



Town of Lansing

Town Hall 173 B Street ~ PO Box 266 Lansing, NC 28643 ~ 336.384.3938 ~ www.lansingnc.us

Board of Aldermen: Jim Blevins, Matt Cordell, Anita Greenwood, Tom Richardson, Teresa McCoy

Finance Officer: Elizabeth Johnson

Mack Powers, Mayor

Sandra Roten, Town Clerk

BOARD OF ALDERMAN Regular Meeting Minutes January 11, 2022

The Lansing Board of Aldermen met at Town Hall for their regular monthly meeting on January 11, 2022 in person and by Zoom for the public to attend by request only.

Those present by roll call were: Mayor Mack Powers, Aldermen Jim Blevins, Matt Cordell, Anita Greenwood (by Zoom) and Teresa McCoy. Absent Tom Richardson.

Also attending were: Finance Officer Beth Johnson, Town Clerk Sandy Roten, Maintenance Supervisor Larry Blevins, Ann Rose, René Shuford, Derek Goddard, Cindy Randolph, and Joan Rataski. Attending by ZOOM were: Austin and Jessica Mikeal, Robert Rice, Patty Lewis, and Luis Durani.

- **Call to Order and Welcome**

Mayor Powers called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

- **Approval of January 11, 2022 Agenda**

A motion was made by Alderman Cordell to accept the agenda as presented. Motion carried with a 4-0 favor.

- **Review Minutes for Approval**

Mayor Powers opened the floor for a motion to approve the December 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes or amend if necessary. A motion was made by Alderman McCoy to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried with a 4-0 favor.

- **Finance Report**

- Our auditor, Cindy Randolph, gave a summary to the Board of her yearly audit. This report has been issued to the State of North Carolina. Ms. Randolph thanked Beth Johnson and Clerk Roten for their help and the Board of Aldermen.
- On June 30, 2021 the balance was \$76,982 representing 63% of the total General Fund.
- Property Tax collection decreased, expenditures increased, water and sewer collections were \$3,200 less than 2020, with an increase in expenses.
- Some weaknesses are: lack of segregation of duties, preparation of financial statements, and reconciliation of Money Market account. Note that Money Market account is now being reconciled monthly.
- Alderman Blevins asked Ms. Randolph her opinion about raising the Town's taxes and water and sewer rates. She said she will investigate other town's current rates and compare with ours.
- Ms. Randolph stated all in all it showed good audit results with no problems.

- **LPCCA –** An update was given by Robert Rice.

- A change in leadership has taken place. David Norman has stepped down from the Board and resigned from LPCCA.
- They have a new chair, vice chair, and Robert Rice as secretary. The need more board members.
- LPCCA is launching a new search for an Executive Director. If anyone knows of anyone that might be interested, let Robert know.
- They have written a grant for recording equipment for LPCCA.
- Jam sessions have been put on hold until summer due to the weather.
- The marker showing the building as a Historical Building has been received. LPCCA wants to include Town Hall, Mayor Powers, and the Board to be involved to this dedication.

- **G.L.A.D. –** An update was given by René Shuford.

- A meeting with the Town was held and GLAD was asked to find grants for water and sewer and burying power lines.
- A partnership with teacher, Julie Little, working with 6th graders to start a recycling project for their community service project has begun.
- The beautification committee next project is the box car owned by the fire department.

- The Jane Lonon legacy grant has been postponed and is scheduled to start in March and completed in a month.
 - A GLAD calendar event, "Dancing in Lansing" will be held on January 22. The beginning dancing lessons begin at 6:00; 7:00 until 10:00 being line dancing. Masks are required for this event.
 - Could we put GLAD's website address on Lansing's website's main page?
 - The beautification committee has started seed planting for the plant sale on the Friday and Saturday before Mother's Day.
- **Public Comments**
 - Derek Goddard, PLS, GISP with Blue Ridge Environmental Consulting wanted to introduce their business to the Board. They are a small, local, and responsive to small towns that are poised to grow. They can help with water and sewer projects, grant writing, Powell Bill, etc. They can also be an "on call" planner, helping with planning and zoning as needed.
 - A letter was written to the Board from Joan Rataski. She would like some washers and dryers removed from a yard that is an eyesore to the town.

9.0 Other Business

- Playground Committee Report – Alderman Greenwood, chairperson for the Playground Committee, said they had met with Greg Taylor who could supply a more natural looking playground equipment. They are waiting to hear from him.
- Clerk Roten gave a report on the back taxes owed. A total of \$11,551.71 is still outstanding. Of this amount, \$4,478.88 has been paid since the letters were mailed. This is approximately a collection of 38.8% collected.
- Mayor Powers reported on the speed limit discussion changing to 25 mph through town. He will call tomorrow and get an update on the progress of this change.
- Historical Preservation Committee - We need to designate certain parts as historical. Alderman Blevins said he thought the town should have their own historical preservation committee. Alderman Blevins made a move to create a historical preservation. Motion carried with a 4-0 favor.
- Resolution on Statewide Workforce Board Realignment was discussed. The state is wanting to combine our workforce development with other areas meaning we would go into a larger area to serve us. A motion was made by Alderman Blevins to adopt this resolution against combining the areas. Motion carried with a 4-0 favor.

- The contract for the Teaberry Bridge project will not be awarded until March due to property concerns.
- Sewer Report – A letter was received from our wastewater operator, Tim Church. The system was out of compliance for BOD levels from June 2021 through December 2021.
- Alderman Jim Blevins said he felt we needed a committee for a Planning Board, Board of Adjustments along with a Zoning Supervisor. He suggested having one alderman serving on this committee.
- We have been contacted by Senator Deanna Ballard's office updating us on the grants that have been awarded to the Town. We were told of some items that we must have in place and to provide these items before the State will award us our funds. They are as follows:
 - Conflict of interest policy statement (G.S. 143C-6-23.(b))
 - No overdue tax debts
 - Separate bank account for receiving SCIF funds
 Based on this information, a move was made by Alderman Blevins to proceed with opening a separate bank account for the Town of Lansing to receive these funds. Motion carried with a 4-0 favor.

10.0 Aldermen Comments

- Alderman Blevins said the Town needs to address zoning, extraterritorial jurisdiction, etc. before it becomes too late.
- It was suggested the Town do something to honor the Fire Department for all they do to show appreciation in the spring.

11. **Motion to Adjourn** - A motion was made to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. by Alderman Blevins. Motion carried with a 4-0 favor.

Mack Powers, Mayor

Sandra Roten, Clerk

