

TOWN OF WALLACE
MONTHLY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
February 10, 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
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	Marlane Carcopo, Wallace NC Weekly
Jimmy Crayton, Police Chief	Roger Sauls, MeterSys
Gage King, Airport Manager	Hope Smith
Rob Taylor, Finance Director	Jackson Stampe
Tom Agnew	Curtis West
Joseph Banks	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 Mayor Pro-tem Wannetta Carlton offered the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Presentations and Proclamations

Marlane Carcopo, Strawberry Festival Committee Chair, officially announced that the 2022 Festival is scheduled for April 29th and 30th. Ms. Carcopo spoke about the bands, midway, vendors and asked Hope Smith to unveil the artwork for the 2022 Festival. Ms. Smith said that she created this to be different from previous years so it would look good on a Tshirt.

Adoption of the Agenda

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

Public Comment Period

Joseph Banks introduced himself and talked about the drug and alcohol rehab center that he plans to open on Main Street.

Tom Agnew said that he was a former NCDOT Engineer and currently does contract work for the department. Mr. Agnew spoke about changing the timing on the stoplights to improve traffic flow on Hwy 117.

Jackson Stampe stated that he is working on his Citizenship in the Community Merit Badge.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Wells called for discussion of the minutes from the January 13, 2022 meeting and January 17, 2022 Public Hearing. 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 Frank Brinkley and approved by unanimous vote.

Finance Director Rob Taylor reported that as of December 31, 2021 outstanding current year taxes (2020) was \$411,158 and 2021 taxes with Duplin County collecting were \$308,168.

Old Business

Approval of Resolution Amending Town of Wallace Code of Ordinances Chapter 74: Parking Schedules

Town Manager Larry Bergman said that this was discussed previously and relates to potential residential development above businesses on the west end of Main Street. Both North and South Raleigh Street at Main are currently used for parallel parking with the south side having designated parking spaces that have not been maintained.

Council Member Carlton made a motion to approve A Resolution Adding Parts of Raleigh Street to the Parallel Parking Schedule V. Of Chapter 74 of Town of Wallace Code of Ordinances. The motion was seconded by Council Member Carter and unanimously approved.

Appoint ETJ (Extra Territorial Jurisdiction) Member to Planning Board

Town Manager Bergman stated that an ETJ representative was needed to fill a vacancy on the Planning Board.

Council Member Carlton made a motion to appoint Barnabus Pearsall, for a term to expire in 2024 that was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and approved by unanimous vote.

Resolution Authorizing Filing of an Application for Approval of a Financing Agreement

Finance Director Taylor asked the Council to approve a resolution to be submitted with the application for financing a portion of the Public Works Operations Center renovations which is required by the LGC (Local Government Commission).

Council Member Jason Davis made a motion to adopt Resolution 21-22-09 Authorizing The Filing Of An Application For Approval Of A Financing Agreement Authorized By North Carolina General Statute 160A-20 which was seconded by Council Member Carlton and unanimously approved.

New Business

Approve Work Authorization (WA) 21-03 for Phase II Land Acquisition

Airport Manager Gage King said that the land acquisition was separated into to phases as Phase II is related to road realignment. Mr. King added that it includes surveys, appraisals, EDDAs (Environment Due Dilligence Audits). The WA has been reviewed and approved by NCDOT (North Carolina Department of Transportation).

Council Member Brinkley made a motion to approve Work Authorization 21-03. The motion was seconded by Council Member Davis and approved unanimously.

Discussion of Salary Survey Results for General (non-sworn) Empolyees

Manager Bergman informed the Council that the same methodolgy used to evaluate the police pay was used for the rest of the staff. Overall the average salary is about 8% behind others in the population group (2,500-4,999) although most all are in the range with the exception of a few. Mr. Bergman indicated that the salary discussion continue at the Budget Retreat next week alongside other focus areas such as the Capital Improvement Plan

AMI (Automated Metering Infrastructure) Project – Next Steps, Task Order #2

Manager Bergman said that Council authorized moving ahead with MeterSys as the consultant for the meter preplacement project. The next step is to approve Task Order #2 to inventory the large meters and prepare an RFP (Request for Proposals) for the project.

Council Member Carter made a motion to approve Task Order #2 in the amount of \$13,500 which was seconded by Council Member Brinkley and approved by unanimous vote.

Capital Project Ordinance Automated Metering System

Finance Director Taylor asked the Council to adopt a Captial Project Ordinance to cover initial conslting costs in the amount of \$15,000. Once a decision on funding sources, equipment and final costs is made a budget amendment will need to be approved.

Council Member Carlton made a motion to approve Captial Project Ordinance 22-09 for an automated metering system for the Water and Sewer Fund. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and approved by unanimous vote.

Proposal for Preparing Pre-Position Emergency Debris Removal Contract

Manager Bergman said that the current contracts for emergency debris removal were put in place with the assistance of Johnson Environmental Services. It is time to re-bid for a primary and secondary contractor and asked for approval of their proposal for services.

Council Member Carter made a motion to approve the proposal for services with Johnson Environmental & Disaster Consulting Services. Council Member Rivas-Diaz seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Memorandum of Understanding for Kids Track Trail

Manager Bergman explained that as part of the recently approved construction contract for the Kids Track Trail the Town needs to enter into an agreement with the Kids Track parent organization. It is a standardized program with certain requirements for the trail, such as customized stations along the track and a primary welcome/trailhead sign.

Council Member Carter made a motion to approve the Track Trail Partnership Memorandum of Understanding. The motion was seconded by Council Member Brinkley and approved unanimously.

Resource Institute Grant Agreement

Manager Bergman stated that while preparing grant proposals from the Grist Mill He learned that the Resource Institute is active in grant seeking and grant management, their fees are built into the grant funds.

Council Member Brinkley made a motion to enter into a Project Agreement with Resource Institute, Inc. Council Member Davis seconded the motion which was approved by unanimous vote.

Financial Reports

Finance Director Taylor reported on the status of the budget through the end of December and said sales tax is up 6% over last year.

Council Reports

Council Member Carter asked about paving. Manager Bergman responded that Public Services is working with new equipment and some paving has been done.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Wells said that he had been approached by Ken Floyd, Wallace Chamber of Commerce President, requesting a contribution in the upcoming fiscal year.

Town Manager's Report

Manager Bergman reported on some Code Enforcement items and said that things are continuing to move. He added that Parks & Recreation Director David Bizzell has scheduled a Magic Show to raise funds and create awareness of the proposed inclusive playground. Manager Bergman also said he is working on a vacant property ordinance so those properties will be maintained better.

Department Head Reports

Jimmy Crayton, Police Chief, said that property crimes are up and due to a number of break-ins at the old Walmart some cameras have been installed. He added that some lumber was stolen from the site of the new apartment complex at Tin City and Rockfish County Club has also been broken into.

Gage King, Airport Manager, stated that the AWOS (Automated Weather Observation System) had been ordered by NCDOT (North Carolina Department of Transportation).

Rob Taylor, Finance Director, reported he had created a welcome package for new utility customers, both residential and commercial.

Jackie Nicholson, Town Clerk, asked who planned to attend the Duplin County Municipal Association Meeting next Thursday? Council Members Rivas-Diaz, Carlton, Davis and they Mayor indicated their interest.

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,

Jason Wells., Mayor

Jacqueline Nicholson, MMC, NCCMC
Town Clerk

A RESOLUTION ADDING PARTS OF RALEIGH STREET TO THE PARALLEL PARKING SCHEDULE V. OF CHAPTER 74 OF TOWN OF WALLACE CODE OF ORDINANCES

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

WHEREAS, the Central Business District of the Town of Wallace has experienced some growth in activity and redevelopment of commercial buildings, including the addition of residential development ,and;

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of Town Staff and Town Council that there is a need to improve parking in terms of defined parking and more parking options in the Central Business District, and;

WHEREAS, Wallace Town Council has previously supported defining parallel parking on N. Raleigh Street;

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

1. The Town of Wallace hereby amends Chapter 74: Parking Schedules to reflect that Raleigh Street between W. Southerland and W. Boney Streets are designated and added to Schedule V: Parking Parallel to the Curb.
2. Town Staff is authorized to mark parallel parking spots in accordance with Town standards and other existing ordinances.

ATTEST:

Jason Wells, Mayor

Town Clerk