

TOWN OF WINFALL
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
October 11, 2021 7:00 pm.
WINFALL TOWN HALL, WINFALL, NC 27985

The regular monthly meeting of the Winfall Town Council was called to order by Mayor Fred Yates at 7:00 pm. Invocation was given by Attorney Will Crowe and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Fred Yates.

Those in attendance were Mayor Fred Yates, Mayor Pro-Tem Ken Rominger, Councilwoman Carol Cooper, Councilwoman Virginia Harvey, and Attorney Will Crowe.

Mayor Yates asked Council was there a Conflict of Interest, **Councilwoman Virginia Harvey said she did and would like to be recused regarding property at 301 Main Street.**

A motion was made to approve the **agenda** by Councilwoman Virginia Harvey and was seconded by Councilman Kenneth Rominger and so carried.

A motion was made on the approval of the September 13, 2021 **minutes** by, Councilman Kenneth Rominger and was seconded by Councilwoman Virginia Harvey, and so carried.

Financial Report:

The Accountant Richard Arnold stated that there was 1 change in an upgrade of regarding the fire grant, Fire department approved for \$ 9,405.84. A motion was made on the approval of the **financial report** with additional information by Councilman Kenneth Rominger and was seconded by Councilwoman Virginia Harvey and so carried.

Old Business:

- A. **Mr. John Chappell Update:** Mayor Yates said he had not heard anything back from Mr. Chappell. He was reminded that a refund check had already been sent to Mr. Chappell.

New Business:

- A. Mayor Yates asks Council for an approval on the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce annual membership fee. A motion was made on the approval of the Chamber fees in the amount of \$ 600.00 by, Councilman Kenneth Rominger and was seconded by Councilwoman Virginia Harvey, and so carried.
- B. Powell Bill Letter: Mayor Yates explained the different in state streets and town streets regarding Powell bill funds. He told council that Wiggins Road and Main Street are state streets and Powell Bill funds cannot be use for them. Accountant Richard Arnold told council that there was a deposit of \$ 8,363.29 and a second deposit due in March.

Departments Reported: Sewer: Police.

Fire Department: Volunteer Fireman Preston White told Council that the Volunteer Fire department would be having a pancake dinner on October 28th, at 5-8 pm. The plates would be \$ 8.00, and reminded council that they normally get tickets to support them.

Committee Reports:

Administration, Public Safety, Recreation: Councilwoman Virginia Harvey told Council that the meeting was cancelled last month and was supposed to have a meeting October 12, 2021.

Roads & Grounds: Mayor Yates told Council he received congratulation on the park and the benches. He was told it was one of the best parks around.

Beautification (Finance Officer Debbie Parker) Finance Officer Debbie Parker informed Council that people had been inquiring to whether there would be Christmas Parade this year in Winfall. She stated she couldn't foresee one happening this year except for a miracle. She stated that the town would still have the Christmas contest as usual. She said it would run the whole month of December and the winners would be announced at the January 2022 meeting. Councilwoman Carol Cooper asks if Hertford would be having one, she responded probably like last year a drive-thru. Finance Officer Debbie Parker told Council that originally we were to receive \$ 180,000 of AARP funds, but we were awarded \$ 194,405.44 and had already received one half in the amount of \$ 97,202.72 around August 20, 2021. Debbie said we would receive the other half next year. Councilman Kenneth Rominger informed Council that on November 11, 2021 there would be a Veteran Memorial on the Perquimans County Courthouse lawn at 11:00 am. He said Post 126 and Post 362 would be participating.

Other Business:

Councilwoman Carol Cooper asks Mayor Yates if our Police Chief Anthony Spellman had returned back to work yet because she didn't know. Mayor Yates responded yes and he had been watching him patrolling nights as well as days. Councilwoman Virginia Harvey asked if she needed an approval to put some toys-for-tots applications in the foyer for residents and she would make sure they were delivered. Finance Director explained that there were some already out there. Finance Officer Debbie stated that with talking with Accountant Richard Arnold about the ways the monies can be spent including essential workers such as police officers and roads and grounds. Councilwoman Carol Cooper stated that she thought they voted to use all of it on the sewer infrastructure. Finance officer Debbie Parker said in order to balance the budget part was being used for the chief of police salary and the rest for sewer infrastructure.

Attorney: Attorney Crowe said the **first order** was the email sent out to the board regarding the new law by the governor concerning the ordinances and monetary penalties if you violate them whether parking, dogs or etc. He said a few of ours do not have an assessment. If it does not have a penalty there is no recourse and this is a big push at the state level and you need to rethink the ones with no penalties. Attorney Crowe ask for approval of the board to go through the ordinances because of terminology and make a re-evaluation to the board. A motion was made for the approval for Attorney Crowe to go over the ordinances and make suggestions on how to update according to the new law by Councilman Kenneth Rominger and was seconded by Councilwoman Carol Cooper and so carried. Mayor Yates asks Council to go through the ordinance packets. If any questions they wanted to discuss with the attorney to let him know, so he can schedule a time to meet.

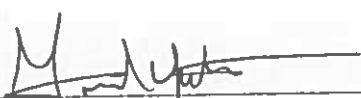
Second order: Property on 301 Main Street Court lawsuit. Attorney Crowe told Council that when the property sales we will get the money owed to the town if the information was already in.

Councilwoman Carol Cooper brought to the attention of Council that Councilwoman Arnetta Ormond hadn't been to a meeting since May and wanted to know how she could do this. Mayor Yates stated that she was taking a leave of absence. Councilwoman Carol Cooper said if she was taking a leave of absence than she was to come before the board and request one because we need to have someone in the position. After much discussion it was decided that council needed to go into closed session. A motion was made to go into closed session by Councilman Ken Rominger and was seconded by Councilwoman Virginia Harvey and so carried.

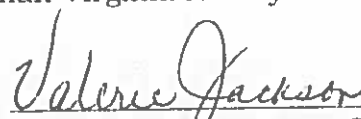
Closed Session. Councilman Ken Rominger made a motion to come out of close session and was seconded by Councilwoman Virginia Harvey and so carried.

Mayor Yates: None.

At 8:12 pm. A motion was made to **adjourn** the meeting by Councilman Ken Rominger, and seconded by Councilwoman Virginia Harvey and so carried.



Mayor Fred Yates



Valerie Jackson, Town Clerk