

TOWN OF WINFALL  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
March 8, 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 Councilman Kenneth Rominger and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Kenneth Rominger.

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

Mayor Yates asked Council was there a Conflict of Interest, none was declared.

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

A motion was made on the approval of the February 8, 2021 **minutes** by Councilman Ken Rominger, seconded by Councilwoman Virginia Harvey, with correction at the next meeting, and so carried.

**Financial Report:**

The Financial report was explained by Accountant Richard Arnold regarding overages in dispatch fees, and transactions in various accounts but could not be understood. Councilwoman Carol Cooper questioned the amount in outside labor which accountant Richard Arnold explained. Mayor Yates asks for a motion to adopt. A motion was made on the approval of the financial report and was seconded by Councilwoman Virginia Harvey and so carried.

**Old Business:**

Sharon Smith of The Tourism Department was absent from the meeting. Mayor Yates ask to check and verify if Ms. Smith still worked for TDA, because he didn't think she was there anymore.

Councilwoman Virginia Harvey ask Mayor if we had started cutting off customers for non-payment yet? Mayor Yates replied; not yet but we will be. Councilwoman Carol Cooper ask when will we be? Mayor Yates replied the beginning of this month, (March 2021), or next month (April 2021) to give them the opportunity to pay up.

**Veteran Home:** Tabled until further notice.

**Chapter 160D Zoning** (Ken) has been working with Valerie. Councilman Kenneth Rominger suggests that the town would probably have to do like the County and the Town of Hertford, which is to pay a company to update, he don't think he could do it. Mayor Yates; is this your report? Councilman Ken Rominger replied yes. Mayor Yates put it in writing please and recommendation. Looking at Sharon Smith to see if she can get me some help.

**Seal Bids license contractors:** Mayor Yates opened and read the two bids; one was over 16,500.00 asphalt, 24900.00 metals from Overman Exterior. The other was \$ 400.00 for the Town Hall Repair and 2600 for the pavilion with metal, from Cobbs. Mayor Yates said give him the authority to investigate. Work was due to be completed in April. Mayor Yates ask for a motion, Councilman Kenneth Rominger made a motion on the approval of Mayor to investigate and was seconded by Councilwoman Carol Cooper and so carried.

**New Business:**

- A. Approval for Town of Winfall Cleanout re-location for Winfall Blvd in the amount of \$ 2,144.00 was motioned by Councilman Ken Rominger and seconded by Councilwoman Virginia Harvey and so carried.

Mayor Yates approved for accountant Richard Arnold to take the money out of Roads and Grounds account.

**Departments Reported:**

**Sewer:** Mayor Yates told Council they just approved the bill for \$ 2,144.00.

**Police:** Mayor Yates read aloud the police report. Mayor Yates read the certification for Chief Anthony Spellman.

**Fire Department:** Volunteer fireman Anthony MC Lawhorn told Council that the fire department had been real busy. They have been helping Hertford respond to calls. Winfall Volunteer Fire Department responds to approximately all fires in the surrounding area. Winfall fire department responded to the most calls right under Hertford Fire Department. He explained that 2020 business year for structural fires totaled 11 for the County. Winfall Volunteer Fire Department responded to 7 of them. It is definitely a wear and tear on our equipment. We are definitely trying to maintain our equipment. Perquimans County has gone to a 3 department response regardless; Winfall has to go to every fire in Perquimans County, whether it's Snug Harbor, Albemarle Plantation, New Hope, Belvidere. We're rolling and that's something to be proud of.

Mayor Yates said that he would like to commend the Winfall Fire Department for doing a very, very good job.

**Committee Reports:**

Administration, Public Safety, Recreation- Councilwoman Virginia Harvey told council we are having a meeting tomorrow, first one since covid-19. It's open with the exception of the bathrooms.

Sewer, Roads & Grounds, (Mayor Yates shared a letter and pictures from Lucretia Washington regarding roads and grounds in the town). I want you to give me permission to get this cleaned up and I am going to need some help. I don't want people to wait and I get it cleaned up and here you come running your mouth. Councilwoman Carol Cooper ask Mayor Yates, how much was left in our budget for that purpose and how is it allocated? Is that roads and grounds? Mayor Yates responded he don't know, he would have to investigate. Councilwoman Virginia Harvey ask how much are we looking at for cleaning the ditches. Mayor Yates replied he didn't know he did not get an estimate before coming to the meeting. The Powell bill gives you money to do streets (town streets). Take Main Street for example Main Street is a state highway. That is state property and they are supposed to maintain it. So with this rain they aren't maintaining anything. If you look at White Street, White Street is a town street. King Avenue is a town street. River Street is a town street. Catherine Street is half. The house that looks like it is abandoned, Tony Riddick owns that house. Councilwoman Carol Cooper said you need to tell Tony Riddick that he needs to clean it up. And to me that is what it seems like we should do. Tony Riddick should come and clean it up. Mayor Yates said he will when it stops raining. Councilwoman Cooper said then that should take care of the main thing that she is complaining about, right.

Mayor Yates, Okay. Debbie Parker ask is the ditches filled up with grass or is it because of the raining. It has rained so long that it has saturated the grounds. Are the ditches because of so much rain? Mayor Yates said the ditches are filled because of so much rain but also because it has nowhere to go. Debbie Parker wanted to know if we could use the roads and grounds to clean out the ditches. In some place it is the drains, Mayor Yates ask who is going to clean it out, Debbie Parker said can't the guys do it? Councilwoman Cooper said she don't see how we are going to keep paying hundreds and thousands of dollars to outside people to clean up our town. I see where we only have 1600.00 in our budget. Mayor Yates ask who is going to clean our town if we don't clean it. After a long conversation Mayor Yates said, "Okay we going to get them cleaned.

Public Officials conference, some say they were coming and some said they won't.

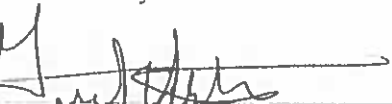
Building, Beautification (Finance Officer Debbie Parker)

**Other Business:**

Attorney: None.

Mayor Yates: None.

At 7:57 pm. A motion was made to **adjourn** the meeting by Councilwoman Carol Cooper, and seconded by Councilman Ken Rominger and so carried.

  
Mayor Fred Yates

  
Valerie Jackson Town Clerk