

**TOWN OF WALLACE
COUNCIL RETREAT
March 5, 2021**

The following Governing Body members were present:

Charles C. Fariior, Jr., Mayor
Council Member/ Mayor Pro-tem Wannetta Carlton
Council Member Frank Brinkley
Council Member Jeff Carter
Council Member Francisco Rivas-Diaz
Councilman Jason Wells

The following member of the Governing Body was absent:
NONE

Also present were:

Larry Bergman, Town Manager	Rod Fritz, Planning Director
Jackie Nicholson, Town Clerk	Gage King, Airport Manager
David Bizzell, Parks & Recreation Director	Chris Martin, Tax Administrator
Jimmy Crayton, Police Chief	Sharon Robison, Library Director
Brent Dean, Public Services Director	Rob Taylor, Finance Director
Chuck Fariior, Fire Chief	

Town Manager Larry Bergman started the meeting by reviewing the agenda and speaking about the budget calendar and highlights from the budget sub-committee including the departments taking ownership of their budgets, regular reporting on budget status, proactive management of budget items, aggressive grant seeking with a focus on infrastructure.

Strategic Planning Continuation

Manager Bergman began the strategic planning by reviewing the focus areas previously identified: Thriving Economy, Safe Communities, Sustainable Government and Inviting Quality of Life. He then went through the focus areas one by one and asked for input mainly on goals, but strategies and/or action steps as well (to be sorted later).

Focus 1: Thriving economy

Leakage (filling empty retail spaces), microbrewery, incentives through ordinances, availability of tracts of property, Duplin County Economic Development, 830

project, sewer capacity, Hwy. 11- Interstate 40, and rehab housing.

Focus 2: Safe Communities

Rail connectivity, facilities, sidewalks (new), bicycle, pedestrian planning grant, widening some streets, water projects/aging infrastructure/loss of wells.

Focus 3: Sustainable government.

Succession plan, Capital Improvement Plan, government facilities (Armory, Clement Street School).

Focus 4: Inviting Quality of Life

Diversity/inclusion/equity, website in Spanish street trees, street lights, aging population accommodations.

Department presentations were made in the following order:

Administration – Larry Bergman, Town Manager

Manager Bergman talked about the status of the website which is complete with the exception of online forms for payments and potential future projects such as codification of the Town's ordinances, records management, focus on health and safety and emergency management preparation.

Fire Department – Chuck Farrior, Chief

Chief Farrior presented 2020 data and accomplishments, showed photos of the new apparatus being built, challenges, focus and items expected to impact the 2021-22 budget.

Thelma Dingu's Bryant Library -Sharon Robison, Director

Director Robison spoke about the staff, services and materials. She presented a comparison of pre-COVID and during COVID statistics, identified some accomplishments and plans for the future.

Planning & Community Development-Rod Fritz, Director

Director Fritz said his increased its staff this past year adding three (3) positions, Building and Grounds Maintenance Mechanic, Housekeeping/Custodial Worker and Zoning and Code Compliance Officer. He his goals and objectives for 2020-22 fiscal year: a high level of service in an effective and responsive manner, encourage residential and commercial development, work on code enforcement, update the zoning map, refine UDO (Unified Development Ordinance), update the Revitalization Plan and some improvement projects.

Henderson Field Airport- Gage King, Manager

Manager King provided some statistics and discussed 2020 accomplishments. He talked about the airport expansion and the timeline for land acquisitions, road design and lot clearing and demolition. Manager King reported on funding and revenue changes, ditch

maintenance and storm drainage and additional needs.
Public Services-Brent Dean, Director

Manager Dean talked about the departments mission, vision and staff and accomplishments. He discussed issues and concerns in the water/sewer, WWTP and Street divisions.

Parks & Recreation - David Bizzell, Director

Director Bizzell spoke about the departments mission, objectives and goals, staffing, programs and events. He talked about the Campbell Center updates and ideas for the future, major budget requests and potential future problems.

Police Department – Jimmy Crayton, Chief

Chief Crayton stated his departmental vision and mission. He discussed the command structure and identified a position to add. He gave an overview of staff, calls and training hours. Chief Crayton talked about accreditation, facility improvements, training, enhancing video monitoring, traffic safety resources and long-term goals and plans.

The day wrapped up with final thought and comments.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles C. Farrior, Jr., Mayor

Jacqueline Nicholson, MMC, NCCMC
Town Clerk