

BOARD OF ALDERMAN

June 19, 2023

The Board of Aldermen of the Town of Connelly Springs met at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall Board Room in Connelly Springs, North Carolina. The following board members were present: Mayor Dennis Seagle, Alderman Steve Smart, Alderman Ramona Duncan, Alderman Carroll Turner and Alderman Kimberly Sigmon. Alderman Terry Childers and Alderman Jeffrey Beck were absent, excused. Also, in attendance were: Attorney Jared Amos, Town Administrator Tamara Brooks and residents Johnny and Cloise Berry, and Sophia Greene. The Board meeting was recorded in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 160A-72, 171.

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME: Mayor Seagle called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and welcomed all in attendance.

INVOCATION: Since the invocation was previously given in the public hearing, Mayor Seagle asked those in attendance to rise and give the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Alderman Turner made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Alderman Duncan seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES: Alderman Smart made a motion to approve the minutes from the Board of Aldermen's regular meeting on June 05, 2023, as presented. Alderman Turner seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

PROPOSED BUDGET FY 2023/2024: Alderman Smart presented the proposed budget for fiscal year 2023-2024 (Budget Ordinance Fiscal Year 2023-2024 / Ordinance No. 2023-01, see attached). Alderman Turner made a motion to accept the budget as presented. Alderman Sigmon seconded and the vote was unanimous.

BUDGET AMENDMENT ORDINANCE- FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 / ORDINANCE 2023-02: Alderman Turner made a motion to approve the Budget Amendment Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 as presented (see attached). Alderman Sigmon seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

RESOLUTION – AD VALOREM TAX RATE / RESOLUTION 2023-04: Alderman Turner made a motion to approve the Ad Valorem Resolution for fiscal year 2023-2024, which would set the town's tax rate at five cents (\$.05) per one hundred-dollar (\$100) valuation. Alderman Duncan seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

ORDER FOR TAX COLLECTION: Alderman Turner made a motion to approve the Order for the Tax Collector for 2023 taxes allowing the County of Burke to bill and collect taxes for the Town of Connelly Springs. Alderman Sigmon seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Administrator Brooks presented the calendar for the remainder June and July.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: No legal action to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Seagle reported that the hardware store should be opening soon.

FINANCE: Alderman Smart presented the financial reports and said they are available for review. The town continues to do well this fiscal year with income received of one hundred twenty-two percent (122%), more than what was budgeted for this fiscal year to date. Expenses are at eighty-five percent (85%) of the budgeted amount for the fiscal year to date.

GOVERNMENT SERVICES: Deputy Sigmon will give his reports for June and July at the August meeting.

WATER/SEWER: None.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Alderman Duncan said the concert with 80z Nation went well. It was one of the largest crowds in attendance since the concerts began. She reminded everyone that the next concert is scheduled for Saturday, July 8th with The Tams. Food trucks for the evening will be Countryside BBQ and My Mobile Bakery. She asked all those who could to attend and give their support.

PERSONNEL:

Alderman Sigmon asked the Board to approve the mid-year bonus for Deputy Sigmon and Administrator Brooks. Alderman Smart made a motion to approve both bonuses. Alderman Duncan seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Alderman Sigmon asked for a closed session to discuss a personnel matter.

PROPERTY:

Alderman Turner presented a quote from Foothill Outdoor Solutions to replace the irrigation system for the amount of twenty-six thousand six hundred fourteen dollars (\$26,614.00). He made a motion to accept the proposal to replace the irrigation system as presented. Alderman Smart seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC WORKS/LANDSCAPING: After reviewing proposals from both Foothills Outdoor Solutions and Jensen Lawn & Landscaping for the public works/landscaping contract, Alderman Turner made a motion to accept the annual contract for those services from Jensen Lawn & Landscaping in the amount of twenty-five thousand eight hundred dollars (\$25,800.00). Alderman Sigmon seconded the motion and the vote is as follows: Aye – Aldermen Turner, Sigmon, and Beck; No – Alderman Smart and Duncan. The motion passed.

1170 TOMLINSON LOOP: Alderman Turner asked Administrator Brooks if she had been able to contact Tyler Watts to have the entrance at 1170 Tomlinson Loop mowed. She has called and emailed but hasn't received a confirmed date for the work to be done.

TRANSPORTATION: None.

CLOSED SESSION: Alderman Turner made a motion to go into closed session to discuss a personnel matter. Alderman Sigmon seconded the motion.

OPEN SESSION: Alderman Turner made a motion to return to open session. Alderman Duncan seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. No action was taken as a result of closed session.

As a result of closed session, Alderman Turner made a motion to hire a part-time administrative assistant. Alderman Sigmon seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. Administrator Brooks will have a job description drafted to present at the August meeting.

Alderman Turner made a motion for WCI to review the town's employee handbook and suggest policy updates. Alderman Smart seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: Mayor Seagle announced the following changes for committee assignments:

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS - EFFECTIVE 07/01/2023		
COMMITTEE	CHAIRPERSON	MEMBER
FINANCE	RAMONA DUNCAN	CARROLL TURNER
WATER & SEWER	TERRY CHILDERS	STEVE SMART
GOVERNMENT SERVICES	TERRY CHILDERS	RAMONA DUNCAN
PROPERTY	CARROLL TURNER	JEFFREY BECK
PERSONNEL	CARROLL TURNER	TERRY CHILDERS
TRANSPORTATION	STEVE SMART	JEFFREY BECK
PARKS & RECREATION	KIMBERLY SIGMON	RAMONA DUNCAN

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business before the Board of Aldermen, Mayor Seagle called for a motion to adjourn. Alderman Turner made a motion to adjourn with Alderman Duncan seconding the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Dennis Seagle, Mayor

Tamara Brooks, Town Administrator/Clerk