

# SEDALIA TOWN COUNCIL MEETING SEDALIA TOWN HALL 6121 Burlington Road February 7, 2022 7PM

#### **Minutes**

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

**A. MOTION** to approve the agenda was made by Councilwoman Wrenwick and seconded by Councilwoman O. Jones. Motion carried.

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

## C. DISCUSSIONS/REPORTS/GUESTS

### I. Code Enforcement Report

Chris Curry with Alliance Code Enforcement (ACE) could not attend the meeting but sent an update. Mr. Curry will provide a full report to the Town Council later. Clerk Dungee provided the update.

At **6146 Blue Lantern Road**, two junk vehicles were posted with a 7-day tow notice. The owner was given an additional two weeks. At **6252 Burlington Road**, the citied van now has a cover. At **401 Sedalia Road**, the junk vehicle has not been removed so the property remains in violation.

At **6141 Blue Lantern Road**, the large tree that fell during the storm is being removed, and the trailer will be moved next. At **400 Sedalia Road**, the owner is still removing the tree and it is about 90% abated. At **6003 Rolling Acres Drive**, there is debris on the property. Mr. Curry spoke with the daughter, and she is working to get her brother the house legally. The sheriff's office will assist in being present, as cleaning up takes place outside of the property.

The cases at 5936 Bethel Church Road and 6310 Jennie Drive are abated and closed.

#### II. Modifications to Alliance Code Enforcement Contract

Councilwoman O. Jones reported on the modifications to the Alliance Code Enforcement Contract. Brandon Emory, the owner, informed the town of a rate increase (cost per hour). This increase was scheduled for last year but was postponed due to COVID. The increase will be from \$35 per hour to \$40 per hour. There has also been a request to increase the

total number of hours worked per week from 8 to 10, 12 or 16. Also, enforcement of prohibited signs (i.e., removal of signs located within the N.C. DOT right-of-way or posted on poles, street signs, etc.) will be added at no additional cost. The hour and rate increase options include 8 hours per week at \$40 per hour, 12 hours per week for \$38 per hour, and 16 hours per week for \$36 per hour. The current contract is 8 hours per week for \$35 per hour. The Council went into a discussion concerning the contract request. Based on the discussion, Mayor Morgan suggested a counteroffer of 10 hours per week at \$38 per hour.

## III. Land Use Plan Update

Mayor Pro Tem Faison reported on the proposal from Foothills Planning & Design, along with assistance from Piedmont Triad Regional Council to update the Town's Land Use Plan. The revised proposal includes the elements Existing Conditions Maps and Report, Work Sessions and Meetings, and Land Use Plan Update. The total budget for the proposed project services and deliverables is not-to-exceed \$12,500. A payment schedule of two installments was proposed to accommodate the town's budget.

MOTION to approve the contract from Foothills Planning & Design to update the Town of Sedalia's Land Use Plan for \$12,500 due in two payments was made by Councilwoman Wrenwick and seconded by Councilwoman O. Jones. Motion carried.

#### **IV. Economic Development Project Grant**

- Conflict of Interest Policy
- Statement of No Overdue Tax Debts

Mayor Pro Tem Faison reported the Town has been selected to receive a legislatively directed grant in the amount of \$50,000. Three documents are required to be submitted to the N.C. Department of Commerce. These include the Legislatively Directed Grants Proposal Form, Conflict of Interest Policy, and Statement of No Overdue Tax Debts. The deadline for submitting the forms is February 17<sup>th</sup>. Clerk Dungee commented a motion is needed to approve the Conflict of Interest Policy. The State Grant Certification – No Overdue Tax Debts document requires the signatures of the Mayor Pro Tem and Finance Officer. *Note:* after the meeting Clerk Dungee administered an oath to Mayor Pro Tem Faison and Finance Officer Wrewnick for the No Overdue Tax Debts document.

# MOTION to accept the Town of Sedalia Conflict of Interest Policy was made by Councilwoman Wrenwick and seconded by Councilwoman O. Jones. Motion carried.

Mr. Jones asked if the Conflict of Interest Policy also includes the Planning Board. Clerk Dungee stated the Conflict of Interest Policy is required for the grant, but it can be used for other town activities. It now is town policy and includes the Town Council and Planning Board.

Clerk Dungee commented while completing the proposal form, one of the required sections asks for a description of the intended use of the funds, and an estimated cost. Since the town is planning to use the funds toward the community walking trail project, she would need to find a company to design the trail and provide a cost estimate. All documents are

due by February 17<sup>th</sup>, and it is unlikely a trail design and cost estimate could be completed before then. Clerk Dungee requested an extension, and the Town has been given additional time. However, the required documents still need to be completed as soon as possible; the funds will not be released until these documents are completed.

#### V. Opportunity for North State Fiber Optics in Sedalia

Councilwoman Wrenwick reported on the opportunity for North State to provide high-speed internet broadband service to the residents in Sedalia. This is through a federal grant and will be at no cost to the town. North State plans to provide fiber optics to 39,000 homes, starting in the third quarter of 2022. Residents cost to subscribe would be a one-time fee of \$75 and \$39.99 per month for 200 Mbps. Those who qualify for low-income assistance can apply for a \$30 discount and only pay \$9.99 per month. The service can go up to 2,000 Mbps for an additional cost. Customer service will be in High Point.

Mayor Morgan added that Spectrum recently installed a large box on a light pole in his front yard that houses batteries. This was installed so that during a power outage, it will allow residents to still have access to the internet.

It was suggested from the floor that maybe the town can use some of the ARP money to help residents with the one-time \$75 fee for the broadband subscription.

## VI. Town of Sedalia Sign Options

Mayor Pro Tem Faison reported Brandon Dennis, Innovative Signs & Graphics, submitted two designs and quotes for the town's municipal signs. One is a 10-foot high, round, double-sided sign of the Town of Sedalia's logo with raised lettering. The cost including installation for two of these signs is \$18,834.60. The other is a 9.5-foot high, double sided, panel shaped City Collection Series with raised lettering. The cost including installation for two of these signs is \$9,230.00. Mr. Dennis offered to bring samples of the signs for the Council to review.

The Council likes the sign with the town's seal, but the cost is very high. Mayor Morgan commented the Town may be able to use grant money to purchase the signs. The Council decided to ask Mr. Dennis to bring in samples to review. It was noted N.C. Correctional Services also makes signs and will be contacted regarding their service for the town's signs.

#### D. CITIZENS COMMENTS

\*Shinita Wrenwick, 6201 Bogues Way, reminded Clerk Dungee to purchase more litter pickers for Litter Sweep since more were needed during the last event. Clerk Dungee responded five litter pickers were ordered a few months ago and plans are to order five more.

\*Councilwoman Wrenwick commented Founder's Day is six months away and planning for the event should begin. It was asked if the town wanted to have a Car Show with Founder's Day. Clerk Dungee felt there would not be enough volunteers to hold both events on the same day. She is having a challenge with scheduling litter sweep and the shred event on the same day because there are not enough volunteers. Councilwoman Wrenwick suggesting contacting Eastern Guilford High School and Michelle Williamson to see if there are any students that may be interested in helping the town with its events.

\*Serita Faison, 6102 Bogues Way, announced at the upcoming agenda meeting (February 28) she plans to have a speaker for Black History Month. She hopes to reach Michelle Lanier, and she has arranged for a presentation from the Buffalo Soldiers. This will be the first event. Clerk Dungee can put up flyers at the post office and email the residents. Next year the town will partner with Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum for a bigger event.

\*Councilwoman O. Jones reminded everyone of the retreat planned for May 13-14 and noted the date has been changed.

#### E. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meeting adjourned.

All regular scheduled meetings are held at the Sedalia Town Hall. Each meeting will begin at 7:00 pm.

- The next Planning Board meeting will be held on February 17th.
- The next Town Council Agenda meeting will be held on February 28th.
- The next Town Council meeting will be held on March 7th.
- Save the date for the 2022 Spring Litter Sweep event held on April 23rd.

Submitted By:	Approved By:
Cam Dungee, Town Clerk	Howard Morgan, Mayor
 Date	(SEAL)