

December 3rd, 2018

At 7:00pm, on Monday, December 3rd, 2018, in the Board Room of the Landis Municipal Building, Mayor Mike Mahaley called to order the Town of Landis Board of Aldermen Regular Meeting. Those present along with Mayor Mahaley were Aldermen Bobby G. Brown, Tony Corriher, Tommy Garver and Seth Moore, Town Manager Reed Linn, Police Chief Kenny Isenhour, Public Works Director Ron Miller, Administrative Assistant Heather Wood and Town Attorney Rick Locklear.

A quorum was met.

Mayor Mahaley opened the meeting and welcomed all those in attendance.

The invocation was given by Pastor David Franks.

The pledge of allegiance was then led by Mayor Mahaley.

Alderman Brown motioned, seconded by Alderman Corriher, to approve the agenda as written. All voted aye.

Alderman Brown motioned, seconded by Alderman Corriher, to adopt the minutes from the November 5th, 2018 Regular Meeting as written. All voted aye.

The first order of business concerned a contract between the US Department of Energy, the Southeast Power Administration and the Town of Landis. This was a contract signed every year that allowed for the purchase of excess power at a cheaper rate. All members of Electricities signed this contract to be able to use the excess power. There was some discussion.

Alderman Corriher motioned, seconded by Alderman Moore, to approve a contract between the US Department of Energy, the Southeast Power Administration and the Town of Landis to allow for the purchase of excess power at a cheaper rate. All voted aye.

The next order of business concerned a resolution in support of the Applicant Disaster Assistance Agreement for Hurricane Florence. Manager Linn explained that during Hurricane Florence the Town had experienced damage at the levee, the park, City Hall, the Fire Department, etc. They had submitted the information required to Rowan County and been approved as a FEMA recipient and hoped to be reimbursed. Adopting this resolution was the first step in that process on the state level. Assistant Town Manager Brandon Linn was the primary agent on the process, with Finance Officer Ginger Gibson serving as the second contact. There was some discussion concerning reimbursement, which would also include repairs to the levee.

Alderman Garver motioned, seconded by Alderman Corriher, to adopt a Resolution in Support of the Applicant Disaster Assistance Agreement for Hurricane Florence. All voted aye.

The next order of business concerned appointments to the TAC and TCC. Staff recommended no change, just to simply re-affirm the current appointments. Mayor Mahaley stated that they do a good job.

Alderman Corriher motioned, seconded by Alderman Moore, to keep the appointments to the TAC and TCC the same as the previous year. All voted aye.

The next order of business concerned the Town's appointments to the Electricities Board of Commissioners. It was also Staff's recommendation these appointments remain the same.

Alderman Brown motioned, seconded by Alderman Corriher, to re-appoint Public Works Director Ron Miller to the Electricities Board of Commissioners with Town Manager Reed Linn serving as alternate. All voted aye.

Department Head Comments

Town Manager Reed Linn: reminded everyone that City Hall would be closed on December 21st for an employee furlough day, as well as December 24th, 25th, and 26th for the Christmas Holiday. On Friday, December 14th the Campfire Christmas event would take place at Lake Corriher Wilderness Park from 6:00pm until 8:00pm; Santa Clause would be present at the lake as well.

Public Works Director Ron Miller: assured everyone they knew the leaves were out there and that Public Works was in the process of playing "catch up" to get everything collected.

Police Chief Kenny Isenhour: stated that they had extended the "No Shave November" a month and had raised \$200.00 so far for the Shriners. He went on to state that the Landis PD had experienced a loss recently, Pastor David Franks' (the PD's chaplain) nephew had lost his life in the line of duty in Greensboro. Pastor Franks was considered part of the PD family and he wanted to take the time to mention what had happened.

Board Comments

Alderman Bobby Brown: wanted to thank the employees for the tree lightning downtown, it had been outstanding. He also wanted to know if the American Legion planned to place a war memorial in the passive park. Manager Linn stated that it had been discussed and they would like to have an area set up for local vets from all branches of the military. Nothing had been set in stone, but conversations had taken place. Alderman Brown then stated that he would like the Board to show their support for not closing the schools in this area to the school board. He stated that if they close the schools in Landis, it will take people out of the town and would have an impact on the community. Alderman Corriher asked if Chief Isenhour had any comments, since he used to work in the school system. Chief Isenhour stated that at this time it was only a proposal to combine the elementary schools into one and the middle schools into one. It is a proposal in several phases and would be years out. No one really knows much because it's only conjecture at this point. He commented that the population doubles every day that school is in session. There was some discussion. Alderman Brown stated that the closing would have a big effect on Landis and they needed to do something now. Mayor Mahaley suggested a resolution in opposition to the closing.

Alderman Graver stated that this had been discussed for about two years and if they looked at the math and the money, it made sense. However, if it was looked at as a community, it could be opposed. He

stated that if people were worried about taxes, consolidating the schools was the right decision and he wasn't certain he would go against this on this Board. He stated that they had had to make hard decisions and that they needed to do what was best for the most people. Alderman Brown stated that they needed to let them (the School Board) know how they felt, is what he was getting at. Manager Linn stated that they could do a resolution and that one of the things to consider as well was that the Rowan County School System was a very big customer for Landis and if they relocate then the Town's other customers would have to make up the lost revenue.

Alderman Brown motioned, seconded by Alderman Corriher, to draft a resolution to let the Rowan Salisbury School System know that the Town of Landis opposed the closing and consolidation of schools. All voted aye.

Mayor Mike Mahaley: stated that he had been talking to Martha Corriher for about a year concerning a war memorial at the passive park; he felt that was a good location, though he pointed out it would only be an area, the entire park would not be a war memorial. There was some discussion of the matter.

Alderman Tony Corriher: inquired if there was any information about Atlantic American Properties. Manager Linn stated that they had met with several representatives at Irish Creek and they were actively looking for developers. Staff had met with them twice and they had asked many questions. Nothing was 100% yet.

Mayor Mike Mahaley: stated that it was a terrific time at the Christmas Tree lighting and he urged everyone to go by and see the tree. He thanked Staff, stating that nearly everyone had something to do with it. He thanked all of the Department heads and various departments and stated that they were trying to get back into having things on a regular basis through the year. He also spoke about the Campfire Christmas event that would be at the lake on December 14th; they would have a smaller tree over the water, Santa, the store would be open and they would be serving drinks and desserts; the South Rowan Chorus would also be there. There was some discussion.

There were no further Board comments.

Citizens Comments

Katie Sells: asked for an update on the repaving of Fifth Street. Manager Linn stated that the bids had been approved and the contractor had been contacted. It was in process and the Town was on the list.

Nadine Cherry: stated that she was disappointed with Alderman Corriher; that Manager Linn had turned his microphone on and positioned it towards him and during the prayer, Alderman Corriher had turned it back away from him again. Alderman Corriher stated that he did not feel it needed to be in his face. Ms. Cherry then stated that she was disappointed with the whole Board over the fact that Landis had gotten left out of the interchange (at Old Beatty's Ford Road). She stated that she knew a lot of things had happened and that Gary Morton had been there and he stated he did not want Landis to get it. Mayor Mahaley inquired if Ms. Cherry wanted answers because he knew it was her time to speak. Ms. Cherry stated that she thought a lot of what was happening now was repercussions from the past. She stated she was glad Alderman Brown had said what he had (about the schools) and that she felt the same way and that Landis could not get industry in here. Ms. Cherry stated that all Landis would get is houses, not industry and that was disappointing and disheartening. Ms. Cherry then stated she keeps up with the

kilowatts on her meter daily and that it jumps around daily and she had “ideas” about what was going on.

Mayor Mahaley stated that for the last two years Manager Linn and Alderman Garver had been the lead on the interchange, in addition to Brandon Linn and himself. There had been no less than 10-12 meetings in Salisbury and China Grove about the exit. He stated that Ms. Cherry was misinformed, that the Town had not simply sat back idly during the process; the Town had submitted two proposals and had been working on this for eight years. He stated that Mr. Morton was a good friend and he was not against Landis having the project. He stated that the bottom line was that Kannapolis was the only people who had the money right now and the developers were ready to move forward. The County Commissioners had approached Kannapolis, not the other way around. It had been evident from the beginning that Landis did not have enough money to be a serious player and they had done everything they possibly could to get it worked out. The Town had spent nearly a year trying to be able to sell water, but the County Commissioners had felt that the project was going to be held up. Ms. Cherry stated that she had said her piece and gone to the meeting, even though she knew who was going to get it. Mayor Mahaley stated that “so did we” and that was all he wanted to say on the subject because Ms. Cherry seemed misinformed.

Ms. Cherry also wanted to know why the gentleman from the auditors hadn’t been before the Board the last two years; she stated that it makes you wonder what’s going on.

Assistant Town Manager Brandon Linn stated that the staff at the EDC had worked to get site ready plans ready for the Town; he did think growth was coming to Landis with the new interchange.

There were no further citizens’ comments.

Alderman Brown motioned, seconded by Alderman Moore, to adjourn the meeting. All voted aye.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34pm on Monday, December 3rd, 2018.

Heather Wood
Administrative Assistant