



260 HILLSBORO ROAD
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MAYOR TOBY P. BRADBERRY

POST 1: ERIC CARLSON

POST 2: JASON PRESLEY

POST 3: ANN EVANS

POST 4: HILDA KURTZ

POST 5: VIOLET DAWE

APPROVED MINUTES

TOWN OF NORTH HIGH SHOALS, GEORGIA

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING*

August 17, 2020

Council Present: Toby Bradberry, Ann Evans, Violet Dawe, Eric Carlson,

Visitors: Bentley Mills (online), Leslie Carroll (online/phone), Julia Fetcher (OC Enterprise)

Call to Order

Greetings and Declaration of Quorum

- Mayor Bradberry called the meeting to order at approximately 7:35pm.

Agenda Setting

- Council Member Carlson made a motion move the AT&T cell tower application to the top of the agenda. Council Member Evans seconded the motion and it passed with no objections.
- Council Member Evans made a motion to accept the agenda with the stated changes. Council Member Carlson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Presentation of Draft Minutes

- Council Member Dawe requested the typos under item 2 be corrected, that Dawes' be change to Dawe's under item 4, and clarity be added to the description of Elder Road under item 6.
- Council Member Carlson made a motion to accept the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting on July 20, 2020 with the stated changes. Council Member Dawe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Presentation of Financial Statement

- Clerk Wilson explained to Council it was an average month for expenses and revenues. She noted that a little over \$11,000 had be deposited from the CARES Act to cover COVID-19 related expenses. Reimbursements for expenses can be submitted after Council adopted the CARES Act Resolution later in the meeting.
 - Council Member Dawe asked how much of the money had been spent and Clerk Wilson replied under \$1000 so the bulk of the money would be returned.
- Council Member Dawe asked for clarity on the payroll figures. Clerk Wilson replied the figure of \$1226.30 represented payroll expenses including payments to the IRS and the state from July 20 through August 16, 2020. The figure of \$3227.73 was for all payroll expenses starting at July 1, 2020.
- Mayor Bradberry inquired about monthly expenses under Other Professional Services and Clerk Wilson replied Lee Moody had submitted an invoice for \$925 of the \$1120 listed.
- Council Member Carlson made a motion to accept the July-August financial statement as presented. Council Member Evans seconded the motion and it passed with no objections.

*Due to COVID-19 restrictions the meeting was held virtually using GoToMeeting.

Item 1—AT&T Cell Tower Extension

Leslie Carrol joined the meeting as a representative for cell tower extension applicant. Mayor Bradberry asked her to give an overview of the request. She explained there were already several carriers on the tower, therefore they were asking for an extension up to 195 feet. A map provided with the application materials shows the increase in coverage area that the height extension would allow AT&T to achieve. Discussion of the application followed:

- Council Member Carlson asked if the height extension would benefit the service existing carriers and Ms. Carroll replied no; only if a carrier added something to the extension.
- Mayor Bradberry asked what existing carriers were on the tower and what carrier would like to be added. Ms. Carroll stated she did not know who was on the tower now and AT&T would like to be added.
- Council Member Dawe asked how much additional radiation would go to the elementary school.
- Mayor Bradberry inquired if there would be any changes to structures on the ground. Ms. Carroll replied AT&T would be making some changes on the ground for additional equipment, but it would be located within the current fenced in area. Council Member Dawe stated a building permit would be needed.
- Council Member Dawe expressed concern about how hurricane winds would affect the tower. Ms. Carroll explained the tower was designed to withstand severe winds and if the tower was to break, it is designed to fall in on itself.
- Council Member Evans asked if Morgan (Building Inspector) had reviewed the plans and Clerk Wilson replied not yet. Morgan's main concern was if the tower would be tall enough to require lights and the structure is not.
 - Council Member Evans suggested the Town might want to ask for lights on the tower for safety. Ms. Carroll replied if the tower was over 200 feet it may require a medium density light that is red during the day and strobes white at night. Mayor Bradberry expressed concerns that lights would be detrimental to properties around the cell tower.
- Council agreed to table the vote until next month after Morgan had a chance to review the plans.
- Council Member Dawe asked for clarification on the section of the affidavit included with the application packet that discusses Ocone County regulations.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Item 2—New Account at Robins Financial Credit Union

Mayor Bradberry informed Council that the Town opened a new money market account at Robins Financial Credit Union with a balance of \$10,000. He explained the rest of the money could be transferred over the internet. Council Member Dawe asked who was on the account and Mayor Bradberry replied himself and Clerk Wilson. Council Member Dawe requested the Mayor Pro-temp be added as well.

Item 3—Park Drainage Update

Clerk Wilson provided Council with an overview of the detention basin and swale ideas as proposed by Georgia Civil. Discussion followed:

- With respect to the detention basin Council would like to know how much water the basin is designed to hold? How long it will take to water drain out of the basin? What will the basin look like and will it become a breeding ground for mosquitoes?
- What is the height of the swale?

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- Council Member Dawe asked how deep underground the water will be pumped.
- If this idea does not work, what are the alternatives?
- Bentley Mills commented to Council that the swale would likely not be very deep and aquatic plants could be added along to swale to further soak up water. The design of the basin is meant to slow the water and control the release of it. He mentioned his company might be able to do the construction work in exchange for use of the field.
- Mayor Bradberry stated the next steps would be to get answers to Council's questions and discuss the project with neighboring property owners.

Item 4— Franchise Fee for Atlanta Gaslight Update

Clerk Wilson informed Council that the Town's attorney Joe Reitman reviewed the agreement and made a few changes. I have forwarded his suggestions onto our representative with the Georgia Municipal Association and he forwarded it on to Atlanta Gaslight. We are now waiting to hear back from Atlanta Gas Light.

Item 5—Hickory Ridge Entrance Drain

Mayor Bradberry is still trying to find out more information about the quote to fix the drain.

NEW BUSINESS

Item 6—FY 2019 LMIG Grant Funds

Mayor Bradberry reminded Council that the Town had already received the funding, but the proposed project was no longer feasible. Instead the money can be used for the Hickory Ridge Drain repair, purchase new road signs, and install speed bumps. Council Member Carlson asked how much the grant money was awarded. Clerk Wilson replied the Town received around \$12,000 and must provide a 30% match which means project totals have to be somewhere around \$16,000.

Mayor Bradberry reminded Council that applications for the current LMIG grant cycle would be due soon and to start thinking about potential projects. He asked how much money the Town could apply for. Clerk Wilson informed Council that the award was based on the amount of road mileage in Town and then the Town had to supply a 30% match. Therefore, total project costs had to be at least \$13,000. Discussion followed about projects for the current LMIG grant cycle including repaving Hickory Ridge and Hickory Lake and the culvert repair on Jefferson Road.

Council Member Dawe made a motion to use existing LMIG funds to repair the drain in the entrance to Hickory Ridge. Council Member Carlson seconded the motion and it passed with no objections.

Item 7—Electrical Permit 1020 Ridgefield Drive

No action needed—permit was approved in the Regular Council Meeting in July 2020.

Item 8—HVAC Permit 235 Hopping Road

Council Member Evans made a motion to approve the HVAC permit for 235 Hopping Road. Council Member Carlson seconded the motion and it passed with Council Member Dawe abstaining.

Item 9—Money Market Investment Options

Clerk Wilson explained to Council that their investment options for the money market accounts were limited to those specified in the Georgia Code Annotate Section 36-83-4. Essentially, 36-83-4 provides Council with eight different investment options. Discussion followed:

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- Council Member Dawe would like more information on option F—the local government investment pool established by 36-83-8
- Clerk Wilson reminded Council that all the investment options discussed by the representative from Edward Jones were allowed under 36-83-4.

Item 10—Setting the Millage Rate

Clerk Wilson reminded Council that Oconee County is maintaining their current millage rates which results in a tax increase.

Council Member Evans made a motion to roll the millage rate back to 1.140 from 1.227 which result in no tax increases. Council Member Carlson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Item 11—Auditor Selection

Mayor Bradberry reminded Council that the Town was in the market for a new auditor because they had been using the same one for quite some time which was not a best practice. Council Member Carlson asked how much the Town currently paid for auditing services and Clerk Wilson replied \$600 for Agreed Upon Procedures. Clerk Wilson stated the Town received two proposals—one for \$3500 from a firm in Madison and one for \$2500-3500 from a firm in Macon. Discussion followed:

- Council Member Dawe preferred to go with a more local company.
- Council Member Carlson inquired about references for the firm in Madison and Clerk Wilson replied the firm in Madison is used by Watkinsville. He also preferred to use a local company.

Council Member Dawe made a motion to accept Treadwill, Tamplin, & Co CPA for the 2019-2020 financial year for the price of \$3500. Council Member Evans seconded the motion and it passed with no objections.

Item 12—CARES Act Resolution

Mayor Bradberry explained to Council that they needed to pass this the CARES Act Resolution to spend the money the Town has already be given by the government. He clarified that the money will be used to reimburse the Town for money already spent. Council Member Carlson asked if we did not use all the money, did it go back and Mayor Bradberry stated yes. Clerk Wilson explained the current round of funding was for expenses back dated to March 1, 2020.

Council Member Carlson made a motion to accept the CARES Act Resolution. Council Member Evans seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

MAYOR'S UPDATE

- 3 applicants thus far for the handyman position; David Lawrence is interested in the position
- New street signs have been ordered and the new speed bump has been marked
- Tree along Rays Church Road that was damaged in the storm

Council Member Evans made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Dawe seconded the motion and it passed without objection. The meeting ended at approximately 9:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Laura Wilson
Clerk, North High Shoals

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