



The Town of Long View Board of Aldermen met in the Council Chambers of Long View Town Hall on Monday, May 9, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. Due to social distancing guidelines regarding COVID-19, the meeting was held over Zoom software and attendees were both physically present and electronically present.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT (Physically): The following members of the Board were present: Mayor Marla Thompson, Mayor Pro Tempore / Alderman Randall Mays, Alderman David Elder, Alderman Gary Lingerfelt, Alderman Dallas Tester.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT (Electronically): None

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT (Physically): The following members of staff were present: Town Administrator David Draughn, Town Clerk Heather Minor, Finance Director James Cozart, Town Planner Charles Mullis, Public Works Director Chris Eckard, Fire Chief James Brinkley, Police Chief TJ Bates, Sgt. Eddie Marlowe, Deputy Fire Chief Tyler Keener, Rec Dept. Superintendent Alan Bumgarner.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT (Electronically): Town Attorney Jimmy Summerlin

OTHERS PRESENT (Electronically): None

OTHERS PRESENT (Physically): Beth Heile, Brittany Tester

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Mayor Marla Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Invocation: Alderman Dallas Tester

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays, seconded by Alderman Thurman VanHorn to approve the April 11, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes. The vote to approve was unanimous.

AYES: Mayor Pro Tempore / Alderman Randall Mays
Alderman David Elder
Alderman Gary Lingerfelt
Alderman Dallas Tester

NOES: None

AGENDA ITEMS

Burke River Trail- Beth Heile Burke River Trail Coordinator for WPCOG

Mrs. Beth Heile, Burke River Trail Coordinator for the Western Piedmont Council of Government presented her PowerPoint Presentation.

Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays asked about our trailhead starting at the Rec Center, since the indication of parking was needed. Mrs. Heile stated that the rec center did seem to be the most feasible option for the Town at this time, but that is subject to change based on what she finds after talking to the community.

Alderman Gary Lingerfelt asked how wide the trail would be. Mrs. Heile stated the width of the trail was dependent on the surface and location. The trail at Draughn High School is a natural surface trail that is 4 to 5 ft in width. The trail that extends behind Grace Ridge will be 12 ft wide and paved. Mrs. Heile stated that as the trail progresses, the Town would be involved in deciding what we would want for our trail.

Mrs. Heile thanked The Board for their time.

Vote to Adopt Amended Ordinance 50.35-50.36- Public Works Director Chris Eckard

Public Works Director Chris Eckard stated a copy of the Ordinance 50.35-50.36 was enclosed. A public Hearing was held at the April 11, 2022 regularly scheduled business meeting. No public comment was made. With no public comment made, Public Works Director Eckard stated he would like to present the amendment to be adopted by the Board of Aldermen. If adopted, the amendment would go into effect July 1, 2022 to allow for a smooth transition for Town Staff and Residents.

Mayor Marla Thompson asked if there were any questions.

Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays stated he did not have a question but did want to make a statement. Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays stated that he would like to make the statement that everyone had the understanding that this amendment was a way to cut excessive costs we are running into. Limiting the amount of “junk items” we are picking up will cause everyone to be conservative, but also, this will conserve fuel costs. Mayor Marla Thompson asked if we would be letting the town residents know via mailing? Public Works Director Eckard stated he has had new door tags made so those can be left and we will try to provide the town residents will as much information as possible. Mayor Thompson asked if there were any further questions. There were none. Mayor Thompson called for a motion.

Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays made a motion to adopt the amendment to ordinance 50.35-50.36 as presented. Alderman David Elder seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

AYES: Mayor Pro Tempore / Alderman Randall Mays
Alderman David Elder
Alderman Gary Lingerfelt
Alderman Dallas Tester

NOES: None

Proclamation for Alderman Dallas Tester- Mayor Marla Thompson

Mayor Marla Thompson read and presented Alderman Dallas Tester's proclamation of appreciation for his term of service.

Public Hearing for Ordinance Amendments regarding Criminal Penalties- Town Administrator David Draughn/Town Clerk Heather Minor

Town Administrator Draughn stated with the help of our attorney Jimmy Summerlin we have identified the ordinances that need to be addressed to be in compliance with Senate Bill 300 that was passed by the General Assembly. Town Administrator Draughn stated that we would hold the public Hearing tonight and vote on the amendments at next month's meeting.

Mayor Thompson called for a motion to open the public hearing. Alderman David Elder made a motion to open the public hearing. Alderman Gary Lingerfelt seconded the motion. The vote to open the public hearing was unanimous.

AYES: Mayor Pro Tempore / Alderman Randall Mays
Alderman David Elder
Alderman Gary Lingerfelt
Alderman Dallas Tester
NOES: None

Mayor Thompson asked if there were any questions from the board members. There were none. Mayor Thompson asked Attorney Jimmy Summerlin if he had anything to add.

Town Attorney Jimmy Summerlin stated that Police Chief Bates provided him with a list of ordinances that needed to be addressed immediately. The ordinance amendments presented are the ones that required attention now. We took the existing ordinances and added the statutory penalty that Senate Bill 300 required. Each ordinance must specifically state what each penalty is.

Mayor Thompson asked Chief Bates if there was anything he needed to add. Chief Bates stayed there was not.

Mayor Thompson asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Alderman Dallas Tester made a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Alderman David Elder. The vote was unanimous.

AYES: Mayor Pro Tempore / Alderman Randall Mays
Alderman David Elder
Alderman Gary Lingerfelt
Alderman Dallas Tester
NOES: None

Town Administrator Draughn stated that we would ask for these amendments to be adopted at the June meeting.

Finance Report- Finance Director James Cozart

Finance Director James Cozart stated that as of April 30th, 2022 with 84% of the budget year complete, our General Fund revenue was \$4,271,454.80 making up 97.6% of our collected revenue at the end of April. Our expenses in our General Fund were \$3,845,989.88 making up for 87.91% of our budgeted expenses for the year. Finance Director James Cozart stated our revenue exceeded our expenditures by \$425,464.92 for our General Fund.

Finance Director Cozart stated our Utility Fund revenues were \$1,768,139.60 making up for 70.15% of our revenue budget. Our Utility Fund Expenditures were \$1,565,133.37 accounting for 62.1% of the budget. At the end of April, our Revenues exceeded our budget in the Utility fund by \$203,006.23. Mayor Thompson asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Administrator's Report-Town Administrator David Draughn

Town Administrator Draughn stated that most everyone in the room had attended our National Night Out, which was a tremendously successful event to which he just wanted to take a moment to touch on everyone that participated in making National Night Out as successful as it was. Town Administrator Draughn stated that Police Chief Bates and the entire police department did magnificent work getting everything ready, keeping things safe, keeping traffic flowing and a phenomenal job with community outreach. Fire Chief Brinkley and the Fire Department did a lot of community outreach as well as ensuring our first aid was taken care of. Public Works did their normal prep and cleanup. Town Clerk Heather Minor and Rec Center Superintendent Alan Bumgardner did an excellent job getting things ready inside of the rec center building the day of. Town Administrator Draughn stated we had record attendance of 1000 to 1500 people as our best guess. The departments have already debriefed and began working on next year's event.

Town Administrator Draughn stated he would like to specifically call out Sgt. Eddie Marlowe who planned National Night Out by making sure we had vendors, making a game plan, and just ensuring this event went off without a hitch, which it did. Sgt. Marlowe did an excellent job.

Town Administrator Draughn stated that was all he had for his report. He just wanted to make sure everyone was aware of what an incredible event we had.

Mayor Thompson stated we would be going into closed session and asked everyone, except for Chief Bates to go ahead and wait in the lobby or they may be dismissed for the evening.

Other Business/Public Comment:

There was none

Board Member Closing Comments

- Comments by Alderman David Elder

Alderman Elder stated the meeting was good tonight and he appreciated the presentation regarding the Burke River Trail.

- Comments by Alderman Randall Mays

Mayor Pro Tempore/Alderman Randall Mays stated that the National Night Out event was phenomenal. He thanked all the staff for their participation in making this event as great as it was. He also thanked everyone for the support given to his family after the passing of his father a few weeks ago.

- Comments by Alderman Dallas Tester

Alderman Tester stated he would like to second what Alderman Mays said about the support given with the passing of his grandmother a few weeks ago, she raised him and was like a mother to him. He also stated he wanted to thank all the department heads for working with him for the last four years and it has been a pleasure. He stated he wished he felt better and could run again, but he has learned a lot for everyone, has enjoyed it, and believes this is the best board we've ever had.

- Comments by Alderman Gary Lingerfelt

Alderman Lingerfelt thanked Alderman Tester for being on the board and helping for the last 4 years. He appreciates what Alderman Tester has done.

- Comments by Mayor Marla Thompson

Mayor Thompson stated she echoed what was said about National Night Out and Alderman Tester. She also told Alderman Elder she was glad that he made it in person to the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Alderman Dallas Tester, seconded by Alderman Gary Lingerfelt to adjourn the meeting at 7:16pm. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

AYES: Mayor Pro Tempore / Alderman Randall Mays
 Alderman David Elder
 Alderman Gary Lingerfelt
 Alderman Dallas Tester

NOES: None