

**TOWN OF TRYON  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TRYON TOWN HALL – MCCOWN MEETING ROOM  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2022 7:00 PM**

Present: Mayor J. Alan Peoples                                    Mayor Pro Tem Chrelle Booker  
Commissioners: Bill Crowell, Bill Ingham                    Absent: Crys Armbrust  
Staff Present: Town Manager Zach Ollis                    Planning Director Tim Daniels  
                         Acting Chief Randall Hodge                    Fire Chief Josh Walton  
                         Public Works Director Jody Morse  
                         Town Attorney William Morgan

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Peoples called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of silence. Mayor Pro Tem Booker led the invocation.

**AGENDA ADOPTION**

Mayor Peoples reported we are dropping item 7 and 8 and adding item 9a Resolution to apply for funding, item 11a. Public Hearing, and item 15a Closed Session. He entertained a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Ingham so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Peoples asked for additions, deletions or corrections. Being none, he entertained a motion to adopt. Commissioner Ingham so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING CIP UPDATE**

Town Manager Ollis reported the first part of this is adopting the CIP. We have already adopted the CIP itself, but this is adopting it as adjusting it in the matrix. Mayor Peoples entertained a motion to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Ingham so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY TO APPLY FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING**

Town Manager Ollis reported the second part of this is the Resolution of the Governing Body to apply for another round of funding through our current engineers. Commissioner Crowell made a motion to adopt the Resolution to apply for Additional Funding. The motion carried unanimously.

**DISCUSSION OF ON-CALL SERVICES FOR ENGINEERING**

Town Manager Ollis reported the way the ARP funding works, it's going to be more cost efficient of our time to have an on-call engineer. He would like the board's permission to go ahead and advertise an RFQ and then bring back the RFP's for you to review and pick an engineer and that way we can avoid going out and advertising every project that we do. Mayor Peoples entertained a motion to approve. Commissioner Ingham so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

## **MINIMUM HOUSING**

Planning Director Daniels reported:

1. 144 Cleveland-goes in tomorrow to inspect it and that will start the process.
2. 136 Cleveland-still waiting on some estimates. He is hoping for savings on a 2 for 1 demolition- he is going to get them down as soon as possible.
3. Canady Lane-talked with the Fire Chief and the burn will start early October. Once down he will get estimates to clean up, which should reduce the cost considerably.

## **PUBLIC HEARING: SIGN ORDINANCE**

Mayor Peoples opened the public hearing. Planning Director Daniels reported the town manager had requested to review the projected sign ordinance as there have been some requests and applications asking if those can be allowed. There have been some requests and although they are not allowed in the Central Business District although there have been some there for a long time. No one can figure out why all of a sudden, they were not being allowed. Talking to his board and staff we thought we would take a look at a text amendment and based on public interest would see if you had an interest in seeing them back in the Central Business District.

Mayor Peoples asked if there were any comments from the public. Being none, he closed the public hearing. Attorney Morgan responded on the second page are the changes and the consistency statement, which is required now. It is clearly consistent with the plan.

Mayor Peoples entertained a motion to adopt the amended sign ordinance for projecting signs. Commissioner Crowell so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

## **TDDA UPDATE**

Town Manager Ollis reported obviously we are going through the interview process and hopefully we will have something next week. Tim did a lot of work on the Dog Mayor. He thanked Tim. It turned out really well. Tim has been doing a lot with TDDA. Crowell replied 4<sup>th</sup> Friday is coming up. Ollis replied yes and Halloween will be on October 31, 2022. Stott's Ford will be hosting the Halloween Stroll.

## **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/TOWN PRIORITIZATION, AND CITIZEN INPUT**

Town Manager Ollis reported he has been in the office and hasn't been able to get out. Jody has been doing a lot, thanks to Jody. He met briefly with Travis today. He has done a lot of stuff that he hasn't had a chance to see yet. Thanks to Travis. Fire Chief, Police Chief are doing great things. He thanked them. The Fire Chief would like to speak for a minute.

Fire Chief Walton talked to a grant writer that had gotten 48 out of 50 grants last year. Basically, he is asking permission to move forward to hire her. She asks for two percent of the asking price if they get awarded. Both grants that we are putting in for are nine months forward. We are looking around July before any money will be sent. If we get both grants, we are looking at paying her \$6100. We are asking for personnel on the SAFER Grant. It's a hundred percent grant for three years. They pay everything, such as raises, retirement, everything for three years. Then the Town takes over. The other grant is for updates to our equipment. Specifically, our cascade system that fills our air bottles. It is very outdated. They are changing the bottles, so we are looking at getting adapters anyway, so the

membership voted that they would like to see a replacement. An updated one instead of what we have now. He is looking to see if the board is okay with that.

Mayor Peoples asked if she gets paid whether we get the grant or not. Walton replied she gets two percent if we get it and \$500 for consulting fee if we do not.

A citizen asked if there were funds in the budget after the three years to fund these people. Walton has talked with a member of FRAC today and with the projections, we should get a penny each year from the county. We can sustain the personnel we are putting in place. The member of FRAC didn't see a problem with us doing that.

The Board all agreed to proceed.

### **COUNCIL/MAYOR REPORT**

Commissioner Crowell thanked the citizens for coming out tonight and he thanked the staff.

Commissioner Ingham thanked everybody for coming out tonight and he also thanked the staff.

Mayor Pro Tem Booker thanked everybody and reported she did make it to the last 4<sup>th</sup> Friday. It was wonderful. She sees what she has been missing.

Mayor Peoples reported at Saturday's game in Boone, they recognized seven kids as the seven best Cross-country runners in the last hundred years in the Southern Conference. He is proud to say that his son was one of those runners. The other thing is, many of you don't know this, but Zach has been covering some for our girls in the front office, while they have been out with illness and pregnancy. Again, he lives in the best place.

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS & RESPONSES**

Anne Day reported the fire hydrants have been out of service on Carson Street for more than two years. The one on the corner of Whitney and Second Street was marked with a big red X when they flushed the hydrants, because it has been needing a part for eleven months and the answer then was from the water department, they had been waiting more than seven months on the part. Mayor Peoples replied the problem we have had is getting the parts. Ollis reported some that are marked with an X are marked for other reasons, also. Jody will check and see if he can speed up the parts getting to us.

Joyce Kimpton asked for an update on the Lake Lanier Dam and when the next inspection is and are there plans to fix the cracks? Town Manager Ollis reported DHEC does a yearly inspection now. The last one was last July. They should be here before December. One of things we are working on with the engineers is to apply for the high hazard dam money that is coming down the pipeline. For now, we are communicating with DHEC on what we have to do and when. Basically, just waiting on the money. The main things we have to care for are the slope and resurfacing the dam itself. The core of the dam is good. It's resurfacing and looking at opening another spillway. Ms. Kimpton responded there is no danger of the dam breaking. Ollis replied no ma'am, we are pretty confident it is good. Let's hope not. The high hazard dam sounds bad, but it is because of its age. This is the reason it makes it on this list. Ms. Kimpton asked, her understanding the last break occurred in 1916. Mayor Peoples responded when they built the dam, the first one broke. They went back and when they rebuilt (he read this), the guy who helped design the Hoover Dam was called here to look and see what we had and this man said, this was as good of a dam as you could get (he read this also). He found that in writing, in more than one

place. He's thinking, maybe because it broke the first time, they overdid it the second time and maybe we are benefiting from that. Commissioner Crowell reported that DOT gave the bridge a moderate okay for light loads.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Mayor Peoples entertained a motion to go into closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6). Commissioner Ingham so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

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J. Alan Peoples, Mayor

Attest:

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Susan B. Bell, Town Clerk