

TOWN OF DALLAS
MINUTES FOR BOARD OF ALDERMEN VIRTUAL MEETING
AUGUST 11, 2020
6:00 PM

The following elected officials were present: Mayor Richard Coleman, Mayor Pro-Tem Jerry Cearley, Alderman Allen Huggins, Alderman E. Hoyle Withers Jr., and Alderwoman V. Darlene Morrow. Virtual attendance: Alderwoman Stacey Walker Thomas.

The following staff members were present: Maria Stroupe, Town Manager; Da'Sha Leach, Town Clerk and Robert Walls, Police Chief. Virtual attendance: Jonathan Newton, Finance Director; Nolan Groce, Development Services Director; Doug Huffman, Electrical Director; Bill Trudnak, Public Works Director; Earl Withers III, Fire Chief. Absent: Tom Hunn, Town Attorney and Brandon Whitener, Recreation Director.

Mayor Coleman called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. He opened with the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed. Mayor Coleman read the meeting rules to the audience. He asked if there were any additions or deletions to amend the agenda. There were two items to be added. Alderman Cearley a motion to approve the agenda with addition to Consent Agenda: Item 5D Proclamation for Ida Jaggars and New Business: Item 8C Board Meeting Attendance for Department Heads, seconded by Alderwoman Morrow, and carried unanimously.

Alderman Withers made a motion to approve the minutes from July 14th Regular Meeting and July 28th Work Session, seconded by Alderman Cearley, and carried unanimously.

Recognition of Citizens:

No comments made nor items sent it to be submitted to the Board.

Consent Agenda:

Item 5A Façade Grant Revision (Exhibit A)

Item 5B Disciplinary Appeal Process Revision (Exhibit B)

Item 5C Written Offs

Item 5D Proclamation Honoring the 91st Birthday of Ida Jaggars (Exhibit C)

Alderman Cearley made a motion to approve, seconded by Alderman Withers, and carried unanimously.

Public Hearing: NONE

Old Business: NONE

New Business:

Item 8A was on a Budget Amendment for Repairs to Road Apron-Beaty's Service Center. Mr. John Beaty, Jr. has made improvements to the road apron at the edge of his property at 302 W. Trade St. While this road is the responsibility of NC DOT to maintain, they would not participate in the improvements with him. Inquiries were made as to whether the Town could partner with Mr. Beaty on the repairs. Based upon research by the Town Attorney and Manager, the Town has no responsibility as the road is not a Town-owned thoroughfare. Mr. Beaty sent a letter to the Town concerning this repair. At the Work Session on June 23rd, the Board requested that this item be brought to the July meeting for possible action. It was generally felt that the Town should participate in the repairs, since NC DOT has cut back on repairs and projects for financial reasons and Mr. Beaty's business is located on the main thoroughfare through town. **-Continued on the Next Page**

New Business Item 8A continued.....:

At the Board of Aldermen meeting on July 14th, the Board approved reimbursing Mr. Beaty \$3,000.00 with no future liability for the road apron repairs not covered by NC DOT. A budget amendment to account for the amendment in the Street Department budget was given in agenda packets. Alderman Cearley made a motion to approve, seconded by Alderwoman Morrow, and carried unanimously. (Exhibit D)

Item 8B was on Update on Sewer Interconnect. Both Dallas and Gastonia have held bid openings on the proposed Sewer Interconnect Project. A meeting was held between Staff of both municipalities on Wednesday, July 29th to discuss the bids received by both entities and moving forward. Based on the bids received, the numbers have come back higher than anticipated. Enclosed is a copy of the current agreement between Dallas and Gastonia for the emergency interconnect project, including cost sharing parameters. Based on the bids received, options for revising the agreement are being reviewed and will be brought back for discussion once the reviews are complete. This item is for informational purposes only for the Board. (Exhibit E)

Item 8C was on Board Meeting Attendance for Department Heads. Alderman Withers wanted to discuss the department heads starting to attend the meetings again. It was acknowledged that social distancing measures will need to be taken as recommended by NC Governor Cooper for COVID-19 safety measures. After a brief discussion. the Board consensus was for the Department Heads to return to the meetings.

Manager's Report and General Notices:

- Paying Utilities Bills in person-This will begin at Governor Cooper implements Phase 3 is per previous Board discussions. Floor stickers for social distancing have been ordered.
- Payment Box Discussion- Height is same as the PO Boxes but there is still a complaint on the payment slot being too small. Collectors will assist disabled people needing to make payments by going to their car to take the payments and others are allowed to call in payments.
- New Parking Lot-This has started and the fence removed is being held for a future project. Alderman Cearley suggested to put the fence on W. Wilkins Street to deter foot traffic to minimize theft activity.
- Concerts/Events- All three bands have agreed to shift all deposit monies to 2021 events when the Town books for next year since 2020 events are cancelled. Halloween cancellation may need to be considered due to the size of the crowd and the planning needed in advance for the event.
- COVID Information Sheets-These were given as a guide for procedures dealing with COVID.
- PD to have the NG Caravan to School-On 8/16/20 at 2:45pm, the PD will escort the students back to school. This day was chosen since they actually have two start days this school year. The was done with success at the beginning of last school year.

Alderwoman Morrow made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Alderman Withers, and carried unanimously. (6:28)

Rick Coleman, Mayor

Sarah Hamrick, Interim Town Clerk