

**TOWN OF TRYON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TRYON TOWN HALL – MCCOWN MEETING ROOM
OCTOBER 18, 2022 6:00 PM**

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Chrelle Booker Mayor J. Alan Peoples came in right as closed session started

Commissioners: Crys Armbrust, Bill Crowell, Bill Ingham

Staff Present: Town Manager Zach Ollis Town Clerk Susan Bell
 Planning Director Tim Daniels Acting Police Chief Randall Hodge
 Fire Chief Josh Walton Harmon Field Supervisor Travis Aldred
 Town Attorney William Morgan

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Booker called the meeting to order and she asked for a moment of silence. Then she led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ADOPTION

Mayor Pro Tem Booker asked if there are any additions, deletions or corrections. Being none, she entertained a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Armbrust so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA ADOPTION

Mayor Pro Tem Booker asked if there are any additions, deletions or corrections. Being none, she entertained a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda, which includes the Board's minutes and the financial report. Commissioner Ingham so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION TO SURPLUS GUN

Town Manager Ollis reported before you are a Resolution to surplus property. This is for one Glock model 19 Gen 5, serial number BPNB993 to Jeffrey Bruce Arrowood for \$1.00. Mayor Pro Tem Booker entertained a motion to adopt. Commissioner Crowell so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION

RESOLUTION HONORING RETIRING POLICE CHIEF JEFF ARROWOOD

Mayor Pro Tem Booker asked Town Manager Ollis to read the resolution honoring Retiring Police Chief Jeff Arrowood. He then presented it to Chief Arrowood. People know Jeff for being a great chief. They don't see him as a person. Everyone that works here could go to Jeff and ask advice. We are very appreciative. Mayor Pro Tem Booker knows that your wife and children served right along with you and she thanked them also.

Telecommunications Supervisor Blake Arledge recognized retiring Police Chief Arrowood. He thought it was important to make a statement. He has worked with Jeff since 1995. He is a friend, a brother, a

confidant and lastly his boss. He has led this department since 2003 and has done something that is practically unheard of in local law enforcement and that was spending his entire career in one department. He is a witness for Jeff's concern for our town and its citizens. His wisdom and level headedness, dealing with calls of service, employee matters and anything else that has come our way. He has supported our employees, led by example, stood by us when we were right and counseled us when we were wrong. Speaking for himself he has made him a better employee and has set a standard for his department that he knows will continue under our new leadership. Personally, and on behalf of our employees of the Tryon Police Department, he wants to say Thank You to Jeff and they wish you the best in the future. He thanked the Commissioners for this time.

Acting Chief Randall Hodge stands here tonight with much humbleness as Chief Arrowood retires from his duties of Police Chief. He has known Jeff for many years, but has only worked side by side him for the past five years. He has come to respect his leadership and though a short time have valued his mentorship to him. Chief Arrowood has provided valuable commitment, not only to the Police Department, but the dedication to the Town of Tryon and its citizens. Jeff has mentored many officers over his career as chief and as a career as an officer. Tryon is losing a great wealth of knowledge, experience and a valuable resource. He wants to wish him and Kerry many happy years in his retirement.

In accordance to N.C. General Statue §20-187.2 which authorizes the governing body of a law enforcement agency may, in its discretion, also award to a retiring member, upon request, the service side arm of such retired member, it is his honor to present Chief Arrowood with his service weapon.

Chief Arrowood thanked Hodge.

Town Manager Ollis also thanked Jeff. It has been an honor to work by you. He has had some really bad Police Chiefs in his time and he has had some good ones, but Jeff has set a standard, not only for currently, but for Randall and for the future of this department. Right now, it's easy for him to say you are the best Police Chief he has had in his career. He is really humbled and appreciates everything that you have done for everybody here, because you did go above and beyond when it comes to this agency. You have set a standard for Randall that its going to be really tough to beat.

Fire Chief Walton remembered when he was first hired, Jeff would come over and say come on let's go take a ride. That's how he learned some of the history of the town. He has a new hire and the other day he asked him where some street was, and he was like um, he told him let's go take a ride and he took him on the first loop that Jeff had taken him on. For two years, he has stood up and mentored him. He thanked Jeff for that.

Arledge also presented Jeff with his badge. He reported the Police badge is a powerful symbol. It is the ultimate presentation of the moto of police officers around the world to protect and serve. It's also a symbol of the sacrifice that police officers make to protect communities. Becoming a Police Officer isn't easy. It requires a lot of dedication, work and sacrifice. Not everyone can wear a badge and that's why those that do are proud of the contribution they make to society. For officers, badges have a personal meaning. A badge is a symbol of pride. He is proud to present Jeff Arrowood his gold, Tryon Police Department's Chiefs badge.

Chief Arrowood thanked Council, past councils, past managers and Manager Zach Ollis for helping and providing the Police Department with what they needed. He wanted to thank the citizens. He tells

people all the time, when he and Kerry first talked about him retiring, he wasn't sure. He likes it here and he has always been very comfortable working here. He decided it is time. A little over 19 years as Chief, its time for someone else to do this and for them to go on to another part of their life. He wants to thank the employees. He has always had good employees. They make life a lot easier. Last, he wants to thank his wife, Kerry. She has been here every step of the way. He had been a police officer for two years when they got married. His career has been her career. Someone said earlier the Chief is retiring, he says we are retiring. Without everyone, he couldn't have done this. Thank you.

Mayor Pro Tem Booker notified everyone we are going to swear in the new chief and take a 15-minute break to honor both chiefs.

SWEARING IN OF RANDALL HODGE AS POLICE CHIEF

Town Clerk Bell swore in Acting Police Chief Randall Hodge as Police Chief. Town Manager Ollis congratulated Chief Hodge. Jeff has set a really high standard and we know that you are going to take it to another level. We are excited to have you on board. We couldn't have found a better person for this job. He is looking forward to working with him. He thanked Jayloni for lending Randall to us. She said he will not let you down. Jayloni pinned his badge on him.

Chief Hodge thanked Zach for his words. They mean a lot. It means a lot to have councilmembers support and trust that you have in me. He wanted to thank Chief Arrowood for the past five years of leadership. He feels like he has grown working under him. He thanked the public for their support, because law enforcement relies on their support. He thanked everyone.

Mayor Pro Tem Booker said we will take a 15-minute break now.

Mayor Pro Tem Booker called everyone back in to continue the meeting.

PROPOSAL FOR ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Town Manager Ollis reported the proposal for additional professional services is before. The amended contract recognizes the increase of the additional million dollars as well as the oversight of that from the engineering company. Commissioner Armbrust made a motion to approve the amended contract for additional professional services. The motion carried unanimously.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 1

Town Manager Ollis reported in budget amendment no. 1, we are recognizing the ARP revenue, Office of State Fire Marshall grants for the Fire Department, as well as uniform line items and some other things for the Pacolet Street sidewalks. Commissioner Armbrust made a motion to adopt Budget Amendment No. 1. The motion carried unanimously.

MINIMUM HOUSING

Planning Director Daniels reported:

1. 144 Cleveland-Hearing is set for next Monday
2. 136 Cleveland-the Owner has talked with the Fire Chief and they agreed to burn it down and he will have the ordinance ready at the next meeting.

3. Canady Lane-the Fire Department will do a training burn on that one next week. Booker asked for one of the family members if they could take before, during and after pictures. Daniels replied yes.

Daniels reported once these are burned, he will discuss the cleanup with them.

TDDA UPDATE

Town Manager Ollis reported the Halloween Stroll is coming up. He reported he is trying to get a band and a food truck for Tryon Midnight. We have a new hire and will introduce you to her at the November meeting.

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

Town Manager Ollis reported we have all been very busy. He would like to thank our staff. Jody has been working a ton. He's been trying to get everyone caught up. Andrew helped out at Harmon Field and he is really appreciative of all his work out there. Travis has also been working really hard to keep up with everything out there. Tim has been doing great. Fire Chief has been doing great as well. He thanked Randall again. They are glad he is here. This board had full faith in you before we even discussed this opportunity. When this opportunity came open, they didn't hesitate. Hope you can take that and run with it. Everyone here is behind you 110%.

COUNCIL/MAYOR REPORT

Commissioner Ingham thanked everyone for coming out. He congratulated Randall. They know he will do a great job, no doubt.

Commissioner Crowell thanked staff for everything they have done. He thanked everyone for coming out. He congratulated Randall and welcomed him to his new responsibilities.

Commissioner Armbrust thanked all for participating. Your presence is important to us. He welcomed and congratulated Randall. He looks forward to working with you. He also thanked the town employees especially for their help with the Tryon Film Festival. It was a fantastic event. From what he can gather, they loved the location on McCown Street.

Mayor Pro Tem Booker thanked all for coming. You are welcome anytime. She thanked the town, commissioners, Zach, Susan, William and Randall. She asked that everybody take your time going home and be safe, until we meet again.

CITIZEN COMMENTS & RESPONSES

Joyce Kimpton thanked Commissioner Armbrust for jumping on the bandwagon concerning parking. Twenty years after first mentioning getting merchants off of Trade Street. She asked, being the work done on Pacolet Street if the board had given any thought to the work on Maple Street. They deserve a little attention too. Commissioner Ingham replied one thing at a time.

MOTION TO ENTER CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL

Mayor Pro Tem Booker entertained a motion to enter closed session to discuss personnel pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6). Commissioner Armbrust so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

J. Alan Peoples, Mayor

Attest:

Susan B. Bell, Town Clerk