

# Town of Haw River Town Council Meeting Monday, June 7, 2021

The Haw River Town Council held its regular meeting on Monday, June 7, 2021 in the Haw River Municipal Building at 6:00 pm.

Council Members Present: Mayor Kelly Allen, Mayor Pro-Tem Lee Lovette, Patty Wilson & Steve Lineberry

Council Members Absent: None

Other Members Present: Town Manager Sean Tencer, Town Clerk Lesley Gonzalez, Town Attorney Charlie Davis & Attorney Jake Wright.

Mayor Kelly Allen called the meeting to order and gave the invocation at 6:00 pm.

## **Consent Agenda**

1. Approval of Minutes from May 3, 2021 regular meeting.

Councilmember Lineberry made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Wilson seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0

## Old Business

1. None.

# **Public Hearing**

 Haw River Town Council held a public hearing concerning the FY 2021-2022 Budget for the Town of Haw River and will receive public comments regarding the proposed 2021-2022 Budget.

Councilmember Lovette opened the Public Hearing at 6:02 pm. Councilmember Lineberry seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0

Town Manager Tencer read the Budget proposal FY 21-22 highlights.

- No property tax increase.
- Increase of 2% for water and 5% for sewer.
- Budget is based on a 97% collection rate.
- Garbage fee will increase 2.9% due to GFL price increase as of April 2021.
- Orange Alamance Water increased 1 ½%
- No property tax increase.
- 2% COLA raise for town employees.
- Development pay increase for employees in January 2022.
- NC State Treasurer Retirement rates increased FY 2021-2022.
- An additional \$10,000 will be added to the MERP (Medical Expense Reimbursement Plan).
- Robert Brewer is the new Public Works Director.
- \$90,000.00 will be used to purchase new software for the Town's Administration/Water-Sewer/Finance Departments.
- No general fund balance or water & sewer fund balance will be used to balance the FY 2021-2022 Annual Budget.
- A total of \$50,000.00 will be set aside in savings for General and Water & Sewer funds
- Police will be purchasing a vehicle in the FY 21-22

No one signed up to speak at the public hearing

Councilmember Wilson made a motion to close the Public Hearing at 6:08 pm. Councilmember Lovette seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0

#### **New Business**

1. Haw River Town Council adopted the FY 2021-2022 Budget, Budget Ordinance, and the fee schedule for the Town of Haw River.

Councilmember Lovette made a motion to adopt the FY 2021-2022 Budget, Budget Ordinance, and the fee schedule for the Town of Haw River. Councilmember Lineberry seconded the motion.

#### Motion carried 4-0

2. Town Council approved the yearly audit contract with Cobb, Ezekiel, Loy and Company, P.A.

Councilmember Wilson made a motion to approve the audit contract for FY 21-22 with Cobb Ezekiel Loy & Company, P.A. Councilmember Lovette seconded the motion.

#### Motion carried 4-0

- 3. Town Council heard a presentation from Dennis Pinnix with SCEI State Code Enforcement Inc about code enforcement services for the Town of Haw River. Mr. Pinnix introduced himself to the Council and gave a brief description about himself and his company. Currently SCEI has tagged over seventy (70) violations within the town that includes nine (9) minimum housing code violations, three (3) tall grass violations, twenty-seven (27) junk piles, twenty-two (22) junk vehicles, six (6) other nuisances, and one (1) white-good appliance violation. A presentation was shown of the currently tagged properties with violations. These violations are civil and/or criminal violations by the current ordinance. It was noted that any civil violations that can be prosecuted as a criminal violation as well, the fines collected would need to go to the school system. NCGS 160A-193. SCEI currently has eight (8) field agents that are currently employed. One of those employees will be working with town staff. A monthly report will be given to town staff as well as shown on the Mobile311 website.
- 4. Town Council considered accepting funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in the amount of \$741,837.80. For municipalities under 50,000 residents ("Non-Entitled Municipalities"), these local governments will need to request ARPA funding from the State of North Carolina's NC Pandemic Recovery Office (NC PRO).

Councilmember Lineberry made a motion to accept the funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in the amount of \$741,837.80. For municipalities under 50,000 residents ("Non-Entitled Municipalities"), these local governments will need to request ARPA funding from the State of North Carolina's NC Pandemic Recovery Office (NC PRO). Funds will need to be used by 2026 or the funds will be returned to the federal government. Town Manager Tencer mentioned that he prefers to use the funds on water/sewer infrastructure for the Town. Half of the funds will be deposited in either June or July 2021, and the other half will be deposited in 2022. Councilmember Lovette seconded the motion.

#### Motion carried 4-0

5. Town Council considered approving the 2021-2022 Local Government Grant Resolution for the NC Governor's Highway Safety Grant. This is a matching grant for a total of \$12,000.00.

Councilmember Wilson made the motion to approve the 2021-2022 Local Government Grant Resolution for the NC Governor's Highway Safety Grant. Councilmember Lineberry seconded the motion.

#### Motion carried 4-0

10. Town Council discussed and considered a request from town staff to have the authority to make appropriate adjustments and amendments to the 2020-2021 budget to prepare for year-end closeout.

Councilmember Lovette made a motion to approve the request from town staff to have the authority to make appropriate adjustments and amendments to the 2020-2021 budget to prepare for year-end closeout. Councilmember Wilson seconded the motion.

#### Motion carried 4-0

11. Town Council approved the following budget amendments: 1) 2021-10 Amend new fire capital reserve fund, 2) 2021-11 Reimbursement of Costs-Fire Department, 3) 2021-12 Setup new HRPD Federal Forfeiture and Department of Justice Fund, and 2021-13 Setup American Rescue Plan Capital Project Fund

Councilmember Lineberry made a motion to approve the following budget amendments as proposed. Some amendments are to separate the funds in their individual account and to add any unexpected revenues. Councilmember Wilson seconded the motion.

### Motion carried 4-0

## Reports

- 1. Lang Street Pump Station Possible UDSA loan with 2-3 % interest with financing up to 40 years. Possible 45% grant involved due to low poverty level on that census tract. Town staff and AWCK are starting to work with USDA on this. **On-going**
- 2. PTRCG Town staff has sent Town Council all documents regarding the new personnel manual. This includes the employee handbook, the personnel manual, and the policy and procedure manual. When will Town Council be ready to bring it forward? I am thinking at the August Town Council Meeting. **On-going**
- 3. The Town is still investigating the I & I from the Hanover Road outfall. Gavel and Dorn has removed the sewer meters, and we are waiting on a final report to see what is going on. **Ongoing**
- 4. Reminder Grand Opening for Granite Mill is on June 10th at 10 a.m.
- 6. The painter for the mural on the side of the Haw River Museum will start to do the outline on Monday night (tonight), or Tuesday night. The community event will be sometime in July. 6. The branding logo will be painted on the Haw River Museum building.
- 7. Discussion on whether to use ArchiveSocial to archive all social media accounts for elected officials and town sponsored social media. Price is \$2,900.00 annually. Councilmembers approved the contract and gave approval for the Town Manger to sign up and start the services in July 1, 2021.

## <u>Adjourn</u>

Councilmember Wilson made the motion to adjourn. Councilmember Lineberry seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0

Council Adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Kelly Allen, Mayor