

## **Town Council Meeting**

### **Town of Greensboro**

**12.16.21**

In attendance: Town Clerk/Treasurer Mrs. Tammy Kelleles, Pastor Doug Morley, Mayor Kevin Reichart, Comm. Brandon Cunningham, Comm. Robert Harrison, Comm. Amanda Weaver, Comm. David Spencer, Attorney Lyndsey Ryan, Police Chief Biddle, Admin Vanice Myers, Rich Covert -GVFC, Barb Mutolo, Cathy Spencer, Loge Knight, Sam Geib-Finance Clerk.

The Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Reichart at 6:00 p.m. on December 16, 2021.

Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Committee and Department Reports**

#### Administration

Whoville – Town Clerk Mrs. Kelleles reported that there have been over 3,000 people in attendance thus far and hoping to double this for the weekend ahead. She asked who would be helping as she needs all hands-on deck. Comm. Spencer advised Friday night only; Mayor Reichart stated definitely Friday was not sure about Saturday; Comm. Cunningham was not sure what he could do as of yet.

Waste Water Treatment Plant expansion had a funder meeting and will need to have a closed session meeting to discuss. They are looking to have January 2023 as the start date and will have a lot to present.

Grant funds may be available through MDE for infrastructure projects. The state will get billions and it will trickle down. Grants would be great for the streets, sidewalks, municipal buildings and parks. Comm. Cunningham suggested the potential for a sidewalk from the town to the elementary school so that kids can arrive to school safely.

Comm. Spencer went to a meeting on Tuesday which talked about funding. Senator Eckardt advised that we should have projects ready or potentially ready to go. Another clue Senator Eckardt gave in regards to funding was for broadband, water, sewer, infrastructure and roadways. Comm. Spencer suggested we reach out to our local delegate to see if they will meet with Council. Town Clerk Mrs. Kelleles states that we can try to reach out to them so if we can get one major project taken care of that would be great. The Town can also reach out to MML to have a productive meeting. The Sercap rough draft for water study should be ready within the next two weeks. Hopefully, prior to budget discussion and the next Town Council meeting.

Town Clerk Mrs. Kelleles states there is nothing to report regarding the Baldwin project.

Planning and Zoning Clerk Jaime, Attorney Lyndsey and Town Clerk Mrs. Kelleles had a meeting to discuss compliance. Residents were receiving warning letters first, followed by a notice and then a citation. The process is being changed so that one code enforcement letter is sent and will be followed with a citation if the violation is not abated. Attorney Lyndsey stated some counties will not prosecute; Talbot County being one. Queen Anne's County will prosecute. If Caroline County will not prosecute, Attorney Lyndsey would accompany Jaime at the hearings.

Attorney Lyndsey discussed the property maintenance code regarding unregistered vehicles. One vehicle, unregistered and should not be visible unless being repaired. The vehicle must be under cover when not being worked on. The Town does not have the authority to tow vehicles for being unregistered from the property. Normally, what happens when they are in violation and do not pay then the case goes to court. The Court will give the defendant a certain number of days to remove vehicle from the property. If the vehicle is not removed from the property after the grace period, then the defendant is charged \$100 for the first day and then \$200 per day thereafter until the vehicle is removed from the property.

Town Clerk Mrs. Kelleles and Chief Deputy Officer Ray will attend the Judy Center ground breaking ceremony on Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. Town Clerk Mrs. Kelleles also advised that interviews for public works positions will be held at the end of the month.

### Police

Police Chief Biddle - Every year the Commissioners and Police Department talk about who to make as the Honorary Citizen of the year. For 2021, the award goes to Pastor Doug Morley for his outstanding support and commitment to the community.

Mayor Reichart asked Chief Biddle if the radars have been ordered yet in which Chief Biddle answered yes. Comm. Cunningham asked Chief Biddle if any body cameras have been ordered in which Chief Biddle advised that he will meet with Town Clerk Mrs. Kelleles to discuss because there is grant money that can help pay for them. Right now, two are needed per Chief Biddle. Comm. Spencer inquired if the cameras are chest mount in which Chief Biddle answered yes.

### **Town Council Discussion**

#### Water/Schedule to turn back on

Mr. Barron, owner of 609 W Sunset, called Jaime to verify that the tenants had moved out and that he will call Jaime when he is ready to do renovations. Comm. Harrison asked if the billing was up to date. Sam advised that she just did billing so he has that bill but for the most part he is up to date. The Town cannot schedule a water town on until someone is present in the house to make sure there are no leaks. Mr. Barron will most likely not want the water turned back on until some clean-up/renovations have begun.

#### Possible Agreement with GVFC regarding water hook-up

Mr. Rich advised piping is already there. Comm. Spencer asked if there any charges to hook up to the pump? Mr. Rich stated that they paid \$1,500 for water and sewer connection. Mr. Rich explained that the lines are already there, they should only have to pay for the meter. Comm. Spencer wants to look to see what the projected cost to run the second hookup if required. The Council asked Attorney Lyndsey to review the map. The Fire Department was only required to run 6-inch lines but the Town requested to run 8-inch line and provided a \$4,000 credit.

#### Annexing out-of-town properties

Comm. Spencer apologized for opening a can of worms but a resident that wants to be brought in approached him about the idea. Comm. Spencer inquired about the cost and the process. In the past, Mrs. Delude sent out information and did not get any answers back. TJ Lord is the interested party

wanting to come into town limits. Town Clerk Mrs. Kelledeas inquired if he asked the neighbors if they were wanting to come into town limits also? Attorney Lyndsey said that if there was a benefit of bringing them in, then it would work but if they are the only one then it would not be beneficial. Comm. Harrison states that this is a no-win situation. Mayor Reichart asked if there is a general letter, we could send asking those residents if they would want to be annexed in? Attorney Lyndsey states we will need to check the growth first. Develop a factual sheet showing what they pay now over a year time for water/sewer with the cost of taxes so the residents can make the final decision on whether it would be worth moving into town limits.

#### Playground at Judy Center

Mayor Reichart asked for input regarding donating a playground to the Judy Center. Comm. Cunningham feels we need to revisit this. If we can help give back, is it going to benefit us? These kids will possibly become residents and attend Greensboro Elementary. Mr. Knight asked if the Town will pay for the playground. Mayor Reichart advised that ARPA funds could possibly cover the playground. Mr. Knight then asked if the approval for the playground would affect a playground for Cedar Run and Mayor Reichart stated it will not have an effect on Cedar Run. Comm. Weaver states that she does not think we need to donate a playground but other items that the center could use that will benefit the children.

#### ARPA Funds

Comm. Cunningham asked if the funds could be used for the Judy Center? Attorney Lyndsey thinks it cannot be used for the ARPA funds but she will look into it. Mayor Reichart stated how we can use and distribute has many restrictions on how it is used.

Comm. Cunningham asked why wouldn't we give small businesses that are impacted by Covid some relief from ARPA funds? Attorney Lyndsey said the application is required so that it is open to everyone and that not one business gets more than the next. Attorney Lyndsey stated there would need to be qualifications help to protect the funding. Comm. Harrison asked who would the application go? The grant would go through the town? Attorney Lyndsey advised yes; the application process would go through Town Hall. Mr. Knight stated that having the qualifications is a normal practice and will help isolate the ones that are operating incorrectly will not apply when they know that an application and qualifications are required. Mayor Reichart requested that the application form be created prior to next meeting and that applications will need to be turned in by the end of January with an award date in February to the businesses.

#### Loge Knight, Planning and Zoning board

Mr. Knight addressed the council to get the blessing to join the Planning and Zoning board. Comm. Harrison first asked if someone previously part of council is allowed to join a board? Comm. Harrison thought you had to be away from committees for two years. Mr. Knight investigated and stated that it did not relate and he is allowed to join a board.

*Comm. Weaver made a motion to accept Loge Knights request to join the Planning and Zoning Commission. Comm. Harrison second the motion. All in favor, motion approved.*

*Mayor Reichart asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Comm. Cunningham made a motion. Comm. Spencer seconded the motion. All in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:06 PM.*

Respectfully submitted by Vanice Myers