

Town of New London
Board of Commissioner's Meeting
February 7, 2023

Mayor Tate Daniels welcomed everyone and opened the Commissioner's Meeting. Present for the meeting were Mayor Daniels, Commissioners Bill Peak, Richard Kimmer, Johnny Chestnut, Sid Lanier, Timothy Higgins, and Town Manager Susan Almond. Visitors present at the meeting were Tony Giles, Bill Rogers, John & Cathy Kimmer, Elizabeth Chestnut & Tim Swaringen. Also present were Wil Huneycutt (Huneycutt, Parsley & Taylor, CPAs), Luke Lowery & Elisa Neal (Centralina Council of Governments) and Lt. George Miller & Tristan Furr (Sheriff's Department).

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

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

Audit Report- Wil Huneycutt (Huneycutt, Parsley & Taylor, CPAs) distributed the FY 2021/2022 audit to the Town Board and gave an overview of the report. He noted that the financials were presented fairly and materially correct. Mr. Huneycutt stated that we had a net increase of \$240,901 in fund balance and the financial position of the town was very healthy.

Land Use Plan Update- The NC General Assembly recently updated land use regulations and municipalities must comply in order to enforce local zoning. Luke Lowery from Centralina Council of Governments (COG) presented a proposal to update our Land Use Plan for a cost of \$6,500. COG Representatives would coordinate with the Town Board and Planning Board on the update process to include community engagement, reviewing existing conditions, accessing future trends and plans. Commissioner Chestnut made a motion to approve COG's proposal to update our Land Use Plan for a cost of \$6,500, seconded by Commissioner Lanier. Motion carried unanimously.

Sewer Report- Commissioner Peak stated that there were no sewer issues to report. The Inspector from the NC Division of Water Resources conducted a compliance evaluation inspection of our sewer pump stations on January 17th. The inspector noted that the staff has done an outstanding job of operating and maintaining their collection system. All records and reports were well documented, and no violations were found.

Code Enforcement- No new issues to report.

Traffic Lights- Commissioner Chestnut noted that the timers on the stoplights in town need adjusting. Commissioner Peak has reported this issue to the Department of Transportation previously and will follow up with them again.

Mrs. Almond reported on the following:

- Fire Protection Agreement- This is a yearly agreement stating that the New London Volunteer Fire Department shall provide fire protection and emergency services within the territories of the municipality. Commissioner Peak made a motion to adopt the Fire Protection and Emergency Services Agreement between the Town of New London and the New London Volunteer Fire Department for 2023, seconded by Commissioner Higgins. Motion carried unanimously.
- Municipal Parks & Recreation Grant Opportunity- Stanly County is accepting capital grant requests for a 50/50 matching grant for parks and recreation, not to exceed \$10,000. Grant applications must be submitted by April 15th. The Board will consider ideas for this grant opportunity.
- COG (Council of Governments) Meeting hosted by New London will be on February 28th at 6:30pm at the New London Community Center. Each municipality takes turns hosting this joint meeting with the Stanly County Board of Commissioners, elected officials and managers from each municipality. Mrs. Debbie Suggs is available to cater this event.

Mayor Daniels gave an update on the following:

- Sidewalks in the Cemetery- Commissioner Peak made a motion to accept the proposal from Comer Concrete Services to install 500' of sidewalks at the cemetery for a cost of \$19,200, seconded by Commissioner Higgins. Motion carried unanimously.
- Asbestos Removal at Coggins Property- Commissioner Kimmer made a motion to accept the proposal from Concord Asbestos to remove asbestos from the properties at 130 W. Gold Street and 106 Vine Street for a cost of \$6,521.09 seconded by Commissioner Higgins. Motion carried unanimously.
- Efirm Farms Annexation into Albemarle- Efirm Farms (Parcel ID 7061) has requested to be annexed into Albemarle and annexation laws require New London to relinquish our intent to annex the property given its close proximity to our city limits. Commissioner Chestnut made a motion to set a Public Hearing for March 7th at 7:00pm to consider the Annexation Agreement between Albemarle and New London regarding the Efirm Farms property, seconded by Commissioner Peak. Motion carried unanimously.
- Email accounts for new commissioners- Commissioners Higgins and Lanier were given information to set up their new town email account.

The agenda being accomplished, the meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

Minutes submitted by Susan Almond, Town Manager.