

**TOWN OF WALLACE  
MONTHLY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
January 13, 2022  
6:00 pm**

The Wallace Town Council held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting in the Council Chambers at the Town Hall.

The following Governing Body members were present:

Jason Wells, Mayor  
Council Member/Mayor Pro-Tem Wannetta Carlton  
Council Member Frank Brinkley  
Council Member Jeff Carter  
Council Member Jason Davis (via Zoom)  
Council Member Francisco Rivas-Diaz

The following members of the Governing Body were absent:

None

Also Present were:

Larry Bergman, Town Manager	Anna H. Herring, Town Attorney
Jackie Nicholson, Town Clerk	Rob Taylor, Finance Director
Jimmy Crayton, Police Chief	Marlane Carcopo, Downtown Duplin NC (via Zoom)
Brent Dean, Public Services Director	Darrell Blanton, Police Sargeant
Rod Fritz, Planning Director (via Zoom)	Justin Harmon, Police Officer
Gage King, Airport Manager (via Zoom)	David Morgan, Police Captain
Charles "Twig" Rollins, Zoning/Code Enforcement	Steven Scott, Police Officer
	Curt Simpson, <i>Duplin Times</i>

Mayor Jason Wells called the regular meeting to order with a quorum of the governing body members present and Town Attorney Anna Heath offered the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Adoption of the Agenda

Mayor Wells called for discussion of the agenda. Council Member Carter made a motion to adopt the agenda as submitted. The motion was seconded by Council Member Carlton and approved unanimously.

Public Comment Period

None

## **Consent Agenda**

Mayor Wells called for discussion of the minutes from the December 9, 2021 meeting. There being no corrections or additions Council Member Jeff Carter made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Council Member Wannetta Carlton and approved by unanimous vote.

Finance Director Rob Taylor said taxes were continuing to come in and two (2) of the properties on the foreclosure list are set for public auction next month. Mr. Taylor presented for approval releases of interest only on three (3) accounts from 2019 adding that inaccurate information was given to the State Employees Credit Union (SECU) and recommended all prior penalties and interest be released for that reason.

Melissa Holmes	Town error	\$101.97
Eric Murray and wife	Town error	\$138.26
Michael Malone	Town error	\$91.10

Council Member Carter made a motion to approve these releases which was seconded by Council Member Carlton and approved unanimously.

## **Old Business**

### **Capital Project Ordinance for Inclusive Playground**

Finance Director Taylor said that at the December meeting the Council committed up to \$75,000 for an inclusive playground at Clement Park. He asked for approval of a Capital Project Ordinance for the project.

Council Member Carlton made a motion to approve Capital Project Ordinance 22-08. The motion was seconded by Council Member Carter and unanimously approved.

### **Award Bid and Approve Construction Contract for Farris Park at Boney Mill Pond**

Town Manager Larry Bergman asked the Council to award the bid for construction of the Loop Trail and approve the contract with Bradshaw Clearing and Grading for this project. Manager Bergman said it took two bidding cycles as the first time there was only one bid.

Council Member Frank Brinkley made a motion to award the bid to the lowest responsible bidder, Bradshaw Clearing and Grading. The motion was seconded by Council Member Carlton and approved by unanimous vote.

Council Member Brinkley made a motion to approve the contract with Bradshaw Clearing and Grading for this project. Council Member Carter seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

### **Police Pay Adjustment**

Manager Bergman explained the approach that he and Finance Director Taylor took in order to make a recommendation. It included the 2021 NCLM Salary Survey, salaries from all

municipalities in the state and local municipalities who compete with the Town. The analysis showed the pay scale is approximately 12.45% lower than average. Finance Director Taylor said a 8.5% increase is doable in the current budget without a budget amendment.

Council Member Brinkley made a motion to approve an 8.5% pay increase for sworn law enforcement officers to be effective in the next pay period which was seconded by Council Member Francisco Rivas-Diaz and approved by unanimous vote.

## **New Business**

### **Approve Submittal of Application for Golden Leaf Flood Mitigation Program Grant**

Manager Bergman asked the Council to approve the submittal of an application. The proposed project is off Currie Street where a large stormwater ditch is eroding and threatening a residential structure. It is a 100% grant.

Council Member Brinkley approving submittal of a grant application. The motion was seconded by Council Member Carlton and approved unanimously.

### **Add United Bank as an Official Bank Depository**

Finance Director Taylor stated that the CD with First Bank came up for renewal and the interest rate was so low the funds were moved to the money market account at United Community Bank (UCB) where the interest rate is .30%. Mr. Taylor said United Bank quoted .25% for their money market and recommended moving \$1.25 million to United Bank. He asked for approval of a Resolution Designating United Bank an Official Depository.

Council Member Brinkley made a motion to adopt said resolution that was seconded by Council Member Carlton and unanimously approved.

### **Resolution Requesting Reduction of Speed Limit on Portions of Southerland Street**

Manager Bergman said that NCDOT (North Carolina Department of Transportation) indicated that a traffic engineering study did not support a reduction in the speed limit but the Town could still submit a request to include language stating the Town would enforce the lower speed limit.

Council Member Carter made a motion to adopt A Resolution Requesting That The North Carolina Department of Transportation Reduce The Speed Limit On Portions Of West Southerland Street and North Raleigh Road which was seconded by Council Member Brinkley and approved unanimously.

### **Consideration of Speed Limit Change in Eastwood Acres**

Manager Bergman stated that this request to reduce the speed limit on Eastwood Drive came from NCDOT (North Carolina Department of Transportation) from a resident's request. Since a portion of the road is in the town limits DOT has asked that the change be approved for uniformity with the out-of-town portion.

Council Member Carlton made a motion to approve a Speed Limit Ordinance Amendment setting the speed limit on Eastwood Drive/State Road 2010 to 25 Mph. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and approved by unanimous vote.

#### Establish Public Hearing for Financing Public Services Operations Center Upfit

Finance Director Taylor asked the Council to establish a public hearing for Monday, January 17, 2022 at 6:00 pm to receive comments regarding financing the improvements to the old armory on Wilmington Road.

Council Member Carter made a motion to establish a public hearing on Monday, January 17, 2022 at 6:00 pm. Council Member Brinkley seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

#### Consideration of Approval of Alcohol Sales on Sunday Before Noon

Manager Bergman said that in 2017 the General Assembly passed a law allowing the sale of alcoholic beverages on Sunday before noon if local jurisdictions also adopt that provision. Corporate representatives of Food Lion requested the Town adopt a "Brunch Bill" allowing grocery stores and restaurants to sell and serve alcohol before noon.

Council Member Brinkley made a motion to adopt An Ordinance Approving An Amendment To The Town Of Wallace Code Of Ordinances Chapter 111: Alcoholic Beverages beginning at 10:00 am on Sunday pursuant to the licensed premises permit issued under G.S. 18B-1001. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and approved unanimously.

#### Consideration of Agreement With McAdams and Associates for Project Management- Valley Protein Sewer Extension Project

Manager Bergman asked the Council to approve an agreement with McAdams and Associates for services performed by Emily Miller as project manager and administrator. Ms. Miller will work in coordination with Stroud Engineering at a cost of \$60,000.

Council Member Brinkley made a motion to enter into a contract with McAdams and Associates with the provision that no additional project management fees be paid to Stroud Engineering. Council Member Carter seconded the motion which was approved by unanimous vote.

#### Consideration of Agreement Extension with Stroud Engineering for Valley Protein Sewer Extension Project

Manager Bergman stated that Stroud Engineering has been through the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process and been selected based on their qualifications and experience in municipal utility consulting and engineering. They have already done preliminary work on the project and Mr. Bergman asked the Council to extend their agreement and continue using their services.

Council Member Brinkley made a motion to continue with Stroud Engineering for the Valley Protein project but not to pay additional project management fees. The motion was seconded by Council Member Carlton and unanimously approved.

#### Update to Town Personnel Policy -Tuition Reimbursement Program

Manager Bergman presented a Tuition Reimbursement Program to expand opportunities for employee training in their current position or prepare them for promotion or transfer to another department. Reimbursement would be capped at \$1,000 per employee in a fiscal year from the department in which the employee works with budgeted funds available.

Council Member Carter made a motion to add Tuition Reimbursement to the Town's Personnel Policy that was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and approved unanimously.

### Financial Reports

Finance Director Taylor reported that the budget is on track except for the maintenance/repair line item in the water department because of a broken water main. It is not over budget, yet.

### Council Reports

Council Member Brinkley said he appreciated the vote of confidence shown to him by appointing him to the vacant Council seat.

Council Member Rivas-Diaz asked about the old Walmart property. Mayor Wells said there is some interest in it and the property has been listed.

### Mayor's Report

Mayor Wells said that department head will no longer be required to attend the meetings unless they have an item on the agenda. He did however, call on Public Services Director Brent Dean to talk about the WWTP.

Public Services Director Dean said because of the age of the plant and some of the initial cost saving measures there are some things need to be upgraded especially in consideration of the additional flow from Valley Proteins. Council Member Carter asked if he would object to an independent engineer evaluating it. Mr. Dean said he did not object.

### Town Manager's Report

Manager Bergman asked Finance Director Taylor to inform the Council about the latest on the ARP funds. Mr. Taylor said that the Town is now allowed to spend the money on whatever they want and reminded Council that some of the ARP funds have already been committed to renovation of the armory.

Manager Bergman asked the Council if they would like to schedule the Budget Retreat for Friday, February 18. The Council agreed and decided to have it at the Airport.

With there being no other business to discuss at this time, Council Member Brinkley made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council Member Carlton and approved by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jason Wells., Mayor

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Jacqueline Nicholson, MMC, NCCMC  
Town Clerk

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
TOWN OF WALLACE



**CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE**

**22-08**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Wallace desires to provide an all inclusive playground for it citizens at Clement Park, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town desires to establish a capital project ordinance to track the revenues and expenditures for the project;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED** by the Town Council of Wallace that pursuant to section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following Capital Project Ordinance 22-08 is hereby established and adopted:

**Section 1:** The Project authorized is construction of an all-inclusive playground.

**Section 2:** The officers of this unit are hereby directed to proceed with the capital project within the terms of the board resolution, and the budget contained herein.

**Section 3:** The following initial amounts are appropriated for the project:

Construction	<u>\$ 325,000.00</u>
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**Section 4:** The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete this project:

Local Match - Wallace	\$ 75,000.00
Contributions	<u>\$ 250,000.00</u>
Total	\$325,000.00

**Section 5:** The finance officer is hereby directed to maintain within the capital project fund enough specific detailed accounting records to satisfy the requirements of the grantor agency, the grant agreements, and federal regulations.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** by the Town Council of Wallace that this ordinance shall become in full force and effective upon adoption.

Adopted this the 13<sup>th</sup> day of January 2022

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jason Wells, Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jackie Nicholson, Town Clerk

{SEAL}

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
TOWN OF WALLACE



RESOLUTION 22-09

Designating United Bank an Official Depository

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of the Town Council that all public funds of the Town of Wallace, North Carolina (hereafter the "Town") be deposited in a secure, efficient and effective manner; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the responsibility of the Finance Director, who is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Town Manager, to supervise the receipt, custody and disbursement of the public funds of the Town; and

**WHEREAS**, the Finance Director has requested and received quotes on investment rates and shared with Town Council; and

**WHEREAS**, the United Bank is qualified to be an official depository for the Town pursuant to G.S. 159-31 and has selected to secure its uninsured public deposits under the "Pooling Method", which is a collateral pool under which each public depositor's uninsured deposits are secured with securities held by the State Treasurer's agent in the name of the State Treasurer.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Town Council of Wallace, North Carolina that:

**Section 1.** United Bank (hereafter the "Official Depository") is hereby designated as an official depository of the Town. The Finance Director of the Town shall be and is hereby authorized and directed to deposit funds of the Town in the Official Depository in the name and to the credit of the Town of Wallace, North Carolina.

**Section 2.** As required by G.S. 159-25(b), all checks, drafts, or orders of the Town drawn against said funds shall be authorized and signed as appropriate by the following (hereinafter the "Authorized Signers"):

- A. One of the following officers:
  - Finance Director
  - Town Manager
  - Mayor
- And countersigned by
- B. One of the following officers:
  - Finance Director
  - Town Manager
  - Mayor

The names and signatures of the Authorized Signers shall be duly certified by the Town Clerk to the Official Depository as from time to time may be necessary and no check, draft, or order drawn against the Official Depository shall be valid unless so signed or authorized.



**Section 3.** Upon opening an account with the Official Depository, the Finance Director must:

- a. Give written instructions that the proceeds from all checks payable to the order of the City shall be deposited to the credit of the Town of Wallace, North Carolina and that under no circumstance may such an item be converted into cash.
- b. Verify the method currently used by the depository to collateralize the public deposits and stay informed of any change in methods as the result of conversions to a different method or as the result of merger of depositories;
- c. Notify the depository at the time a new deposit account is opened, or a certificate of deposit is purchased that the account is a public deposit account subject to the collateralization requirements;
- d. File a "Notification of Public Deposit" (Form COLL-91) with each depository and provide a copy to the State Treasurer as of June 30 of each year;
- e. Execute such other forms and documentation with provisions consistent with this resolution as may be reasonably required by the Official Depository to establish the account;
- f. Report the amount of deposits and investments and such other information as may be required on the semi-annual reports on form LGC 203 required to be filed with the Local Government Commission pursuant to G.S. 159-33; and
- g. Comply with other requirements of law, regulation, or sound banking practice and with any requirements described in the State Treasurer's publication, The Collateralization of Public Deposits in North Carolina.

**Section 4.** Certified copies of this resolution shall be provided to the Official Depository herein designated.

**Section 5.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

Adopted this the 13<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2022

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jason Wells, Mayor

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Jackie Nicholson, Town Clerk

{SEAL}

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTEMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION REDUCE THE SPEED LIMIT ON PORTIONS OF W.  
SOUTHERLAND STREET AND N. RALEIGH ROAD**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Wallace seeks to provide for the health, safety and welfare of its citizens and visitors, and;

**WHEREAS**, it is the opinion of Town Staff and Town Council that the speed limits along West Southerland Street and W. Raleigh Road between North Raleigh Street and Main Street, being residential in nature and having limited visibility, are too fast, and;

**WHEREAS**, the NC Department of Transportation will consider lowering the speed to 25 MPH in this area if the Town agrees to actively enforce the new speed limits, and;

**WHEREAS**, The Wallace Police Department and their Chief is supportive of such a speed limit change and is willing to enforce a 25 MPH limit in this area,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Town Council, Wallace, NC that;

1. The Town of Wallace hereby requests that NCDOT reduce the speed limit to 25 MPH along West Southerland Street and W. Raleigh Road between North Raleigh Street and Main Street.
2. The Town of Wallace and its Police Department will enforce a 25 MPH speed limit on West Southerland Street and W. Raleigh Road between North Raleigh Street and Main Street if approved by NCDOT.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jason Wells, Mayor

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Town Clerk