

**Town of North Wilkesboro
Commissioners Monthly Meeting
April 7, 2020**

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the town of North Wilkesboro was held via ZOOM online platform in the respective homes and/or offices of the Commissioners, Town Manager and Town Clerk April 7, 2020.

THERE WERE PRESENT: Robert L. Johnson, Mayor
 Andrew Palmer, Commissioner/Mayor Pro-Tem
 Angela Day, Commissioner
 Debbie Ferguson, Commissioner
 Michael Parsons, Commissioner
 Bert Hall, Commissioner

ALSO PRESENT: Wilson B. Hooper, Town Manager
 Debra Pearson, Town Clerk
 Daniel Johnson, Town Attorney

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Robert Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and delivered the Invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by North Wilkesboro Police Chief Joe Rankin.

IV. Additions/Deletions to agenda:

There were no additions and deletions to the agenda.

V. Approval of the Agenda:

Mayor Johnson called for a motion to approve the agenda. **Motion was made by Commissioner Ferguson and seconded by Commissioner Palmer. Motion unanimously carries as Manager Hooper requests the vote from each Commissioner after stating their name for verification purposes since this was a ZOOM media platform meeting.**

VI. Public Comments:

Mayor Johnson opened the floor for public comments at this time. There was no one wishing to speak.

VII. Consent Agenda Items:

All consent items may be approved in one motion. Items requiring further discussion will be pulled and voted upon separately.

- A.) Approval of Meeting Minutes – Debbie Pearson
- B.) Planning Board Appointments – Meredith Detsch
- C.) Easement for Greenway Extension – Meredith Detsch
- D.) Pension Spiking Report – Wilson Hooper
- E.) Budget Amendments – Connie Bauguess

Mayor Johnson called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as stated. **Motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Commissioner Ferguson and seconded by Commissioner Palmer. Motion unanimously carries as Town Manager Hooper called for each Commissioner’s vote on the motion individually since this was a ZOOM media platform meeting.**

*****END CONSENT AGENDA*****

VIII. Town Manager’s/Attorney’s Reports:

Manager Hooper states regarding the COVID19 pandemic that the Town of North Wilkesboro is managing well and the public is complying with the State of Emergency Declaration. He said folks are getting the message and doing well as a community. Manager Hooper says he doesn’t think we have reached the peak yet but the Wilkes Regional Wake Forest Baptist Hospital here should be able to accommodate any individuals infected with the virus. Manager Hooper spoke briefly on possible percentages of lost revenue. These items will be discussed at the Commissioners’ budget workshops

being held April 21st and April 23rd, 2020. These workshops will begin at 1:00 p.m. respectively and are open to the public. Anyone wishing to join the meeting may do so by logging on to the following site:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAldeqqzwoYG-PG1xJKXJn5Ord8macig>

Town Attorney Daniel Johnson that Manager Hooper's diligence to the COVID 19 issue was helping to keep the town more than a few steps ahead, and stated that the town was doing a good job of social distancing.

IX. Policy:

F.) Budget Overview-Wilson Hooper

Manager Hooper gave a brief overview of the proposed upcoming FY21 budget. The proposed budget will be presented May 7 and will be advertised and brought to the Board for approval in the regular board meeting held June 4, 2020. Manager Hooper advised concerning the General Fund, the impact of current events will affect the budget and will need to be discussed more and possibly adjusted. Manager Hooper touched on property taxes, sales taxes and gave possible predictions according to the NCLM. We have predicted a 10% drop in revenue, with a 4% drop in sales tax. Town fees make up a noticeable amount of the town budget. Solid waste revenue will stay intact. A project amount is about 4% lower than normal. A 2.5% cost of living increase COLA will be included. On the matter of the Water/Sewer Fund budget, the figures presented do not reflect a rate increase. Water will not be affected to the extent of the General Fund budget. Cut off for water payment delinquency is not being enforced. Non-payment is not being waived, but extended for our customers. A rate increase will be needed for the upcoming years. Rate increase consideration notices are being sent out to our wholesale customers. The Water/Sewer CIP for FY2021 is a planning document. This gives information on the town projects committed to and "wish lists" to be considered later on.

G.) Meeting Calendar (action)- Wilson Hooper See attachment G.

The Board discussed holding the two budget workshops within the same week. A time frame of 1 to 5 hour time block was discussed possibly beginning in the afternoon, during business hours. **Commissioner Parsons made a motion to request two budget work sessions, Tuesday April 21st, and Thursday April 23rd from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. each afternoon. Commissioner Ferguson seconded the motion. Roll call of Commissioners and their votes to approve or disapprove were taken at that time. Motion is unanimously approved.** These dates will be added to the calendar and will be made public.

X. Mayor and Commissioner Topics:

Mayor Johnson stressed the importance of staying diligent and practicing social distancing. He wishes everyone continue social distancing, and that everyone stays safe.

XI. Adjourn:

With no other business to discuss Mayor Johnson called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Ferguson made the motion to adjourn with Commissioner Parsons seconding the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Debra W. Pearson, Town Clerk

Robert L. Johnson, Mayor

Approved: _____

**Board of Commissioners Public Board Meeting Dates
of the Town of North Wilkesboro 2020**

**January 7 - Regular Session
January 23 - Work Session**

**February 4 - Regular Session
February 27 - Work Session**

**March 6 - Board Retreat
March 26 - Work Session**

**April 7 - Regular Session
April 21 Budget Work Session 1p.m. – 5 p.m.
April 23 – Budge Work Session 1 p.m. – 5p.m.**

**May 5 - Regular Session
May 28 - Work Session**

**June 2 - Regular Session
June 25 - Work Session**

**July 7* - Regular Session
July 23 – Work Session**

**August 4 Regular Session
August 27 Work Session**

**September 8 Regular Session
September 24 Work Session**

**October 6 Regular Session
October 22 Work Session**

**November 10* - Regular Session
November 19* - Work Session**

**December 8 - Regular Session
December 24 -Work Session**

(*November board mtg. rescheduled from the 3rd) (Election Day)