Town of New London Board of Commissioner's Meeting February 6, 2024

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, Timothy Higgins, Sid Lanier, and Town Manager Susan Almond. Visitors present at the meeting were Elizabeth Chestnut and Mitzie Lanier.

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 Higgins. Motion carried unanimously.

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 Lanier. Motion carried unanimously.

Sewer Report- Commissioner Peak reported that we had to replace a float at a residential pump at 133 Highland Drive. He also reported that Hammond Electric will repair the residential pump that malfunctioned at 423 Old US Hwy 52 for \$1,200. Commissioner Peak noted that we need to check all manholes to make sure tree roots are not growing into the sewer lines as part of routine maintenance.

Town Ordinances- The town has an ordinance that was adopted in 2008 to Control Farm Animals and Fowl that was fairly restrictive with regards to chickens in the town limits of New London. The Board reviewed updated ordinances that address fowl and farm animals separately. They will bring their recommendations to the next board meeting and set a Public Hearing in April to consider adopting the proposed ordinances.

Mrs. Almond reported on the following:

- Stanly County's Municipal Parks & Rec Grant Opportunity- The County is once again accepting recreation capital grant requests from municipalities for a potential one-time, 50/50 matching grant not to exceed \$10,000. The funds must be utilized for capital improvements or items such as building renovations, equipment, new facilities and/or additions. The deadline to apply is April 19th. The Board will bring project ideas to the next meeting.
- **Filing fee for 2024 Municipal Election-** The establishment of filing fees is governed by G.S. 163-291.3 and must be adopted by the Town Board. Commissioner Chestnut made a motion to keep the filing fee at \$10 for Mayor and \$10 for Commissioners for the upcoming municipal election in November 2024, seconded by Commissioner Kimmer. Motion carried.

Mayor Daniels gave an update on the following:

• Park Update: Unlimited Tree Service did a nice job cutting the pecan trees at the small park. Another limb is hanging over the playground area that the tree service will remove. They will also remove a few trees from the Cemetery. New flood lights were installed on the small shelters at New London Memorial Park which light up that portion of the parking lot. The one-time grant

opportunity from the State of NC for capital projects is on their list to review when they have their next session in Raleigh.

• **Food Box Request-** Highland Baptist Church inquired about placing a food box at the small park to help those in need. The Board suggested they place one at Highland Baptist Church since there is already a food box located across from the park that is maintained by New London United Methodist Church.

The agenda being accomplished, the meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm.

Minutes submitted by Susan Almond, Town Manager.