

Zebulon Board of Commissioners
Work Session
Minutes
May 23, 2012

Present: Robert S. Matheny-Mayor, Curtis Strickland, Beverly Clark, Roy Collins, Dale Beck, Don Bumgarner, Rick Hardin-Town Manager, Lisa Markland-Town Clerk, Mark Hetrick-Planning, Emily Lucas-Finance, Tim Hayworth-Police, Chris Ray-Public Works, Sidney Perry-Fire, Greg Johnson-Parks and Recreation, Eric Vernon-Attorney

Others Present: Will Letchworth

Mayor Matheny called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Mayor Matheny asked that the agenda be amended to add Mayor's comments as item IIIC.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Clark made a motion, second by Commissioner Collins to approve the agenda as amended to add the Mayor's comments. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Finance

Budget 2012-2013—update on the budget process

Emily Lucas presented a PowerPoint that encompassed the topics and options that the Board wanted to see at the May 7, 2012 meeting, which included a 1.25¢ and 1¢ tax increase. The information being presented would give the Board the information necessary to direct staff on the direction they would like to go with the 2013 budget.

Mayor Matheny asked about the masonry repair work that would be done at town hall. Chris Ray stated that they were going to do tuck pointing, caulking and protecting the brick and seal up the building to keep water penetration out. The other question the Mayor had was what it meant to eliminate fountain operation on weekends. Emily stated that no one would come in and refill the fountain with water, it would be turned off.

The main direction staff needed was on the amount of the property tax that the Board wanted to initiate for fiscal year 2013. The main affect would be the amount of property taxes generated and the amount of fund balance used. The difference of approximately \$21,000 would be needed needed out of fund balance between the two choices in tax rates. The approximate average increase per month for a homeowner would be \$8.85 or \$8.58 depending on the tax rate that was chosen.

There was discussion about other ways of funding projects and that it could be done by using more fund balance, additional capital reserve fund or cutting out additional proposed capital projects.

Mayor Matheny asked how the bond rating could be affected if fund balance and borrowing of money were used to balance the budget. Emily Lucas stated that it would not be affected and stated that the LGC had to see that the Town was managing its needs and flowing the payments out over several years. Mayor Matheny asked what the debt ratio would be and Emily stated it would be well below one percent and the state allowed for eight percent of the assessed value. The Town retired close to \$500,000 in debt in 2012 and restructured the water and sewer bond so that helped the Town a great deal.

Commissioner Beck made a motion, second by Commissioner Clark to use the 1.25¢ tax rate in the budget.

Commissioner Strickland asked about the engine 91 tanker replacement and wanted to know why it was so important when it did not help the Town and was only used in the county since the Town had hydrants that were used to fight a fire. Mayor Matheny said that he agreed with Commissioner Strickland.

Fire Chief, Sidney Perry, explained that it was needed because it went to all fires and was used in the beginning to fight fires while they were hooking up hoses to the hydrants. He stated that it was a replacement of the tank to 1000 gallons. After some discussion it was clear that there was some confusion on the type of truck that was being discussed. Engine 91 was a pumper truck that had a 500 gallon tank that they wanted to upgrade to a 1000 gallon tank. It was not solely a tanker truck that carried water to rural calls.

There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously to set the tax rate at 1.25¢ in the budget for 2013.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Finance

Ordinance 2012-36—Budget Amendment to recognize a donation from Walmart to the fire dept.
Emily Lucas explained that Walmart had donated \$2000 to the fire department to be used to purchase a computer and furniture in the break room.

Commissioner Beck made a motion, second by Commissioner Strickland to approve ordinance 2012-36. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance 2012-36—Budget Amendment to recognize funds from Wake County to the fire dept.
Emily Lucas stated that Wake County had given the fire department \$2300 to purchase additional uniforms.

Commissioner Beck made a motion, second by Commissioner Strickland to approve ordinance 2012-37. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Planning

Hwy 96 Corridor Study Engineering Report

Mark Hetrick presented the report prepared by CDM Smith, formerly known as Wibur Smith. The report was to prepare an access management plan for Hwy 96 North of US 64 to Riley Hill Road. The plan depicted how traffic should be routed and moved along Hwy 96 with functional design drawings with stop lights, medians, number of lanes, intersections and the redesign of some intersections.

There was discussion about how people would get to Riley Hill Road if the intersection was going to be reworked. It was explained that they would have to take a right off of Proctor Street onto Hwy 96 and make a left where the median would break at Riley Hill Road.

There was a discussion about congestion in the area and how the reservoir would affect the changes and Riley Hill Road.

Resolution 2012-22—Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Julie Spriggs presented that the plan was completely overhauled and that the approval process was delayed due to the change in reviewers with the government.

The adoption of the resolution would finish the process.

The next plan would be in 2015 which would be a joint plan with the other municipalities in Wake County.

Commissioner Beck made a motion, second by Commissioner Clark to adopt resolution 2012-22. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Matheny said that Town Hall Day would be June 6 and he encouraged Board members to attend even if it was for just part of the day.

Mayor Matheny informed the Board that he was appointed to the Risk Management Trustee Board for the League of Municipalities.

MANAGERS REPORT

Rick Hardin stated that Town Hall would be closed on May 28 for the holiday, there would be a special meeting on May 30, the Chamber of Commerce 5K run would be on June 2 and the Police Department was sponsoring a cornhole tournament that same day.

Commissioner Clark made a motion, second by Commissioner Strickland to go into closed session for the purpose of personnel discussions. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

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NOTE: In closed session Commissioner Beck made a motion, second by Commissioner Clark to come out of closed session. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Beck made a motion, second by Commissioner Strickland to give Rick Hardin a 2.5% merit increase. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Beck made a motion, second by Commissioner Clark to adjourn. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Date

Robert S. Matheny—Mayor

SEAL

Lisa M. Markland, CMC—Town Clerk