



**SEDALIA TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Zoom Meeting**  
**May 4, 2020**  
**7 PM**

**Minutes**

---

- **OPENING:** The regular scheduled meeting for the Town of Sedalia was called to order at 7:00 pm via Zoom by Mayor Morgan.
- **PRAYER:** Time was allotted for silent prayer and meditation.
- **PLEDGE:** Time was allotted for pledge to the U.S. Flag.
- **ROLL CALL:** Councilwoman O. Jones, Mayor Morgan, Mayor Pro Tem V. Jones, and Councilwoman Wrenwick.
- **ABSENT:** Councilman Meachem

**A. MOTION** to approve the agenda was made by Councilwoman O. Jones and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem V. Jones. Motion carried.

**B. MOTION** to approve the minutes from the previous meeting was made by Mayor Pro Tem V. Jones and seconded by Councilwoman O. Jones. Motion carried.

**C. DISCUSSIONS/REPORTS/GUEST**

**I. Code Enforcement Report**

Mayor Pro Tem V. Jones presented the code enforcement report on the violation cases in town from the month of April. The report was submitted by Brandon Emory, with Alliance Code Enforcement. The cases included properties located at 6270 Burlington Road, 6212 Burlington Road, 5904-5910 Blue Lantern Road, 6059 Burlington Road, 210 Cushman Road, 6146 Blue Lantern Road, 6134 Blue Lantern Road, 6133 Burlington Road, 6142 Blue Lantern Road, 6202 Riverview Drive, 224 Simmons Lake Drive, 205 Simmons Lake Drive, 5906 Stewart Bend Road, 204 Martingale Drive, 6210 Burlington Road, and 206 Cushman Road. The addresses of those cases that are now abated are 206 Cushman, 6210 Burlington Road, 5906 Stewart Bend Road, 224 Simmons Lake Drive, 6202 Riverview Drive (waiting on permit from county), 6133 Burlington Road, and 210 Cushman Road.

Councilwomen O. Jones stated that she would like for the beginning dates to be added back onto the reports. The Council discussed the layout of the reports as it relates to making sure they can identify the location of each property, as well as being aware of when each case was initially opened. It was decided to ask Mr. Emory if he would include the opening date along with the picture and the description of the case.

Cam Dungee, Town Clerk, gave an update on the old diner located at 6270 Burlington Road. The town was contacted a few days ago by the Code Enforcement Officer, and he learned that PGDF has exhausted its options for the project, which was to relocate the diner. The

emailed update stated that it was already going to be a very challenging project due to the condition of the railcar (and we had a few “hail Mary” options we looked into as a last resort), but the Coronavirus-related economic disruption has made it harder than ever to obtain funding for this kind of a project. The PGDF board voted at its last meeting to cease pursuit of this project. There was one other company to consider, but the Clerk said she would need to go back and look at her notes again to see who was suggested.

The Council decided that they think it’s time for the owner to consider demolishing this structure. As much as they were excited about the possibility of seeing it restored, the town has been waiting a few years now, and because it sat so long before trying to do something with it, no one is able to put forth the kind of money it takes to relocate and restore it. They also talked about a few options for the area after it is demolished, such as putting up a placard marking the location and including some history about the diner.

## **II. SFG Consulting Services (Grant Agreement)**

Cam Dungee, Town Clerk, gave an update on the proposed agreement from Jeanne Johnston, owner of SFG Consulting Services. The Council reviewed this agreement during the April 27<sup>th</sup> agenda meeting. She read over the steps that had transpired up until that point, one being, Jeanne Johnston’s explanation of what all she believed to be required prior to the town applying for any type of grant. In an earlier meeting, the Council decided to move toward using donated property on Dansby Drive or Simmons Lake Road to put in walking trails and possibly a community playground. The scope of work included in the agreement from SFG Consulting, would be to assist the town with consulting and strategic planning. During this meeting, the Council decided to go in a different direction and focus more on things they already know is needed, such as topography maps, a feasibility study and possibly a transportation map. They felt better about investing the funds in the bike/ped account to these things as opposed to consulting and strategic planning services, since the town already has a comprehensive plan. Possibly later down the road, they will reach back out to Jeanne again for her services. In the meantime, the Council is hoping to also get community involvement from those who have the equipment to help out with starting a path and the clearing of small trees. That part of the project will likely be on-going until contractors are brought in. The town is hoping that with physical involvement, appreciation of the end result will be even greater. Mayor Morgan added that something like this was done in Elkin where a dirt trail was put in, but it was started by community volunteers, and now it’s 15 miles long. The Clerk added that there is a possibility that Dansby Drive may need to be included in the bike/ped plan as an addendum. Down the road when the town is applying for funds, it would be helpful for us if Dansby Drive was included.

## **III. Planning Board Meeting Update**

Vice-Chair Marian Jeffries gave an update on the previous Planning Board meeting. She reported that one of the discussion items was a report given by member Monroe Smith. This was on the next Ch. 160D assignment, and the topic was on Legislative Decisions. There were parts of the assignment that Monroe didn’t understand, so the Clerk mentioned that she would look back and see if she could make better sense from the book as opposed to the video modules. The Clerk added that she did send the information out a few weeks

ago, but for her it was still pretty difficult to make heads or tail out of it. Marian continued that another item of discussion was about the best way to get the new firearm ordinance info out to the residents. The overall decision was to include it in the CallingPost messages as opposed to trying to go door-to-door (which also came up as an option). The community would still be able to contact the town hall if they had questions or wanted a copy of the full ordinance. It was noted that the CallingPost message already went out, and the Clerk did great with that. She is also working on mailing out postcards. Lastly, the subject came up about status on the town retreat. It was mentioned that the retreat has been cancelled due to the COVID-19 restrictions and there is a chance the Council will reschedule for the fall.

#### **IV Municipal Clerks Week Proclamation**

Councilwomen O. Jones read through the proclamation for Municipal Clerks Week. Segments of the proclamation included, the Office of the Municipal Clerk is a time honored and vital part of local government, and it provides the professional link between the citizens, the local governing bodies, and agencies of government at other levels. The Municipal Clerk serves as the information center on functions of local government and community and it is most appropriate that we recognize the accomplishments of the Office of the Municipal Clerk. The Town Council of the Town of Sedalia, North Carolina, do recognize the week of May 3-9 as Municipal Clerks Week, and further extend appreciation to our Municipal Clerk, Cam Dungee, and to all Municipal Clerks for the vital services they perform and their exemplary dedication to the communities they represent.

#### **V. COVID-19 Updates**

Cam Dungee, Town Clerk, gave an update on the last county briefing she was able to attend, and some information from the executive summary that was sent. On April 27<sup>th</sup>, the Council got a chance to review a summery from April 23<sup>rd</sup>. She replaced that one for this meeting with the summary from April 29<sup>th</sup>. This was done because the numbers are changing daily, and it's difficult to keep up with the most current updates. Also, the numbers reflect differently depending on where they come from. The info she has is based only on what Guilford County has. For example: if the county shows a total number of positive cases in the local hospitals, these numbers only reflect those patients who are Guilford County residents, not those who are in the hospital, but they reside in another county. However, these updates do give us a good idea of the progress or lack thereof. In just one week the number of positive cases in North Carolina went from 7,608 to 9,948. In Guilford County the positive cases in that same week went from 253 to 354. Currently the county has had 23 deaths and 39 locally hospitalized. We do know that as long as more testing is being done, the numbers will continue to go up. The Clerk continued with some of the actions that have been done to help, running totals of confirmed cases categorized by age, race and gender, showing the percentage and statistics. At this point the age bracket with the highest percentage is 25-49, which goes to show that it's not just affecting the older population like they once thought.

Mayor Pro Tem V. Jones added that these numbers were from Thursday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, but she saw the jump from that Friday to Saturday were astronomical. Councilwomen Wrenwick added that according to the county report, many of the younger people are getting it, but it's the older population of people who are actually dying from the virus.

The Clerk concluded with a brief report concerning positive cases in the workplace. Most people are not aware that if an employer finds that they have an employee who has tested positive for COVID-19, it is not the employer's responsibility nor right to share that information. The health departments role is to come in and give the step by step required regulations. There are regulatory laws designed to help protect anyone that has a communicable disease, and it is not public record. This doesn't mean that if someone has a disease that can harm another person, it can be withheld. If anyone has had a remote chance of being affected, the health department has to require the employer to do what is best. This is some information that caught her attention and she wanted to share it.

## **VI. 2020 Conference & Event Updates**

Mayor Morgan gave an update on the different conferences and events that were scheduled for 2020 but have now been either cancelled or rescheduled. Looking at the list before them, everyone can see that pretty much all the events have been cancelled. The list of cancelled events included Piedmont Legacy Trails Summit, Sedalia Spring Litter Sweep, Municipal Clerk Academies, Advocacy Goals Conference, Guilford County EOC (rescheduled), NCLM CityVision, Sedalia Council & PB Retreat, and the NC Black Summit. As of now, the NCBEMO Summer Conf, the Sedalia Car Show and the Sedalia CERT Training are still on.

Mayor Pro Tem V. Jones added that it's not official yet, but based on their last meeting, it's safe to say the NCBEMO Conf will also be cancelled. Planning things out is like a nightmare because it's almost impossible to schedule things when so much has been shut down. She also stated that the Sedalia Car Show and CERT training can both be outside, so we may be able to still hold those events. She volunteers a tree to be cut down at her house for the CERT training if we still plan to do hands-on chainsaw training.

## **D. CITIZENS COMMENTS**

Valerie Jones, 6100 Burnside Road, stated that it's been heavy on her heart that the town couldn't have Litter Sweep due to the COVID-19 restrictions. She would still like to go out and pick up trash along the roads, so she was wondering if we could still do that on our time as long as we distance ourselves. We won't have the next Litter Sweep until October, and she doesn't want the trash to stay out there until then. It was decided that the Clerk would leave the materials out on the chairs at the town hall, and any board member who wants to, could swing by and get those supplies to help clean up around their part of the town.

Councilwomen O. Jones asked if anyone has observed less trash because Eastern is not open. Mayor Morgan said that he has noticed less trash. He said he did cut the grass on his

corner and picked up several bottles and cans. He piled it in one spot but forgot to go back and get it. The Clerk said she wasn't sure if she's noticed less trash. It bothers her a lot that people feel the need to toss trash out on the road instead of taking it to wherever they are going and throwing it away there.

Cheryl Wilder, 5810 Blue Lantern Road, stated that she wanted to piggyback on the COVID-19 report and add something, as she is a nurse in the hospital and see's a lot of these cases. She said it seems that there are a lot of things we need to concentrate more on. One is to make sure we wash our hands religiously. The virus is hard to track because nobody really knows who each person has come in contact with. The second thing is to wear your face mask when you're outside. We are probably going to be wearing these face mask for a long time now, like 1-2 years and that's the reality. She is working remotely, so she has put in a lot of hours. They've found that a lot of people didn't want to go to the hospital, so then they got sicker and eventually had to go. Then there are people don't have access to E-visits, so they didn't get tested or treated sooner. This is a real disservice to our citizens.

Tim Wilder, 5810 Blue Lantern Road, said this is why he thinks the town should look at providing internet connectivity for citizens because it helps to impact the health situation, and also for kids that are having to be home schooled. This would also affect the towns economic development if internet is not available. Tim asked if anyone knew what was being built next to the Taco Bell on Burlington Road. The Council answered it will be a Waffle House. He also suggested that when using Zoom, some may want to eliminate the back lighting being used so you don't look like you're in the witness protection program. He said it's best to not have a bright lighting behind your head and adjust the screen so it's eye level.

Councilwomen Wrenwick stated that a while back, the Council talked about adding a box on the cell tower that is located on Sedalia Road, which would provide Wi-Fi capabilities to the Sedalia residents. She asked whatever happened with that. Mayor Morgan said we'll need to look at that again. The folks that came out and talked to us never got back with us. He believes that it is a T-Mobile tower and it is close enough to us, so it shouldn't be a problem. The Clerk said she has a friend that could probably help give some direction on how this might work, so she'll give her a call.

## **E. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

All regular scheduled meetings will be held virtually on Zoom until further notice. Each meeting will begin at 7:00 pm. Interested participants must contact the Town Hall to be added to the town emailing list.

- The next Town Council Agenda Meeting will be held on May 18<sup>th</sup>
- The next Planning Board Meeting will be held on May 21<sup>st</sup>
- The Town Hall will be closed for Memorial Day on May 25<sup>th</sup>
- The next Town Council Meeting (public hearing) will be held on June 1<sup>st</sup>

Meeting adjourned

Submitted by:

Approved By:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cam Dungee, Town Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Howard Morgan, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

(SEAL)