

TOWN OF BAILEY MEETING MINUTES 12/16/2019

The Regular Meeting of the Bailey Town Board was held in the Bailey Town Hall on December 16, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

The following members of the Bailey Town Board were present: Mayor Thomas Richards, Joel Killion, Dwan Finch, Ervin Powell. Also in attendance Kellie Glover, Town Clerk, Debbie Baker, Financial Officer and Chief Boraski.

Called the meeting to order:

Mayor Richards called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the December 2019 Meeting at 7:00pm.

Approval of financial statement and minutes:

Commissioner Finch made a motion to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes for November 18, 2019 and the November 2019 financial statement. Commissioner Killon seconded, motion passed.

AGENDA:

John Anthony, Anthony & Tabb, P.A. commented that the audit has been approved by the State of North Carolina. The next step will be that the State will send you a letter with any input they have. You have a good audit report and the Town is in very good financial state. John Anthony briefly went over the audit. Overall the Town had a good year financially.

Mayor Richards asked about the additional cost.

John Anthony stated not to go into a lot of detail the Financial Officer basically quit for whatever reason. You brought in Debbie and Kellie. They had a lot dumped on them. They did not know what we needed when we came to do the audit. Last years audit took longer than it should have and this year took even longer. They are doing a good job and working really hard and they had a lot dumped on them. They did the best they could. We ate a lot of money last year and even more this year. We had to draw the line. We knew that is what we were going to find. I told my guys to separate the work you have to do to find things from what should be handed to you when you come in. The addition is really less than what we payed out in salary. I have never asked for additional fees and I have been doing this a long time. If you have any questions give me a call or shoot me an email.

Bruce Naegelen, NC Department of Commerce commented I apologize for my not attending last month's meeting. We want to get the organization things done. That is what was presented last month. There are two types of structures a committee and a 501C-3. Now is not the time to discuss that, we want to move forward. There are four things I would like to ask you to adopt tonight. One would be the committee name, the second would be to adopt the committee's mission statement, third item to adopt is committee by-law's, and fourth appoint a Town Commissioner as an ex officio member. All of this is outlined in the packet you have. I also have an announcement to go over after this. Bruce Naegelen read over the Downtown Organizational Requests for Action packet.

Commissioner Killion stated I had a citizen email me with questions. Commissioner Killion read the questions from the email. There was discussion about the questions.

Commissioner Finch stated I have a few questions. This involves everybody, have other business owners been sought out? Have you been to the bakery and the new florist. It seem like it is the same people involved.

Bruce Naegelen commented it will come, we are working on the structure. Eleven people are the core, they will bring in people to help.

Commissioner Finch stated I do appreciate you helping Bailey out, but you said a lot of stuff, but you didn't say anything, What I mean by that is I am a very detailed oriented person. I am a very hard worker. This is all planning and planning and I don't see any hard work. I would challenge the current committee to go out and knock on business' door and ask them what are they looking for. Another board, we have a planning board, we have ordinances in place. Why can't we do better with what we have in place and go from there.

Bruce Naegelen commented but you don't have anything in place for this.

Commissioner Finch stated you are creating something else, that only a few people have decided on.

Bruce Naegelen stated this is something you all decide on.

Commissioner Finch commented we did not decide on all of these by-laws and committees. Another question are these by-laws just a templet you use for other Towns in North Carolina. Or is it specific for Bailey, because Bailey is unique from all of the other Towns.

Bruce Naegelen stated there is not a templet this is just a standard, if you will. It is up to you to tell me what you want me to do. We can not do anything until some of these things are addressed. One more thing with the Vision Economic Forum, that will be on February 4. It is a public event. We would like to have all the Commissioners attend. 6:00-8:00 pm at Bailey Baptist Church. Bruce read over the Vision Forum flyer.

Commissioner Killion asked so this would happen after the \$5000 has been given.

Bruce Naegelen stated there is no talk about the \$5000, put that away.

Commissioner Killion replied it was an important conversation last month. So the people will have a chance to hear about this at the forum?

Bruce Naegelen commented no this is action. All of that is off the table right now.

Walter Wells, Chair Bailey Planning Board stated over the last month we did not meet, there was no business to discuss. I have been helping the Town with zoning issues and questions. There was a call from Nash/Rocky Mount Schools with a desire to place a digital sign at Bailey Elementary School. The existing ordnance that was passed in 2008 does prohibit LED signs. There is in the zoning ordinances for allowed usage for signs they carve out a section for public safety and governmental signs. I meet with James Field today, we went over and met with the Principal at Bailey Elementary. Bailey Elementary has raised half of the money for the sign and the school system is doing the rest from the maintenance budget. The timing is not great because the timing runs out for the pricing at the end of the month and there is no guarantee the price will carry into the new year. There are no restrictions on any requirements, the only restriction is allowed illumination. I will let Kellie chime in with this. She contacted several people to find out how best to modify this to allow the LED. You have the information for the sign in front of you. The Principal stated the sign would not change more than twice a week, unless there was a special event. In the ordnance the Town Board can request a text change, with a public hearing. To satisfy this particular situation, we can make this one change.

Mayor Richards stated she has talked to us and I am all for it.

Kellie Glover, Town Clerk commented the Board can make a recommendation to give Nash/Rocky Mount Schools and Bailey Elementary approval to move forward with the administrative duties that go along with the sign. Basically, telling them that we are in agreement that we will do our part to have the public hearing and make the text amendment so their sign will be allowed.

Mayor Richards stated maybe we can get them to put the speed limit on it.

Walter Wells commented Allen Daniels asked a question at the last meeting about the process for Raleigh. Collecting the fees up front is what Raleigh does in order to connect. They determine availability. Then they apply for the appropriate permit and pay the fees. With those permits you have pre-construction meeting. Raleigh allows a licensed plumber or contractor to do the taps for water and sewer. I will be glad to talk to Allen about it. That is all I have.

Matthew Littell, Envirolink read the Monthly Activity Report for the month of November 2019.

Kellie Glover, Town Clerk stated Commission Daniels asked if someone could meet with him about the hydrants. I will call you tomorrow to set that up. Also, a resident email me today wanting the Back-T reports. Is that something you are familiar with?

Commissioner Finch commented when JP was still with Envirolink I told him about the puddle on Main Street in front of the Feed Mill. The puddle has been there since the summer. It is still there. I checked it this morning, it is marked with blue paint.

Matthew Littell stated he would check on the puddle.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Nancy Hazelwood stated I have a problem with Envirolink not picking up my leaves. There were four work orders. It has been over a month. I don't understand why they can not pick up my leaves. I also have a complaint because I thought the Town of Bailey was not even going to have any Christmas decorations. They were put up at the last minute and a lot of them don't work. The other towns look so much more attractive. Bailey needs to get with it. This man speaking (Bruce Naegelen) I don't know what he is talking about, there needs to be somebody that their responsibility is to make sure people are doing their job. The church bus has to pass by my house and that mess is out there. I decided it was time for me to come back to a meeting to see what the problem is.

Mayor Richards replied yes, ma'am you are not the only one complaining. The fire department usually does the Christmas decorations. This year they decided to hand that off the Envirolink. On November 12th there was a work order put in to get those lights done, they did not get put up until two days before the parade. I texted people. I agree we need to buy more Christmas decorations. I have voiced my displeasure with them about the leaves. I asked the guy did he think they would be finished that day. He said "No, we have to go to Elm City and dump them." I know we have a place to dump them here. They said they have a problem with their equipment. I wish I could pick them up. It is unacceptable. I don't know what to do. The agreement is a gentleman's agreement. That is why we need a better contract.

Patsy Hinesley stated we moved from Wilson several years ago. We really like this area of Bailey. I have a singing ministry of Southern Gospel. I have had a desire to have a ministry here in Bailey. I am looking around for a small building for a teaching and singing ministry. I wanted

to introduce myself to let you know what I wanted to do. I have rented the community building out on 581. I just want a building in Bailey. I am going to call it Gospel Jubilee. It will be a teaching and singing ministry and maybe a community choir. If you know of a building, this is a calling on my heart to teach and sing. I would like to see this in Bailey or the surrounding area. Kellie has my phone number if anyone would like to reach me.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor Richards stated this is what I have for old business the power washing guy I had the quote for is wrong, this is my fault. The guy asked me for the size for the sidewalks, I told him four foot. Some of them are but some are eight and nine feet. So when the guy got here to give me quote it would have been about 1500 more dollars than original. So I am going to say we go back and get new quotes, it will get done probably before next year's parade. I would rather admit I made a mistake than the Town pay too much money. That is it for old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Kellie Glover swore in Mayor Thomas Richards, Commissioner Joel Killion, and Commissioner Ervin Powell.

Mayor Richards stated the date for the January Meeting is scheduled for January 20 which is Martin Luther King Jr. birthday. I would like to ask everyone here are we meeting that day since it is a Holiday are we moving it up or back. The second Monday will be the 13th and the forth Monday is the 27th. Commissioner Finch made a motion that the January meeting will be Monday January 13th. Commissioner Killion seconded, motion passed. Now let's look at the Holiday schedule for 2020. There was discussion about Bailey's Holiday Schedule vs the State of North Carolina's Holiday Schedule. Commissioner Finch made a motion to approve the 2020 Holiday schedule. Commissioner Killion seconded, motion passed. Now we will move on to this Downtown Strong.

Bruce Naegelen stated if you would like since there is a misunderstanding about what the whole process is. So maybe after the February 4th forum we can come back together. That way we have more public involved. Maybe we can have a special meeting to talk about what the Downtown Strong, Downtown Initiative is all about. That is my suggestion. The Board agreed.

Mayor Richards commented next we need to change the ordinance for the sign so the Elementary School can get a digital sign. Then we can address the other signs at another meeting. Commissioner Finch made the motion to look at the ordinance to make the changes so Bailey Elementary can get a digital sign. That it is done in the proper way so they can order their sign. So we can give them the reassurance. Commissioner Killion seconded, motion passed.

Kellie Glover, Town Clerk stated I just have two quick things. Mr. Lamm would like for the Town to purchase his cemetery lot back for \$110. He purchased the lot on February 5, 1979. Just one plot section C- 309 A. The next thing I have is remember last meeting we talked about the invoice from Computer Central for the firewall. Joel asked about the VPN, that is part of the firewall. That allows someone outside the Town Hall to get into our server to connect to it remotely. The invoice is for \$1109.14 and that is for the whole year. Commissioner Killion made a motion for the Town purchase back C-309 A for \$110. Commissioner Finch seconded, motion passed. Commissioner Killion made a motion to accept this invoice for 12 months at \$1109.14. Commissioner Finch seconded, motion passed.

Chief Boraski, Chief of Police commented on behalf of myself and my officers I would like to thank Mayor Richards for the Christmas bonus. It was greatly appreciated. Chief Boraski read his monthly report.

Commissioner Finch stated I would like to make a motion to accept the amendment for Anthony & Tabb for \$7030. Commissioner Killion seconded, motion passed.

Kellie Glover, Town Clerk added when Charlie dropped off the Audit the other day he told me they are going to do a class in March or April. They would come to each town for about an hour to discuss what they want and need for the audit.

Mayor Richards added I will say the \$7000 is a lot. Last year they were here to help a lot, and the bottom line has increased. I think it is worth \$7000 for that.

Commissioner Finch stated we have the results from the smoke test. In several addresses the clean out were broken. We need to get them fixed. It was recommend by NC Rural Water that the Town do that. A work order was put in to our contractor and I have a quote for 50 at \$812.50.

Mayor Richards asked Matt from Envirolink to give the Town a break down for the quote. That would be great, just an itemized list before we vote on that.

Commissioner Finch added there was a man hole that was really bad. Debbie spoke to the owner about getting that fixed. We got a pre-assessment for the calibrations for the pumps at the spray field. That is still to be done. We are coordinating with Envirolink on that. The last thing is to give an update on the filtration project. They are going to be finished with Well 1 soon in a week or two. Then they will start on Well 2. Hopefully the filtration project will be complete by February. That is all I have. Thank you all for coming out. Thank you for the work you are doing. Merry Christmas, everyone.

Commissioner Killion stated last month I spoke about Kellie uploading all of the meeting minutes from January 2017 to present. She did it in less than two days. I don't see that kind of efficiency in the private sector. I am floored, I was able to upload it in an afternoon. It is just nice to now for our citizens to have access to all of the information in case they have any questions. Last November I was quoting the Constitution, it is pretty important. This is a government of the people. The more knowledge you have the better you can hold us accountable. You are the boss and we are your servants. We have forgotten that Locally, State Wide and Nationally. God help us. I am thankful for two wonderful staff in the office. I am thankful the Police Department. The communication is better than anywhere I have worked. Thank you Chief and Mrs. Chief. Merry Christmas, Happy New Year everyone. Be safe. Lock up at night. God bless.

Commissioner Powell commented you had asked about the painting at the barber across the street. Charles gave me an estimate to paint it for \$450. And I asked him about the sidewalks. The quote to pressure wash them is for \$1200.

Mayor Richards replied let's wait until January to get more quotes for that.

Mayor Thomas Richards stated Ms. Nancy spoke about cleaning up downtown, revitalization and stuff. We have some quotes on the awning at the antique store. Just to take down the awning is \$800. To replace the awning is \$5800. We have \$35,907.83. I have yet to hear anything from Mr. Troxler about fixing up the corners of the building. Then we need to fix the lot, the road in the back is higher than the lot itself. The landscaper that put the dirt in there

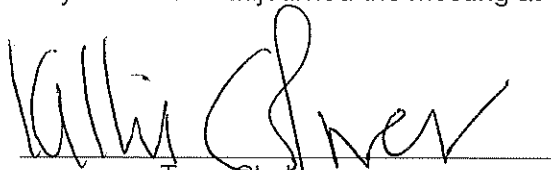
said the road needs to be cut down so the water can flow out of there. That would be the cheapest route, so we don't have to put more dirt in there to slope it up even more. January, the first meeting we are going to put our foot on the gas to figure out how we want to spend this money because it has to be spent by June. If the State budget gets passed we will get an additional \$15,000. That would be about 50,000 buck we would have to make Main Street look better minus the corners over there.

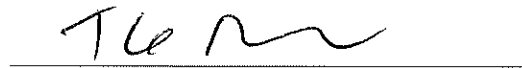
Commissioner Killion asked where are we with the streets, the list of streets we have.

Mayor Richards stated we are waiting until it is warm enough to pave. We have to find out if we get the grant, for Brock Circle. We are looking at getting stared at making this place look better. I want to wish you all a Merry Christmas. Thank you for bearing with us tonight.

Commissioner Killion made a motion to Adjourn. Commissioner Finch second, motion passed.

Mayor Richards adjourned the meeting at 8:50pm.


Town Clerk


Mayor Thomas Richards