

MILTON NORTH CAROLINA TOWN HALL/TDH
TUESDAY: March 09, 2021---7:00 PM. Minutes
Town Hall Hours: Tuesdays 9:00 am.-5:00 pm.
Thursdays- 4:00 pm.-7:00 pm. Payments Only

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Patricia Williams called meeting to order at 7:00 pm

This meeting is being recorded and I (Mayor Patricia Williams) would like to remind you for **Public Comments** please call Town Hall at 336-234-0030 by 2:00 p.m. on the Tuesday the day of the Town Meeting and leave your name, address, and your reason for Public Comments.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

- **Mayor Patricia Williams** asked everyone to please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Mayor Patricia Williams, Commissioner Lisa Brandon, Shirley Wilson, Town Clerk, Sharon Williams, Finance Officer, Commissioner Cathia Stewart, **Zoom:** Commissioner Valerie Sottile, Commissioner John Wallace Jr.,

ABSENT: N/A

- **APPROVALS: Mayor Patricia Williams** called for approval of the **March 09, 2021**, Agenda. Mayor Patricia Williams made a change to the Agenda for March deleting Survey for Grocery Store and Commissioner Cathia Stewart asked to delete the EDC report. It was motioned to approve the Agenda with the amendments for **March 09, 2021**, by Commissioner Valerie Sottile. Second by Commissioner Cathia Stewart. All members were in favor. **Mayor Patricia Williams** asked for the approval of the **February 09, 2021**, Minutes. Commissioner Lisa Brandon motioned to approve the **February 09, 2021**, Minutes as they stand and second by Commissioner Cathia Stewart. All members were in favor of the Minutes by stating (I).

MAYORS REPORT: Mayor Patricia Williams

- **COVID 19 Update: Caswell County** now has 1,987 confirmed cases up from 787 reported last month; **Milton Zip Code** has 145 confirmed cases up from 135 reported in February with (1) death in our zip code.
- **Madero Vaccine** is being given out in Caswell County at the Caswell County Park and Recreation Department and the North Village Pharmacy. You can call the Caswell Health Department at 336 -694-4129 to put your name on a list to be contacted when you qualify for a vaccine.
- Remember Cold and Flu Season has arrived. There are **Active Flu Cases here in Caswell County: Not too late to get a Flu Vaccine.** Please be diligent in practicing wearing a face covering, social distancing, and washing your hands. If you have any symptoms you need to go and get tested to rule out COVID-19. There are **2 free Testing**

Sites: open for anyone to go to be tested. You do not have to be a Caswell County resident. Those two sites are **Pelham Community Center**, and the **Caswell County Health Department**. Appointments are not necessary, but you do need to call to hear the days and times. **Days and Times may change due to increased numbers.**

- **The Milton Town Board and Finance Officer** received a letter from Susan McCullen, Director of Fiscal Management Section of the N.C. Department of State Treasurer with concerns over the financial position over the Milton **Water & Sewer Fund**. A letter will be mailed to the N.C. Department of State Treasurer addressing these concerns.
- **Duke Progress Energy, Caswell and the Town of Milton** contributed monies to the Caswell Fund from the Federal Cares Act for a total of \$50,000.00. These monies were given for assistance towards outstanding balances for utilities and rent. There are no longer any monies available for the utilities or rental assistance. For the Town of Milton many people were able to catch up with their water bills with this assistance. Hopefully in the future there will be no outstanding balances.
- **New Business:** There is a New Business that is going to be opening in the Old Post Office. They are hoping to open the first of April 2021. It will be a Deli/Market with staples that will be for sale (such as, bread, eggs, milk, produce). We look forward to welcoming this New Business to town and we wish this new business a lot of success in the future.

STAFF REPORTS: Shirley Wilson: On Time Payments

The reason why we want you address on time payments is we have residents coming by questioning why there are two payments showing on the current invoice. Payments should and must be paid on the due date because our Quick Book Software automatically recur on the 12th or the 15th of the month. If payments are paid after the due date the invoice will show past and current payments due. Invoices are printed on the 19th and mailed on the 20th of each month. Please pay attention to the invoices and the due date.

Sharon Williams Presented the General Fund Revenue at the end of February Target is **67%** **the Actual Revenue 53%** **Expenditures** are at **65% below the target 67%**. Mayor Patricia Williams asked about the Office Expense \$1205.00 and Sharon explained that Toner was purchased and returned because we received a new copy machine, and we will receive a credit for the Toner. **Water/ Sewer Fund** our Revenue is over at **75%**. Collection has done good along with the customers applying for Financial help. Expenses year to date is at **52%** with a Target of **67%**.

Bank Accounts: General Fund Bank Account: End of February 2021--**\$12,325.38** with the outstanding checks March 5th we were at **\$9880.38**. **Water Sewer Fund** at the end of February we were \$34,635.25.00. Outstanding checks we are at **\$28,966.12**.

Our North Carolina Capital Management Trust is down to **\$78,407.81** **until we Transfer money back for the fire hydrants as the money comes available from the Taxes.** (Typically, January-February but they are behind).

OLD BUSINESS: Commissioner John Wallace:

Commissioner John Wallace stated that another volunteer came forward to help with the

project, **Privatizing the Milton Water/Sewer System**, Sharon Williams. We need to ID a community that has a small Municipality that has sold out to a larger one. No progress in Identifying such a Municipality. Mayor Patricia Williams elaborated.

Commissioner Lisa Brandon: Community Clean-Up

Commissioner Lisa Brandon stated that the pick-up date will be April 9, 2021, at 11:00 am and the Rain Date will be April 23, 2021. Mayor Patricia Williams explained how important it is to keep the town clean.

Commissioner Lisa Brandon and Commissioner Valerie Sottile: Revisions for Town Alcohol Ordinance

Commissioner Valerie Sottile stated that they met last week, revised the Alcohol Ordinance, and made some progress trying to get input from the Business Owners. It will be for the entire town because the sidewalks belong to the town. **Commissioner Lisa Brandon** stated she will send out an email sharing what they talked about. Mayor Patricia Williams explained an obvious problem (the town being held liable). If residents have a party on the sidewalks, they need to sign a waiver so the town will not be liable (extend to sidewalks and road) Commissioner Valerie Sottile stated this is the main goal not to have the town liable for accidents due to activities on the sidewalks. Sign a waiver to prohibit the town from being liable. **Commissioner Lisa Brandon** stated she had talked to Gwen McGuire and Alex Sharpe (Merchants), and they agree with the Ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Patricia Williams Speed Limit Signs

Mayor Patricia Williams stated that there are no speed limit signs on Holder and Palmers Alley. It was brought to her attention from a homeowner. DOT came out and measured the road and this is how they determined the speed limit of 25 mph. I (Patricia Williams) had suggested 30 mph but due to DOT calculation the speed limit will be 25 mph. It was discussed and Motioned by Commissioner Lisa Brandon to approve speed limit signs for Holder and Palmers Ally and second by Commissioner John Wallace all were in favor by stating (I). Motion carried and recorded.

Mike Behler: Filters on top of Green Tanks

- **Mike Behler stated** the filters are being broken off the green tanks. These filters are needed and there is a cost to replace them. It seems as though they are deliberately being broken. The homeowners or renters should be held accountable for the damage to the filters on top of the Green Tank. Asked the Board to make a decision because it is not the towns problem. The danger of children throwing items in the hole, and the danger of gases coming up out of the tank in the air around the house. (Discussion) The Board agreed to send out a notice in the Water Bill to state that the homeowners are responsible for the broken filters. It was motioned by Commissioner Cathia Stewart and Second by Commissioner John Wallace that the homeowners or renters that receives an invoice will be responsible for the cost of replacing the filter.
- **Mike Behler stated** Flushing of Pipes/ Fire Hydrants should be done Quarterly. The Fire Chief brought this issue up in a previous meeting. Releasing the water about 10 minutes. Mike Behler will charge the town because this is his labor. The residents will be notified when this will take place. Discussion) Mike Behler will open every hydrant valve at the

end of each street 4 times a year. Commissioner John Wallace stated that a job number should be prepared. Commissioner Cathia Stewart, Commissioner Lisa Brandon, Commissioner Valerie Sottile, and John Wallace Jr. agreed.

➤ **Mike Behler: Repair the Computer System**

Mike Behler stated the computer system is at the pump house. This system controls the central pumps, and the screen is black. The screen may just need repairing but Mike Behler has a name of a person that will come check it out to see if only the screen needs repairing or if we need an updated system. The cost may be seen in the future. Mike states that to replace the system it will be an extensive amount of money. **Mayor Patricia Williams** stated we are going to be moving on making this Priority because this computer controls the Central Pumps and Generator. Replacing may cost around \$9,000.00. This must be fixed. We need to put at the top of the list. We do not know if it is outdated. Mike Behler stated 2006. Shirley Wilson stated yes, it is outdated needs to be upgraded. There will be a service charge to come look at it. **Commissioner Valerie Sottile** we discussed this at a former meeting. **Mayor Patricia Williams** explained stating we cannot go without the computer system, and we need to check for a warranty.

Mike Behler: Purchasing a Generator

Mike Behler stated that purchasing a Generator for the Pump House would store at least 3-4 days of water if we have other ice storms. It is better to have and do not need than to need and do not have. The Pump has a heater that keeps the pipes from freezing and stores 3-4 days of water for the town. Without the Generator the Pump House will freeze within 3 days. The Generator will operate the Pump and generate the heat. The price is \$1400.00 Size 1000 AMPS. **Commissioner Valerie Sottile-House Pipes Freezes Commissioner Lisa Brandon Commissioner-Yes Cathia Stewart-Yes Commissioner John Wallace Jr. – Not Sure (Discussed and Tabled).**

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORTS:

➤ **Commissioner Cathia Stewart: N/A**

PUBLIC COMMENTS: N/A

CLOSE OF MEETING: Mayor Patricia Williams asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Commissioner John Wallace** motioned to adjourn the meeting and second by **Commissioner Valerie Sottile**. All members were in favor. Time: 8:40 pm