around \$28,000 for the damages to the building at Harmon Field and another \$6,000 for the stuff inside. Travis has a list of the items that insurance didn't cover. Henderson reported there is a metal building contractor looking to see if we need to replace the entire building or make repairs. Commissioner Armbrust asked which contractor it was. Henderson stated EKS. Travis has done work to look at the garage doors and is looking the electrical.

Ollis reported the Planning Board meeting was recessed until March 16 at 1:00 pm for the cell phone tower discussion. He has had discussions on golf carts with Jeff. He will be bringing something to you next month. Ollis asked if Jeff, Josh or Jody had any updates. PWD Morse reported they've had seventeen water breaks in the month of January. He has never seen that number of breaks. Ollis reported they have been really busy. Please be patient with us if you see something that hasn't been done. We have people out with COVID, but are getting better. He's had meetings with the owner of the Bank of America building. He will be looking to fill the position left by the passing of Tommy Stott. He is looking at cross training a floater that can read meters and help on other crews. He is going to have to call Trace & Co. again to see if he can get them out here on these sidewalks.

Commissioner Armbrust asked to attend the meeting with Conserving Carolina. Commissioner Crowell also wants to attend. Ollis responded if two of you wish to attend that's fine, but if more would like to attend, we need to advertise a special meeting. Also, he could try to get a recording of the meeting to send out.

COUNCIL/MAYOR REPORT

Commissioner Armbrust thanked everyone for coming out tonight. It does his heart good to see more and more citizens sitting in those chairs. Also thank you to the employees.

Commissioner Crowell thank Ms. Helmkamp for coming onto the Planning Board. He had a lady drop off another 24 signatures for the possible kayak dock at Lake Lanier. He thanked staff for everything.

Commissioner Ingham seconded the other commissioners in thanking everyone. Thank you to the citizens. Thank you to the staff. This is the best place he has ever lived.

Mayor Pro Tem Booker wanted to piggy back on what the others are saying. She can see the hard work and can see the progress and the results. She thanked everyone for coming out tonight.

CITIZEN COMMENTS & RESPONSES

Connie Brown asked the board to be more supportive of the citizens when selling this town and allowing music at private parties that disturb the citizens. The music was very disturbing.

ADJOURN

Mayor Pro Tem Booker entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Armbrust so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

J. Alan Peoples, Mayor Pro Tem

Attest:

Susan B. Bell, Town Clerk