

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2023
TOWN OF SAWMILLS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
6:00PM**

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Keith Warren
Joe Wesson
Rebecca Johnson
Clay Wilson
Melissa Curtis

STAFF PRESENT

Chase Winebarger
Julie A Good
Terry Taylor

COUNCIL ABSENT

Bobby Mosteller

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Keith Warren called the meeting to order at approximately 6:07pm.

INVOCATION: Pastor Mike Owens gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Keith Warren led the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECONGIZE RETIRING TOWN EMPLOYEES: Town Manager Chase Winebarger presented recently retired Public Works Director Ronnie Coffey with a Proclamation from the Mayor, Council and Staff for thirty-eight (38) years of service to the Town of Sawmills, and recently retired Finance Officer Karen Clontz with a Proclamation from the Mayor, Council and Staff for fourteen (14) years of service to the Town of Sawmills.

ADOPT AGENDA: Mayor Keith Warren asked for a motion to adopt the January 17, 2023 Agenda.

Melissa Curtis made a motion, and Rebecca Johnson seconded, to adopt the January 17, 2023 Agenda. All were in favor.

APPROVE DECEMBER 20, 2022 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Mayor Keith Warren asked for a motion to approve the December 20, 2022 regular meeting minutes.

Joe Wesson made a motion, and Clay Wilson seconded, to approve the December 20, 2022 regular meeting minutes. All were in favor.

APPROVE DECEMBER 20, 2022 CLOSED SESSION MEETING MINUTES: Mayor Keith Warren asked for a motion to approve the December 20, 2022 closed session meeting minutes.

Clay Wilson made a motion, and Rebecca Johnson seconded, to approve the December 20, 2022 closed session meeting minutes. All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Keith Warren asked if anyone had any questions or comments at this time.

No one wished to speak.

RECOGNITIONS:

JANUARY RECYCLE REWARDS WINNER: Mayor Keith Warren announced Jason Peidl as the January Recycle Rewards Winner. A credit of forty dollars (\$40.00) will be added to the current sanitation bill.

No Council action was required.

PUBLIC HEARING: VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION FOR PARCEL NCPIN 2756907836

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Keith asked for a motion to open the public hearing.

Clay Wilson made a motion, and Joe Wesson seconded, to open the public hearing. All were in favor.

STAFF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS: Mayor Keith Warren stated that the Town of Sawmills has received a petition for Voluntary Annexation from David Keith Miller and Julia W Miller for one (1) parcel: NCPIN 2756907836.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No one wished to speak.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Keith Warren asked for a motion to close the public hearing.

Clay Wilson made a motion, and Rebecca Johnson seconded, to close the public hearing. All were in favor.

COUNCIL ACTION: Clay Wilson made a motion, and Joe Wesson seconded to adopt the Annexation Ordinance for David Keith Miller and Julia W Miller for one (1) parcel NCPIN 2756907836 to be effective January 18, 2023. All were in favor.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

BANKING AND AP CHECK SIGNATURES: Mayor Keith Warren stated that due to the retirement of Town Finance Officer Karen Clontz and Public Works Director Ronnie Coffey and hiring of Town Finance Officer Kelly Melton and Public Works Director Steve Coonse, new signature cards will need to be on file at the bank. The bank requires a new signature card whenever there are changes in the staff and/or Council. Two (2) signatures are required for accounts payable checks and the safety deposit box.

Rebecca Johnson made a motion, and Clay Wilson seconded, to appoint Town Finance Officer Kelly Melton and Public Works Director Steve Coonse to be on file with First Citizens Bank, and appoint Councilwoman Melissa Curtis or another Council member, and change the Legal Administrator to Kelly Melton. All were in favor.

PROMISES OF HOPE DONATION REQUEST: Mayor Keith Warren stated that during the December 20, 2022 regular Council meeting the Town had received a donation request from Promises of Hope in the amount of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) and was tabled to the January 17, 2023 regular Council meeting. Mayor Keith Warren stated that Council had donated to Promises of Hope during the August 2018 Council meeting.

Melissa Custis made a motion, and Rebecca Johnson seconded, to deny the donation request to Promises of Hope. All were in favor.

CALDWELL COUNTY SMART START DONATION REQUEST: Mayor Keith Warren stated that the Town had received a donation request from Caldwell County Smart Start in the amount of two hundred dollars (\$200.00).

Rebecca Johnson made a motion, and Joe Wesson seconded, to give a donation in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) to Caldwell County Smart Start. All were in favor.

PLANNING:

ORDINANCE DIRECTING TOWN OFFICIALS TO VACATE AND CLOSE 4219 US HIGHWAY 321A AS IMMINENT DANGER TO THE PUBLIC AND DIRECTING THAT A NOTICE BE PLACED THEREON THAT THE SAME MAY NOT BE OCCUPIED: Mayor Keith Warren stated that Town Code Enforcement Officer Curt Willis has meet with the owner of 4219 US Highway 321A regarding the minimum housing complaints and held a hearing for the complaints. Mayor Keith Warren stated that

Town Code Enforcement Officer Curt Willis has drafted an Ordinance Directing Town Officials to Vacate And Close 4219 US Highway 321A As An Imminent Danger To The Public And Directing That A Notice Be Placed Thereon That The Same May Not Be Occupied.

Rebecca Johnson made a motion, and Melissa Curtis seconded, to approve the Ordinance Directing Town Officials to Vacate And Close 4219 US Highway 321A As An Imminent Danger To The Public And Directing That A Notice Be Placed Thereon That The Same May Not Be Occupied as written. All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Keith Warren asked if anyone had any questions or comments at this time.

No one wished to speak.

UPDATES:

JANUARY CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: Town Code Enforcement Officer Curt Willis stated that there are three (3) code enforcement cases that are open.

No Council action was required.

TOWN MANAGER UPDATES: Town Manager Chase Winebarger had the following updates:

- Town Manager Chase Winebarger stated that remodel for the new Public Works building will be over budget for the line item, but there are enough funds in the department to cover the charges. Town Manager Chase Winebarger stated that, if for some reason, there is not enough funds in the department that he will bring a budget amendment to Council in the future.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Melissa Curtis wanted to thank everyone for coming.

Rebecca Johnson wanted to thank everyone for coming to the meeting.

Joe Wesson wanted to thank everyone for coming to the meeting and hoped everyone had a good evening.

CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO N.C.G.S. §143.318-11(A)(3): Mayor Keith Warren asked for a motion to go into closed session.

Clay Wilson made a motion, and Joe Wesson seconded, to go into closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143.318-11(a)(3) at approximately 6:35pm. All were in favor.

Rebecca Johnson made a motion, and Melissa Curtis seconded, to come out of closed session at approximately 6:40pm. All were in favor.

BUDGET AMENDMENT: Town Manager Chase Winebarger stated that a budget amendment in the amount of sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00) would need to be approved for the purchase and abatement of the property located at 2624 Mission Road (NC PIN 2766657929).

Clay Wilson made and motion, and Rebecca Johnson seconded, to approve a budget amendment in the amount of sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00) for the purchase and abatement of the property located at 2624 Mission Road (NC PIN 2766657929). All were in favor.

MISSION ROAD PROPERTY: Town Manager Chase Winebarger stated that he had spoken to the heirs of the property located at 2624 Mission Road (NC PIN 2766657929) about the Town acquiring the properties. Town Manager Chase Winebarger stated that Mr. Wallace stated the heirs had agreed to sale the property for fifteen thousand six hundred forty-three dollars and forty-five cents (\$15,643.45), which includes all liens and taxes on the property plus the Town pay all closing costs.

Rebecca Johnson made a motion, and Clay Wilson seconded, to purchase 2624 Mission Road (NC PIN 2766657929) for fifteen thousand six hundred forty-three dollars and forty-five cents (\$15,643.45), which includes all liens and taxes on the property plus the Town pay all closing costs. All were in favor.

COUNCIL ADJOURN: Mayor Keith Warren asked for a motion to adjourn.

Clay Wilson made a motion, and Rebecca Johnson seconded, to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:44pm.

Keith Warren, Mayor

Julie A. Good, Town Clerk