

Town of New London
Board of Commissioner's Meeting
December 7, 2021

Mayor Tate Daniels welcomed everyone and opened the Commissioner's Meeting. Present for the meeting were Mayor Tate Daniels, Commissioners Bill Peak, Richard Kimmer, Johnny Chestnut, Christy Starnes, and Town Administrator Susan Almond. Commissioner Marcus Mullis was absent from the meeting. Visitors present at the meeting were Bill Rogers, Elizabeth Chestnut, Tim Swaringen and Charles Curcio from the SNAP.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Johnny Chestnut. Mayor Daniels asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Commissioner Peak made a motion to approve the meeting agenda, seconded by Commissioner Kimmer. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Daniels asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes from the November meeting. There being no corrections, Commissioner Starnes made a motion to approve the minutes from November, seconded by Commissioner Chestnut. Motion carried.

Planning Board Recommendation (1) - The Planning Board met on November 16th to review two requests. The first request was from Mr. Joey Calloway and Roge Brafford, LOROHO, LLC to re-zone the property (tax record 20385 & tax record 31813) from R-20 to H-B. Mr. Calloway would like to purchase this property and consider placing mini warehouses or a telecommunications tower on that property. The Planning Board recommended this parcel be re-zoned from R-20 to H-B and for this recommendation be sent to the Town Board for their review. Following discussion, Commissioner Chestnut made a motion to call for a Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 4th at 7:00 pm to consider this zoning request, seconded by Commissioner Kimmer. Motion carried unanimously. The Public Hearing will be advertised, and adjoining property owners will be notified.

Planning Board Recommendation (2)- The second item for review were Text Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance. Legislature has amended the General Statutes to remove the misdemeanor and criminal penalties for land use violations. This affects two sections in our Zoning Ordinance that need to be changed: 1. Section 12.5.4 delete the criminal penalties paragraph. 2. Section 16-24 delete the wording "shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor" and add "shall be found in violation and subject to civil penalties pursuant to section 12.5.3." The Planning Board recommended these text amendments be approved and this recommendation be sent to the Town Board for their review. Following discussion, Commissioner Peak made a motion to consider these text amendments at the Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 4th at 7:00 pm, seconded by Commissioner Starnes. Motion carried unanimously.

Sewer Report- Commissioner Peak noted that a battery had to be changed at the Spring Street pump station.

Code Enforcement- The code enforcement report was distributed to the Town Board. Contact Commissioner Chestnut with any questions.

Street Update- The Town Board discussed collecting data from the speed radar signs and the possibility of moving a sign to Hwy 740.

Mrs. Almond reported on the following:

- Audit Update- The audit was completed and submitted to the LGC. The report should be presented at the January Board Meeting. The Board discussed sending out request for proposals to compare services and cost for next year's audit.
- Appoint representatives to TCC & TAC: Mrs. Almond will continue to serve as the TCC (Technical Coordinating Committee) Representative with Mayor Daniels serving as Alternate. Commissioner Bill Peak will continue to serve as TAC (Technical Advisory Committee) Representative with Commissioner Mullis serving as alternate.
- Fire Department Appreciation Meal- Monday, December 20th at 6:00 pm.

Mayor Daniels reported on the following:

- Santa in the Park- this event went very well and approximately 65 children visited with Santa. We want to thank Santa and all those that helped make this event a success.
- Stanly County Park Grant- Opportunity for up to a \$10,000 grant received from the county that would be matched by the town. Applications are accepted through January 31, 2022. Following discussion, Commissioner Chestnut made a motion to pursue plans for constructing a rustic shelter at the green field, seconded by Commissioner Peak. Motion carried unanimously. The grant proposal will be presented to the Stanly County Board of Commissioners in January.
- Coggins Property Purchase- The town purchased the property located at 130 W. Gold Street and 106 Vine Street at a recent auction. Closing of the property should take place this month at which time the ownership will be transferred to the town. The Town Board will consider future plans for the property.

A Closed Session was called. Commissioner Chestnut made a motion that Commissioner Kimmer be recused from the Closed Session discussing personnel since he has a family member who is employed by the town, seconded by Commissioner Starnes. Motion carried. The Commissioner's Meeting reconvened.

The agenda being accomplished, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Minutes submitted by Susan Almond, Town Administrator