

MINUTE BOOK XXX, PAGES 36-41
TROUTMAN TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
April 08, 2021

The regular meeting of the Town of Troutman Town Council was held in the Troutman Town Hall, 400 North Eastway Drive, North Carolina on Thursday, April 08, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. with the Mayor Pro Tempore W. Paul Henkel presiding.

Councilmembers Present: W. Paul Henkel; Sally P. Williams; George W. Harris; Edward R. Nau; Felina L. Harris

Councilmembers Absent: Mayor Teross W. Young, Jr.

Staff Present: Ronald Wyatt, Town Manager; Kimberly Davis, Town Clerk; Gary Thomas, Town Attorney; Lt. Darrin Payne, Interim Police Chief; Paxton Hix, Park Maintenance and Facility Technician

Press Present: Debbie Page, Iredell Free News

I. MAYOR PRO TEMPORE HENKEL CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER

MAYOR PRO TEMPORE HENKEL WELCOMED VISITORS AND GUESTS

Mayor Pro Tem Henkel commented that the Town was live streaming and will continue to operate under Governor Coopers orders limiting in-person participation due to COVID-19.

INVOCATION – Delivered by Pastor Wesley Morris, Ostwalt Baptist Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA ()**

Deletion: Item VII. Hold a closed session pursuant to NC General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6) to discuss Personnel.

Upon motion by Councilmember Eddie Nau, seconded by Councilmember Felina Harris, and unanimously carried, approved to remove the Closed Session from the Agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Upon motion by Councilmember Sally Williams, seconded by Councilmember George Harris, and unanimously carried, approved the April 08, 2021 meeting agenda as amended.

II. CONSENT AGENDA: *Items on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Town Council and will be approved with one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless the Mayor or a Council member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered as the first item under New Business.*

- ITEM 1. Approval of Planning Retreat Minutes of February 26, 2021**
- ITEM 2. Approval of Agenda Briefing Meeting Minutes of March 08, 2021**
- ITEM 3. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2021**
- ITEM 4. Approval of Closed Session Minutes of March 11, 2021**
- ITEM 5. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes of March 23, 2021**
- ITEM 6. Approval of Closed Session Minutes of March 23, 2021**

ITEM 7. Approval of Resolution 04-21 Titled: Resolution Approving Financing Terms

ITEM 8. Approval of Budget Amendments

- a. Troutman ESC Park Fund for Construction of Concrete Walking Path around Multi-Purpose Field
- b. Loan Payment for Mill Village Sewer Project
- c. Property Acquisition and Loan Proceeds

Upon motion by Councilmember Eddie Nau, seconded by Councilmember Sally Williams, and unanimously carried, approved Consent Agenda as presented.

(Copied in full, Resolution 04-21 is filed in Resolution Book IV, Page 5)

(Copied in full, Res. 04-21 and Budget Amendments are filed on CD titled: "Town Council Supporting Documents" dated April 5th and 8th, 2021 in CD Book #1 titled: "Town Council Supporting Documents")

III. STANDING REPORT(S):

- **TROUTMAN LIBRARY QUARTERLY REPORT, (Kelli Goodwin, Troutman Library Branch Manager)**

Hours & Operations

- . Currently, the Library is operating Monday through Friday, 9 am to 6 pm at limited capacity.
- . With county and administrative approval, Ms. Goodwin hopes to reduce restrictions and bring back Saturday hours soon.
- . The library is open to the public for most services such as browsing for books, using computers, and general library reference transactions.

Programming

- . No in-person programming yet.
- . Take & Make style kits are being distributed on first-come-first-served basis. These have been very popular with our patrons. Kits include instructions with accompanying video tutorials on our social media.
- . The library has been creating other virtual content for patrons to be able to participate from home.

Summer Reading

- . A "drive-thu" kickoff will be hosted at Iredell Parks and Recreation Center. Specific dates and times are to be determined.
- . Summer plans are similar to what we are doing now, with weekly Take & Make kits, virtual storytelling and performances, but on a larger scale.

Troutman Friends of the Library

- . Next meeting and biannual community road clean-up is scheduled for April 22.
 - . 4:00 PM Road Clean-up
 - . 5:00 PM TFOL Meeting

- **TROUTMAN FIRE DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY REPORT, (Wesley Morris, Fire Chief)**

Fire Chief Wesley Morris presented the Fire Department's quarterly report stating that in 2020 the department responded to approximately 2000 total calls which are down slightly due to not being dispatched to COVID related calls unless a First Responder was needed. He anticipates their call volume to begin to increase this year. Chief Morris informed Council that they are currently utilizing the new building. Open house has been postponed due to COVID, but individual tours of the facility are being offered as he extended an invitation to the Mayor and Council. Chief Morris advised that the department is in the process of hiring nine new positions in order to staff Stations 2 & 3, 24 hours a day. Two (2) new fire apparatus are on order: 1) a new engine that is due to arrive in

August; and 2) a new tanker that is to arrive in June. He also announced that he is pleased to inform Council that the department ISO rating has recently went from a Class 6 to a Class 4 rating. The department is currently performing their annual hydrant testing/inspections that are required every 5 years. Hydrant testing inside Town limits (that involved hydrant flushing and greasing threads) was performed last year and this year they are performing flow testing outside the Town limits.

Councilmember Eddie Nau thanked the department for assisting with the fire in Statesville last month and asked that Chief Morris extend his thanks and appreciation to the whole department letting them know they make Troutman proud. Councilmember Sally Williams inquired as to the damage to the Troutman fire truck while assisting Statesville. Chief Morris responded that the ladder truck has heat damage to the front to the extent of \$15,000-\$20,000. Damage to the windshield has been repaired, making the truck usable, and other parts needed to complete the repairs are currently on order. Councilmember George Harris commented that there is a lot of pride in the building and that Chief Morris gives a great tour.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT FROM VISITORS AND GUESTS

The public is invited to address the Town Council with comments or concerns. Public comment is limited to three (3) minutes per individual. Speakers are required to sign in at the podium and are required to adhere to Town Policy #51 Titled: “*Policy Governing Comments from the Public at Town Meetings*”. However, please note that this regular meeting is being conducted under an adopted March 30, 2020 State of Emergency Ordinance resulting from the issued NC Governor’s Executive Order 121 and revised Executive Order 151 dated July 16, 2020. Therefore, at this time “in-person” attendance will be allowed but limited due to social distancing restrictions. Public comments can be received by mail at 400 N. Eastway Drive, Troutman NC 28166, email (kdavis@troutmannnc.gov), or live stream chat of no more than 350 words. Emails can be received up to 5:00 pm the day of the meeting. (For Live Streaming, go to the link on the home page on the Town Website at www.troutmannnc.gov)

- Citizen Jim McNiff addressed Council stating he has come before Council for the last 5 years requesting a tax decrease with no action taken. He asked how many citizen signatures are needed on a petition before Council will approved to decrease taxes. Mr. McNiff quoted articles from Iredell Free News of quotes made by Petway Mills, Town Auditors and Finance Director Steve Shealy whom had reported on the Town’s financial status. He also quoted Mayor Pro Tem Paul Henkel in stating “that the Town is blessed with prosperity”. Mayor Pro Tem Henkel responded that his request will be taken into consideration at budget time once the Town’s needs are reviewed.
- There were no live stream comments or comments via email received.

V. NEW BUSINESS

ITEM 9. JIMMY AND BETTY JEAN TROUTMAN SELECTED AS TOWN OF TROUTMAN “CITIZEN OF THE YEAR”, (Mayor Pro Tem Henkel)

Three applications for Citizen of the Year was presented to Council for consideration. Following a brief discussion regarding the applicants, Council agreed that the decision is tough due to having three very deserving candidates. Citizen of the Year was selected by a show of hands.

- . Billie Jo Powell – 1 vote by Councilmember Felina Harris
- . Jimmy and Betty Jean Troutman – 4 votes by Councilmembers Paul Henkel, Sally Williams, George Harris and Eddie Nau.

Jimmy and Betty Jean Troutman was selected as “Citizen of the Year” by a vote of 4 to 1 and will be recognized as such at Councils May meeting.

(Copied in full, nomination applications is filed on CD titled: “Town Council Supporting Documents” dated April 5th and 8th, 2021 in CD Book #1 titled: “Town Council Supporting Documents”)

ITEM 10. TROUTMAN FIRE AND RESCUE SELECTED AS TOWN OR TROUTMAN “ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR”, *(Mayor Pro Tem Henkel)*

Troutman Fire and Rescue was nominated for Town of Troutman “Organization of the Year”. Councilmembers were in agreement that Troutman Fire and Rescue is a great nomination and well deserving expressing thanks and appreciation for their service and dedication, and for stepping up in the community. Troutman Fire and Rescue will be recognized at Councils May meeting.

Upon motion by Councilmember Eddie Nau, seconded by Councilmember George Harris, and unanimously carried, accepted the nomination of Troutman Fire and Rescue as “Organization of the Year”.

(Copied in full, nomination application is filed on CD titled: “Town Council Supporting Documents” dated April 5th and 8th, 2021 in CD Book #1 titled: “Town Council Supporting Documents”)

ITEM 11. APPROVAL OF PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENT(S) AND NOMINATION(S), *(Ronald Wyatt, Town Manager)*

- a. Re-appointment of Karen VanVliet as In-Town Member (Term expiring: May 14, 2021)
- b. Re-appointment of Kenneth Reid as In-Town Member (Term expiring: May 15, 2021)
- c. Appointment of Lori Eberly, Alternate Town-Member to Fill the Unexpired Term of Ray Welsh as a Voting Member (Term expiring 9-13-22)
- d. Appointment of Frank Burgess as Town-Alternate to Fill Vacant Position of Lori Eberly as Inside-Alternate (Term expiring 9-14-23)
- e. Nomination to Iredell County Commissioners for Consideration of Re-appointment of Mark Taylor as ETJ Member (Term expiring: 6-30-21)

Upon motion by Councilmember George Harris, seconded by Councilmember Sally Williams, and unanimously carried, approved re-appointments, appointments and nomination as presented above.

(Copied in full, applications to serve are filed on CD titled: “Town Council Supporting Documents” dated April 5th and 8th, 2021 in CD Book #1 titled: “Town Council Supporting Documents”)

ITEM 12. SET MEETING DATE FOR BUDGET WORKSHOP, *(Wyatt)*

Town Manager Wyatt presented date of May 11, 2021 at 9:00am to hold a budget workshop and date of May 25, 2021 for a second meeting date if needed.

Upon motion by Councilmember Eddie Nau, seconded by Councilmember Felina Harris, and unanimously carried, approved to accept dates to hold a budget workshop as presented above.

VI. ELECTED OFFICIALS / STAFF REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Town Council

- Councilmember George Harris
 - . Asked if Council would consider recognition of Billie Jo Powell and Sherri Saunders for their service to the community. Council was in agreement to recognize Ms. Powell and Ms. Saunders at next month's meeting.
 - . Informed Council of an event called the "Garden Gallop", a 3 mile run/1 mile walk that will be held at Children's Hope Alliance (CHA) on Saturday, April 10th from 9am-12pm in support of the CHA's foster program. Pre-registration through tomorrow is \$30 per person and registration on Saturday is \$40 per person. Town Manager Wyatt advised Council that the Town has a program/event "Couch to 5K" scheduled for Saturday on the greenway. He stated that in speaking with one of the event organizers of the "Garden Gallop" he has expressed that the greenway will be used for the Town's event on Saturday.
- Councilmember Sally Williams
 - . Expressed thanks to Todd Hardy of Public Works for accompanying Town Manager Wyatt of the radio show Wednesday morning and thanked Manager Wyatt for including staff stating it is a great way to showcase staff from various departments.
 - . Expressed thanks and appreciation to staff for the work that they do.
- Councilmember Felina Harris
 - . In noting an incident that happened in her neighborhood today, she expressed thanks and appreciation to Interim Police Chief Darrin Payne and the Police Department for being there for the community. She stated she is proud to be a Troutman resident and to know the Town has officers that care.
- Mayor Pro Tem Paul Henkel
 - . Stated that all staff is very capable individuals that do the Town and Council proud each and every day.
 - . On behalf of interest expressed by Town Council, Mayor Pro Tem Henkel requested that Town Attorney Gary Thomas begin the process of updating the Town Charter to reflect current town ordinances. He asked how long the process would take. Attorney Thomas responded at least 3 to 4 months and depending on the changes made it may have to go before legislature. Attorney Thomas suggested that a committee be established consisting of several Council members to work with him on updating. No formal action taken at this time.

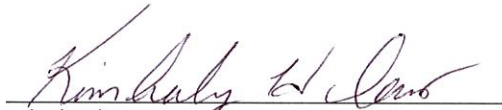
Staff

- Town Manager Wyatt
 - . Stated that the Town has advertised for the job position of Utility Billing Specialist/Customer Service Representative. Employee Danielle Upright, currently serving in the position of Utility Billing Specialist/Customer Service Representative has received a promotion to the Planning Department. There has been one person interviewed for the advertised position.
 - . Reported that there could be state and federal funding available for infrastructure needs. Letters have been sent to legislators to lobby on the Town's behalf. Such letters will be forwarded to Council with the weekly staff reports.
- Town Attorney Thomas
 - . Asked if Council had any questions regarding an email he sent out on Tuesday. No questions were voiced.


VII. CALL FOR CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6)-PERSONNEL (Deleted from the Agenda**

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Councilmember George Harris, seconded by Councilmember Felina Harris, and unanimously carried, approved to adjourn the April 8, 2021 Town Council meeting at 7:58 p.m.



Kimberly H. Davis, Town Clerk



W. Paul Henkel, Mayor Pro Tem

(**) Adjustments to the Agenda

