

SEDALIA TOWN COUNCIL MEETING SEDALIA TOWN HALL 6121 Burlington Road July 12, 2021 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 Morgan.
- **PRAYER:** Time was allotted for silent prayer and meditation.
- *PLEDGE*: Time was allotted for pledge to the U.S. Flag.
- **ROLL CALL**: Mayor Morgan, Mayor Pro Tem V. Jones, and Councilwoman O. Jones. Councilwoman Wrenwick joined after roll call.
- ABSENT: Councilman Meachem

A. MOTION to approve the agenda with the addition of an update on free well assessments from SERCAP was made by Mayor Pro Tem V. Jones and seconded by Councilwoman O. Jones. Motion carried.

B. MOTION to approve the minutes from the previous meetings (May and June) was made by Councilwoman O. Jones and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem V. Jones. Motion carried.

C. DISCUSSIONS/REPORTS/GUESTS

I. SERCAP - Free Well Assessments

Gloria Gentry and Joe Fields with Southeast Rural Community Assistance Program (SERCAP) provided an update on the free well assessments. The assessment takes 45-minutes. A summary of findings will be provided, and if a repair is needed information will be provided. Also, a GPS marking to identify the well location will be provided. This information is useful if there is a crisis (e.g., an oil spill in the area). It was noted the well cap will not be removed because the well would need to be disinfected. There is nothing residents need to do to prepare for the inspection. There were several questions concerning electrical issues, water samples, and treating water. So far, there are 5 or 6 people signed up. Clerk Dungee passed around a sign-up sheet. Inspections will be done on July 13th. SERCAP is asking for volunteers to help.

II. Code Enforcement Report

Ms. Ruth Emory with ACE provided an update. At **5904-5910 Blue Lantern Road**, the McLeansville Fire Department provided information regarding steps to prepare the structure for a controlled burn. The fire department will notify the Town about when the controlled burn will occur. It likely will be September or October.

At **6259 Burlington Road**, inspections for new wiring, plumbing and the structure have been completed. Final decisions on flooring, cabinets, and paint are being made. It is anticipated the renovation will be completed soon.

At **401 Sedalia Road**, multiple attempts were made to contact the owner, but there was no response. A Tow Notice was sent that the vehicle would be towed in 7 days if not removed. Gotcha Towing was contacted, and the vehicle was removed. The case is abated and closed. The owner was informed on how the vehicle may be retrieved. If the vehicle is retrieved, the owner was informed it cannot be put back in the lot, it must be parked in the driveway. Also, if the vehicle will be restored, prior to completion, it must be covered with a fitted cover or placed in a garage. At **6252 Burlington Road**, there were multiple stored vehicles that appear disabled and untagged. The owner plans to restore the remaining three vehicles and will purchase fitted vehicle covers. A Finding of Fact notice was sent. At **204 Martingale Drive**, case was opened due to multiple untagged, disabled vehicles and open storage on the property. Currently there are no vehicles in the yard. During last inspection, there were four vehicles in the driveway, but now there is only one. At **6021 Blue Lantern Road**, a Notice of Violation was sent for a disabled vehicle with an expired tag. The owner responded and informed that the vehicle needs an updated tag. Plans are to move forward with a Notice of Hearing if the vehicle is not tagged.

At **6309 Rolling Acres Drive**, a Notice of Violation was sent for an overgrown lot; the grass was about three feet high. The owner has mowed it. Case was abated and closed; however, upon reinspection the grass was overgrown again. The owner has been contacted.

At **6000 Bethel Church Road**, a Notice of Violation was sent for multiple bags of trash in the yard. Upon reinspection, the trash bags remained, an old washer and filled trash cans were found next to the trash bags. Next steps is to move forward with a Notice of Hearing.

Case abated and closed at **6117 Blue Lantern Road** (open storage), **203 Cushman Road** (disabled vehicle), **6307 Jennie Drive** (open storage), **6102 Blue Lantern Road** (disabled vehicle), and **6103 Blue Lantern Road** (disabled vehicle).

Mayor Morgan commented there may be a couple of streetlights out on Sedalia Road. Ms. Emory will inspect during night hours to identify the lights that are not burning.

III. Vote to Appoint Robert Jones to the Planning Board

Mayor Morgan read the certificate appointing Robert Jones to the Planning Board. Mr. Jones will serve a 3-year term from July 2021 to July 2024. Mr. Jones previously served on the Planning Board and was Chair for 10 years; he resigned from the Planning Board in 2020. Mr. Jones is interested in supporting the Town Council and staff to help maintain and improve the quality of life for the Town's residents. Mayor Pro Tem V. Jones noted Mr. Jones previously has resigned from the Planning Board twice before his term was completed and asked if any issues were resolved that where he will he be able to complete the proposed term. Mr. Jones responded with a passionate speech that since his resignation in 2020, he has had time to think, recharge and assess his worth. By being on the Planning Board, he plans to give back to the community, and gain his zoning certification.

Motion to appoint Robert Jones to the Planning Board was made by Councilwoman O. Jones and seconded by Councilwoman Wrenwick. Motion carried.

IV. American Rescue Plan Fund Uses

Councilwoman O. Jones reported the Town should receive their first distribution from the state within the next month or so which will comprise one-half of its total allocation. Local governments have until December 31, 2024 to obligate ARP monies and until December 31, 2026 to expend all the funds. Councilwoman Wrenwick added the Town will open a separate account for the ARP funds. The Town plans to use the funds for broadband internet. Also, the pandemic has not significantly impacted the Town's budget. Therefore, the funds cannot be used for the general fund since the Towns budget remained stable throughout the pandemic.

V. 2021 Municipal Filing Fee Resolution

Clerk Dungee reported the Town Council established a \$5.00 filing fee for the 2021 Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, November 2, 2021. Establishment of this fee must be adopted by resolution.

Motion to adopt the 2021 Municipal Filing Fee Resolution was made by Councilwoman Wrenwick and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem V. Jones. Motion carried.

Persons interested in filing must contact the Guilford County Board of Elections. The filing period ends Friday, July 16 at 12:00 pm. During this election, three persons will be elected to serve a 4-year term on the Town Council.

VI. Sedalia Car Show

Mayor Pro Tem V. Jones reported during the Town Council Agenda meeting it was decided to reschedule the Sedalia Car Show from August 7th to a later date due to lack of planning time. It will take three to four months to plan for the Car Show. Some of the ideas for this event would be to charge a registration fee and hold a 50/50 raffle. Also, a site will need to be determined, as currently, staffing at the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum is limited. Clerk Dungee will contact Guilford County Schools to inquire about using the Sedalia Elementary School parking lot. Mayor Pro Tem V. Jones commented she attended a cruise-in Reidsville where the street was closed off to hold the event. Also, she attended a cruise-in at Red Oak Brewery that had about 250 cars participating.

VII. Interlocal Agreement of Animal Control & Animal Shelter Services

Clerk Dungee reported the contract with Guilford County Animal Control has expired and needs to be renewed. Most of the contract is the same; however, the fee has increased to \$1,811.00. The term is from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024. The Town will ask if the fee can be paid annually rather than quarterly.

Motion to accept the Interlocal Agreement of Animal Control & Animal Shelter Services was made by Councilwoman Wrenwick and seconded by Councilwoman O. Jones. Motion carried.

D. CITIZENS COMMENTS

*Shinita Wrenwick, 6201 Bogues Way, reported she was stopped by residents who reported two, big, white dogs came out of the woods and stopped them in the street before being called by the owner. There are leash laws in Guilford County and the residents were instructed to contact Guilford County Animal Control to report the loose dogs.

A few ideas were brought up that the Town could hold to help residents get to know each other. Events such as a neighborhood block party or participating in National Night Out.

*Steven Brown, 707 Weddingbrook Drive, supports the idea of getting to know your neighbors. Also, he shared Mary Smith who resided on Rolling Acres Drive passed away. She and her husband were long time residents in Sedalia.

*Robert Jones, 6508 Rolling Acres Drive, commented that he enjoys reading facts about our health, and we pointed out that everyone should be concerned about making sure they are getting enough Vitamin B12 and D3. Also, how walking can add years to your life.

*Tim Wilder, 5810 Blue Lantern Road, asked the Town Council to consider adopting ordinances to allow Code Enforcement to address animal related issues. Currently the Town's ordinance does not allow Code Enforcement to address these issues and it would be more effective for Code Enforcement to address these issues when found. Mayor Morgan responded Guilford County handles these issues and it was unclear whether the Town can handle these issues, but the Town would inquire about it. Clerk Dungee added Guilford County Animal Control investigates animal welfare issues and loose dogs.

*Robert Jones commented that if someone is going under a house in the crawl space, to be aware and look out for copperheads.

*Mayor Morgan reported a Biscuitville, ACE Hardware, and Waffle House are coming to the area soon just outside the Town.

*Clerk Dungee questioned whether a "Welcome to the Town of Sedalia" sign could be seen if constructed on the site where the railcar was located. This topic was discussed before and she was planning to contact the owner, but now is wondering if the trees on the site may obstruct the sign. Mayor Morgan answered the board may need to discuss this again at some point.

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

- The next Planning Board meeting will be held on July 15th.
- The next Town Council Agenda meeting will be held on July 26th

Approved By:
Howard Morgan, Mayor
(SEAL)