TOWN OF ELIZABETHTOWN

Evening Meeting

November 4, 2024

The Elizabethtown Town Council met for its regular meeting on Monday, November 4, 2024, in the Council Chamber at 7:00 pm. Those present were Mayor Sylvia Campbell, Mayor Pro Tem Rufus Lloyd, Council Members Ricky Leinwand, Paula Greene, Rich Glenn, Herman Lewis, Town Manager Dane Rideout and Town Attorney Goldston Womble. Department Heads in attendance included Assistant Town Manager Pat DeVane, Town Planner Rusty Worley, Finance Director Sharon Penny, Director of Communications and Marketing Terri Dennison, Fire Chief Hollis Freeman, Police Chief Mark McMichael and Public Work Engineering Director Stephen Duffy. Department Head Absent: Town Clerk Juanita Hester.

No members from the Press attended the meeting. Ms. Brenda Clark attended.

Item #1.1: Opening and Call to Order

Mayor Sylvia Campbell opened the meeting and called to order. She welcomed everyone.

Mayor Campbell thanked Director of Communications and Marketing Terri Dennison and staff for a job well done with the Smithfield Cup event.

Item # 2.1: Presentation of Colors, Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

Mayor Sylvia Campbell then called upon Mayor Pro Tem Rufus Lloyd to give the invocation.

Paul R. Brown Leadership Academy Cadets did not attend the meeting.

Item #3.1: Approve Consent Agenda Items

Upon a motion by Council Member Herman Lewis, seconded by Council Member Rich Glenn, the Board unanimously approved the following Consent Items as presented. A. Proposed Agenda, B. October 7, 2024 Noon Meeting Minutes, C. October 7, 2024 7 p.m. Meeting Minutes, D. October 7, 2024 Closed Session – Noon Meeting, E. October 24, 2024 Special Called Meeting Minutes, F. October 24, 2024 Closed Session Meeting Minutes G. Resolution #R-2024-23 – “Employ A Veteran Week”, H. Proclamation for “Veterans Day”, I. Proclamation for “Youth Appreciation Week”, J. Monthly Financial Report.

Item #4.1: Public Hearing: Program Close-Out for the 2020 Elizabethtown CDBG-NR Grant Project

Council Member Rich Glenn, seconded by Council Member Herman Lewis, moved to table

Public Hearing: Program Close-Out for the 2020 Elizabethtown CDBG-NR Grant Project (Unanimous).

Item #5.1: Town Manager Update

* Director of Communications and Marketing Terri Dennison noted that Columbus Day week was busy with the Smithfield Cup.
* Downtown Merchants Open House November 3, 2024, people came from Clinton, Wilmington and Whiteville NC.
* Veterans Day event November 8, 2024 from 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm - movie screening and discussion at the Farmers Market.
* November 9, 2024 Trillium Community Resource Fair 10:00 am- 2:00 pm.
* November 23, 2024 Cape Fear Winery Turkey Trot 5K 8:00 am – 10:30 am.
* November 23, 2024 Bo Barefoot Wrestling Event – 3:00 pm – 10:00 pm.
* November 24, 2024 Bladen County Disc Golf Club Tournament 7:00 am – 5:00 pm.
* November 30, 2024 Christmas at the Farmers Market – Shop Local 9:00 am – 2:00 pm.

Item #6.1: Bid Award – Design/Build Contract for Vulcan Building Construction

Council Member Paula Greene, seconded by Council Member Ricky Leinwand, moved to recess this agenda item until November 6, 2024 at 5:00 pm (Unanimous). Copy attached and incorporated herein by reference.

Item #6.2: Formal Approval Request – Road Construction Project at the Industrial Park

Council Member Rich Glenn, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Rufus Lloyd, made a motion to approve Road Construction Project at the Industrial Park (Unanimous).

Item #6.3: Request from ABC Board – Seeking Permission from Town Council to Retain a Working Capital of $700,000.00 for Future Capital Projects

Council Member Herman Lewis, seconded by Council Member Ricky Leinwand, moved to grant permission for the ABC Board to retain $700,000.00 in working capital funds to build a new ABC Store within the Elizabethtown town limits (Unanimous). Copy attached and incorporated herein by reference.

Item #6.4: WWTP Sewer Line Repair

Public Work Engineering Director Stephen Duffy noted that the secondary lines are showing signs of failure, 100 ft. line to manhole, waste from Lower Street to plant. Asphalt and curbing will cost $10,000.00, will use ARPA funds. Council Member Rich Glenn, seconded by Council Member Paula Greene, made a motion to approve WWTP sewer line repair cost estimate from Hickman Utilities in the amount of $31,215 and to authorize Public Works Director to execute based upon the severity of the situation (Unanimous). Copy attached and incorporated herein by reference.

Item #6.5: Appointments: Zoning Board of Adjustment Commission – Members Elizabeth Cole and Lorenzo McDowell

Council Member Herman Lewis, seconded by Mayor Tem Rufus Lloyd, moved to reappoint Members Elizabeth Cole and Lorenzo McDowell to Zoning Board of Adjustment for a 3-year term (Unanimous).

Item #6.6: Suggested Budget Retreat Dates for 2025

The Budget Retreat will be February 25, 2025 at the Airport.

Item #7.1: “Briefly”

* Town Manager Dane Rideout briefed on the following:
* Take a look at the Department Head Updates.
* Town offices closed November 11, 2024 in observance of Veterans Day.
* Christmas Parade December 1, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. followed by the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Courthouse.
* Mayor Campbell, Council Member Ricky Leinwand and Police Chief Mark McMichael are celebrating birthdays this month.

Item #8.1: Open Forum

* Rev. Carl Smith thanked Town Council for getting the ditch banks cleaned out on Fox Street.
* Ms. Mary McMillian from Martin Luther King Drive asked if any policies have been put in place if anything happens after the election to protect the citizens. Town Attorney Goldston Womble noted that Council cannot answer questions during open forum. He informed her to talk with the Police Chief.
* Ms. Vickie Gillespie from Martin Street asked what can be done about abandoned homes and overgrown properties, she was referred to the Town Manager.

With no further business to conduct, Council Member Herman Lewis, seconded by Council Member Rich Glenn, moved to recess until Wednesday, November 6, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. (Unanimous).

 Sylvia Campbell, Mayor