

**TOWN OF WALLACE  
MONTHLY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
August 11, 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 Jason Davis
- Council Member Francisco Rivas-Diaz

The following members of the Governing Body were absent:

- Council Member Frank Brinkley
- Council Member Jeff Carter

Also Present were:

Larry Bergman, Town Manager	Anna H. Herring, Town Attorney
Jackie Nicholson, Town Clerk	Marlane Carcopo (via Zoom)
Jimmy Crayton, Police Chief	Sandy Forehand (via Zoom)
David Bizzell, Parks & Recreation Director	Jimmy Johnson
Brent Dean, Public Services Director	Candace Knowles
Charles "Twig" Rollins, Code Enforcement	Jennifer Raynor (via Zoom)
Rob Taylor, Finance Director	Rebecca Whitman, <i>Duplin Times</i>

Mayor Jason Wells called the regular meeting to order with a quorum of the governing body members present and the invocation was offered by Mayor Pro-tem Wannetta Carlton.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Presentations**

Parks & Recreation Director David Bizzell provided an update on activities in his department. He said that baseball and softball participation was really high. The Coach-Pitch baseball team went to the State Tournament, won, and played in the Dixie Youth World Series. Summer volleyball had the highest participation ever. Fall football sign ups are in progress and Adult Corn Hole starts August 16 with 12 teams this year. Mr. Bizzell said that an EcoExplore grant was awarded through the North Carolina Arboretum. He added that a Veteran's Stand Down with Duplin Christian Outreach Ministries was very successful and a Disaster Relief Expo is scheduled for August 13 at the Campbell Center. The department is holding a couple of fundraising events for the inclusive playground; a concert on October 1 at the Mad Boar featuring North Town and a One-pitch softball tournament on Saturday, September 24 at Art Meyer Field.

### Adoption of the Agenda

Mayor Wells asked for any additions or deletions from the Agenda. Town Manager Larry Bergman said that the closed session would not be needed. Council Member Francisco Rivas-Diaz made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended which was seconded by Council Member Carlton and approved by unanimous vote.

### Public Comment Period

None

### Consent Agenda

Mayor Wells called for discussion of the minutes from the July 7, 2022 meeting and the July 28, 2022 continued meeting. There being no additions or corrections Council Member Carlton made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and unanimously approved.

Finance Director Rob Taylor presented the year-end tax reports. Mr. Taylor said that we finished they year with \$132,876 past due taxes and a collection rate of 96.24% right now and he expects that will increase to 96.57% with DMV (Division of Motor Vehicles) taxes.

Mr. Taylor asked the Council to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #26 for fiscal year 2021-22 to increase the fuel purchase expenditure line because of higher fuel costs. Council Member Carlton made a motion to approve the budget amendment that was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and approved by unanimous vote.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

#### Street Closing Request – Woodmen of the World

Council Member Rivas-Diaz made a motion to open a public hearing that was seconded by Council Member Carlton and approved by unanimous vote.

Manager Larry Bergman said that the request to close a portion the the unopened/unapproved right-of-way located off W. Cliff St parallel to S. Orange St. is to facilitate sale of the property. Manager Bergman added that it would not be necessary to take action on this item until the property has been surveyed and fees paid. Mayor Wells called for comments from those in attendance. Candace Knowles stated that the property owners want this to happen so they can put the property up for sale. There were no other comments.

Council Member Carlton made a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and approved unanimously.

### **Old Business**

#### AMI (Advanced Metering Infrastructure) Project Fortline Equipment Agreement

Manager Bergman stated that at the last meeting the Council approved purchasing the equipment for the new water meters from Fortline, Inc. The Town Attorney has suggested some changes but there has yet to be a response. Bergman emphasized that the pricing would not change. The Council will take action when the contract is finalized.

#### AMI Capital Project Ordinance

Finance Director Taylor asked the Council to approved a budget amendment for purchase and installation of the new water meter system.

Council Member Carlton made a motion to adopt Budget Amendment #1 for FY 2022-23. The motion was seconded by Council Member Jason Davis and unanimously approved.

#### Highfill Engineering Revised WWTP (Wastewater Treatment Plant) Evaluation Proposal

Manager Bergman said that based on input from staff, Highfill has adusted their proposal and it is approximately \$15,000 lower than the original. Town Attorney Anna Heath recommended a change to item 8. Payment Terms to include the language *only for amounts not in dispute*.

Council Member Carlton made a motion to approve the agreement with the proposed changes. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and approved unanimously.

#### Stroud Engineering Revised Well Contract Amendment

Manager Bergman stated that after the discussion last month Stroud Engineering agreed to reduce the amount of the agreement amendment to include only an increase to the Construction Administration/Observation fees in the amount of \$38,855.

Council Member Davis made a motion to approve the contract amendment that was seconded by Council Member Carlton and unanimously approved.

#### Stroud Engineering Valley Proteins Project

Manager Bergman reminded the Council that the RFQ (Request for Qualifications) was done for the Valley Proteins project with Stroud Engineering being the only firm responding. He added that they have been involved since the beginning of the project and been involved in helping to secure funds for it. The Town Attorney identified some changes in the agreement.

Council Member Carlton made a motion to approve the agreement with the proposed changes which was seconded by Council Member Davis and approved by unanimous vote.

### **New Business**

#### Police Car Financing

Finance Director Taylor said the Town anticipated financing three (3) new police cars through the traditional RFP (Request for Proposals) process and since discovered that USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) has a Rural Economic Devlopment Loan and Grant (REDLG) program. It is administered locally through Four County Electric with 0% financing. He asked the Council to authorize a REDLG application in the amount of \$119,868 by resolution (22-23-02).

Council Member Davis made a motion adopt A Resolution Authorizing A Town Of Wallace Application To Four County Electric For USDA REDLG Financing For New Police Patrol Units. The motion was seconded by Council Member Carlton and unanimously approved.

#### Street Sweeper Financing

Finance Director Taylor stated that all local banks were asked for bids on financing the new street sweeper and recommended the Council accept the bid from United Community Bank in the amount of \$253,564.16 with 3.22% interest for five (5) years.

Council Member Davis made a motion to adopt a Resolution Approving Financing Terms for the street sweeper that was seconded by Council Member Carlton and approved by unaimous vote.

#### Verizon Wireless Attachment Agreement Extension

Manager Bergman said that the existing lease agreement with Verizon allowing them to attach antennas on the water tanks has expired and they have asked for an extension. The extension would provide two (2) five-year extensions and includes a clause increasing revenues annually by 15%.

Council Member Carlton made a motion to approve the agreement amendment. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and approved unanimously.

#### Street and Utility Standards Discussion

Manager Bergman said that in regards to streets and utilities the Town ordinances generally refer to other sources or manuals for standards, or that standards are discussed during the technical review process. The intent is to establish our own standards in order to help prioritize the use of street maintenance and other funds. Manager Bergman sent some examples separately and they will be discussed in more detail at another meeting.

#### Financial Reports

Finance Director Taylor presented the financial reports through the end of May. There were no questions or comments.

#### Council Reports

There were no Council items.

#### Mayor's Report

The Mayor had no items.

#### Town Manager's Report

Manager Bergman reported that both the NCDOT Bicycle/Pedestrian Planning Grant and the Water System Assesment Inventory Grant were approved. He said he would continue to represent the Town on the Eastern Carolina Council of Governments and was reappointed by motion of Council Member Carlton, seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and unanimously approved.

Manager Bergman asked who would be attending the Duplin County Municipal Association meeting next Thursday and Mayor Wells and Council Members Carlton and Rivas-Diaz said they were.

Council Member Rivas-Diaz 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

TOWN OF WALLACE  
 BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #1  
 CAPITAL PROJECT 22.09

BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of Wallace, North Carolina the following amendments be made to the budget for Capital Project Ordinance 22.09 -AMI (Advanced Metering Infrastructure)			
<b>Section I:</b>	<b>Water and Sewer Capital Project Fund</b>		
<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Account Description</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>Increase</b>
35-2209-106	Capital Outlay	\$1,164,494.00	
35-2209-108	Contingency	\$87,337.00	
35-2209-100	Transfer from Water/Sewer Fund		\$165,000.00
35-2209-325	Proceeds from Issuance of Debt		\$1,086,831.00
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$1,251,831.00</b>	<b>\$1,251,831.00</b>

Increase budget for the purchase and installation of AMI system for Water Department

**Section II: Copy to Finance Director:**

Copies of this budget amendment shall be delivered to the Finance Director for their direction in the disbursement of funds:

**Adopted this August 11, 2022**

Attest:

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

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

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
TOWN OF WALLACE

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A TOWN OF WALLACE  
APPLICATION TO FOUR COUNTY ELECTRIC FOR USDA REDLG  
FINANCING FOR NEW POLICE PATROL UNITS**

**Resolution 22-23-02**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Wallace is purchasing three (3) police patrol units to replace older units being surplus and to continue operating at efficient levels; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town is seeking funding for the new vehicles through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (REDLG) program with Four County Electric submitting application and making loan to the Town at zero percent interest for 5 years;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town Council for the Town of Wallace

1. That the Town of Wallace will arrange financing for all remaining costs of this project, if approved for a loan.
2. That the Town Manager, is hereby authorized to execute and have Four County Electric file an application for the USDA Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (REDLG) program and if awarded, Four County Electric will make loan to the Town in the amount of \$119,868 for the new patrol vehicles.
3. That the Town Manager is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the Fund may request in connection with such application; to make assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required in connection with the application.

This resolution is effective upon its adoption this 11th day of August 2022. The motion to adopt this resolution was made by Council Member Jason Davis seconded by Council Member Carlton and passed by a vote 4 to 0 (zero).

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

Attest:

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

{SEAL}

This is to certify that this is a true and accurate copy of this Resolution adopted by the Wallace Town Council on the August 11, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
TOWN OF WALLACE

Resolution Approving Financing Terms

**WHEREAS:** The Town of Wallace (“Town”) has previously determined to undertake a project for the financing of a street sweeper, and the Finance Director has now presented a proposal for the financing of such Project:

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED,** as follows:

1. The Town hereby determines to finance the Project through United Community Bank (“UCB”), in accordance with the proposal dated July 14, 2022. The amount financed shall not exceed \$253,564.16 the annual interest rate (in the absence of default or change in tax status) shall not exceed 3.22%, and the financing term shall not exceed five (5) years from closing.
2. All financing contracts and all related documents for the closing of the financing (the “Financing Documents”) shall be consistent with the foregoing terms. All officers and employees of the Town are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver any Financing Documents, and to take all such further action as they may consider necessary or desirable, to carry out the financing of the Project as contemplated by the proposal and this resolution.
3. The Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to hold executed copies of the Financing Documents until the conditions for the delivery of the Financing Documents have been completed to such officer’s satisfaction. The Finance Officer is authorized to approve changes to any Financing Documents previously signed by Town officers or employees, provided that such changes shall not substantially alter the intent of such documents or certificates from the intent expressed in the forms executed by such officers. The Financing Documents shall be in such final forms as the Finance Officer shall approve, with the Finance Officer’s release of any Financing Document for delivery constituting conclusive evidence of such officer’s final approval of the Document’s final form.
4. The Town intends that the adoption of this resolution will be a declaration of the Town’s official intent to reimburse expenditures for the project that is to be financed from the proceeds of the UCB financing described above. The Town intends that funds that have been advanced, or that may be advanced, from the Town’s stormwater fund or any other Town fund related to the project, for project costs may be reimbursed from the financing proceeds.
5. All prior actions of Town officers in furtherance of the purposes of this resolution are hereby ratified, approved and confirmed.

All other resolutions (or parts thereof) in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed, to the extent of the conflict. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Approved this 11<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022.

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Jason Wells, Mayor

{seal}

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Jacqueline Nicholson, Town Clerk