

TOWN OF BAILEY MEETING MINUTES 10/21/2019

The Regular Meeting of the Bailey Town Board was held in the Bailey Town Hall on October 21, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

The following members of the Bailey Town Board were present: Mayor Thomas Richards, Joel Killion, Shelley Bullard, Dwan Finch, Ervin Powell and Allen Daniels.

**Called the meeting to order:**

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

**Approval of financial statement and minutes:**

Commissioner Finch made a motion to accept the Public Hearing Meeting Minutes for September 16, 2019, the Regular Meeting Minutes for September 16, 2019, the Special Meeting Minutes for October 7, 2019 and the October 2019 financial statement. Commissioner Killion seconded, motion passed.

**AGENDA:**

**Joe Dooley, Upper Coastal Plains of Government** stated The Town has already filed two applications for funding with the State. One is a CDGB which is aimed at Brock Circle. That area of Town will score the highest as far as low to moderate income. The State has about twenty-five million dollars in this round. We applied on behalf of the Town for \$530,900. That will get a line in and improve the lines in the Circle and connect the houses. The Second one is a bit broader for drinking water an application went to the Department of Environmental Quality for \$1,481,500. This will address a portion of the Town's sanitary sewer collection system which is comprised with vitrified pipe which is over forty years old. This is a point thing. We try to get to the points as best we can. It well help to eliminate the excess flow of inflow and infiltration that is having an impact on your system. It will apply for tv-ing 52 hundred linear feet, 81/2 diameter gravity lines, 25 manholes and PVC services which will reduce the Inl and it is aimed at your moratorium that has been in place for too long and at your notice of deficiency and your notice of continue violations with the intent to enforce. These two applications were turned in, in a timely fashion. We should hear January or February. The next topic I want to bring up to you tonight is something do with drinking water. The next round of grants will come up in March or April. You have a Wellhead Protection Plan which is good, but it expired. We have asked the NCRW to come out and update that. The CDBG can not be refilled until next September, if we are unsuccessful. The reason I spoke the the Mayor and Commissioner Finch about the drinking water is that is scored a little differently and it is the same amount to money. We supplied you with a chart. You can tailor the application to what you think is best as far as the funding goes. There was a question about the roads, now is the time to think about where your lines are the most problematic. Age of well number 1 is a problem. The Mayor mentioned he was anxious to get some automatic read meters. I suggest, because it is a point thing to consider generators. Obviously, you don't have generators or back up generators at well one and two. The generators are very fundable and the State likes to do that. The way the scoring works putting the automatic meter together with the well and the generators and the lines may not work real well. So what we will do is put in two applications. We will have the automatic read meters they are something new and the other items are on there. Replacement does not score as well. That is my recommendation. I will be back if that is what you want to do. Rich Moore is on plan to prepare an Asset Management Plan for sewer. You have one for water. The Capital Improvement Plan is fine I may have to make one or two minor changes. One more item I want to mention, you have an unofficial chart of water and sewer rates in the region. Right now you are eligible for 100% on the sewer. You are only eligible for 75% on water. I am not telling you to raise the rates, I am just telling you how it works. Look at your chart for more information. We have plenty of time, but that is how it works. Thank you.

**Dwight Lancaster, NC Rural Water Association** stated I have been in the water/wastewater business going on 44 years. A lot of that time has been helping other Towns trouble shoot. I got a call/request to come here and take a look at the moratorium situation. There were limited and incomplete records here in the Town about what has gone on for the past fifteen years. I have done a file review here. I tried to do one in Raleigh, but a lot of that has been archived. I don't think it is why you are on the moratorium, we are here now. For those who may not understand the moratorium basically said that you can not have any new sewer taps. That was due to a number of violations at the waste water treatment plant mainly dealing with the water level in the lagoon. It was never about any other compliance issues, 106 violation there. The facility was permitted for 90,000 gallons a day, that you could spray. In the records review one of the things that came up while trying to pieces things together is that the State gave or suggested six or seven things that needed to be done to come off of the moratorium. By the letters we saw they were all done but the last one. We don't know what the six things were because that was the part that was incomplete of the records. One of the things was a review of the existing spray fields. From that the Town requested a permit modification to go from 90,000 gallons a day to 43,200 gallons a day. Prior to that request the State had just issued a permit, you have to renew your permit every five years. Then your flow was reduced to 43,200 gallons a day. The person in charge of the permits left your permit active at 90,000 gallons a day, so you have a 90,000 gallons a day permit. But you are limited to 43,200 gallons a day. Going from that is where I started at. What is something quick and somewhat easy and how to show forward progress to the State before you can request modification to the moratorium. The first things I recommend is to get your flow meters checked. You have two flow meters one is an influent and one is effluent at the spray fields. There has been a huge discrepancy between those numbers. Influent numbers have reached over 100,000 gallons a day and effluent numbers have averaged over 60,000 gallons a day. Recommendation number one would be to have both meters not only calibrated, in your permit you are required to have them calibrated yearly, but a little more in detail investigation. So, if you have that much say that meter is correct, if you are selling 70,000 gallons a day of water 100,000 gallons a day come into the plant then you have some extra water coming in. Usually that is what we call infiltration which is cracks in the sewer lines and that is ground water leaking into the system. Inflow is what comes in during the rain event. It could be broken clean outs, manhole covers or drains. My second suggestion is lets look at what we can do for inflow and infiltration. One of the quickest and easiest things to do is smoke test. I suspect that has been done here before. A smoke tests is less than \$350 or \$400 to do that, besides personnel. I would also recommend doing manhole inspections during the winter months is the proper times. Lets look at a little more flow analysis that can be a part of the evaluation. You can have recording flow meters, to see if they are accurate under all conditions. Lets analyze the flow monitoring information. On the spray system itself. From the records I reviewed it indicated that two of your sprays guns were taken out of service which reduced your wetted area. The record review indicated they were taken out of use due to erosion at that part of the field. That is something that can be easily rectified and put those big guns back into operation and recover 7 or 8 thousand gallons a day in capacity or more. Alternate to that you could possible put something smaller in there. While we are doing that we want to look at your configuration, possibility upgrade your equipment. If you have big guns you are spraying in a circle and they don't overlap so you are missing some areas that could be sprayed. In evaluation of the existing equipment and how it is used there are minor modifications to what you have got to recover some flow or enough to get off the moratorium. In conjunction with all of this the Town will want to meet with the Regional Office because they are the ones that would have the final say and kind of see what they want. Some ten years ago they had several items they wanted the Town to do. Things change, perspectives change, and people change. You were permitted for 90,000 a day, you had an engineer and a soil scientist with soil samples done, they looked at the soil and they looked at the field and said this is how many gallons these soils will take. Fifteen years later you have a different soil scientist and engineer they did the same things and came up with half.

I don't think the soils have changed that much in that time. Lets go through and do the easy first and move forward. One of the final steps would be to have another soil sample done. To see if indeed you can recover some of your permitted flow that way. The first four are pretty easy and inexpensive and does not require an engineer. Doing a soil sample will be a larger expense but I believe you will have to have that done to come out of the moratorium. Other options that have probably been discussed are increase your spray field, go to another Town or system. One thing you can do and the State suggested several years ago is SOC, Special Order by Consent. What that does is it allows you to violate you permit legally with the understanding that you have milestones and you have to accomplish certain things by the date you negotiate with the State. And if you don't there are pretty heavy stipulations. Going a long with what Joe stated, you all have been on the moratorium for 15 years longer than any other town in North Carolina. It is going to cost money, I am not trying to embarrass the Board, I saw where you all turned down a loan in the Spring of this year. You all pointed the second highest, but because it was not grant money it was turned down. Do you want to grow and do you want to come out from the moratorium. Any questions.

Commissioner Finch stated we talked about a third party to calibrating the flow meters, can you give me a name for that?

Dwight Lancaster replied I would suggest you go beyond normal evaluation and inspection. It would be less than two thousand dollars.

Commissioner Daniels asked about the last readings.

Dwight Lancaster commented the last readings were 40 or 42. The lagoon is really low. Are the reading normal because it is dry. Previous years the readings were a 100 thousands. From my prospective it is unusual.

**Walter Wells, Chair, Bailey Planning Board** stated the primary discussion in the last meeting was the Museum Overlay. I fully expect that at the next Board Meeting our committee will make a full recommendation to you as what to do with the Museum Overlay. There were no active meeting items. We can move into Downtown, now.

Commissioner Finch asked for the Museum Overlay we should know something next month?

Walter Wells replied yes, you will. For the Downtown strong look at the information Kellie has provided for you. We have had several Downtown meetings for that committee. Bruce and Susan have been in attendance. We really appreciate them helping with this. The Downtown Strong presentation was discussed. We are asking for funding of five thousand dollars from the Town We are looking to have a vision forum the first of the year. Everyone is invited to attend. We would try to find information on ways to work together.

**Cecil Hawley, President, Bailey Chamber of Commerce** stated we have the Miss Bailey Pageant coming up on November 9th. It starts at 6pm. It is a lot of fun. On the same day we will have a blood drive, it is on the Chamber and the Police website. The Chamber had the room repainted and cleaned, we will not charge the Town of Bailey for that. We also need to set up a date for Envirolink to put up our flags the week before Veterans Day and leave them up the week after. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial was moved from Rocky Mount to Tarboro. There was a big ceremony in Tarboro. It was one of the four walls that travel the Country. We want to thank Vicky Griffin for her holiday decorations coming into Bailey. Everyone applauded. The Miss Bailey Pageant will be at 6pm at Southern Nash Senior High School.

**Matthew Littell, EnviroLink** went over the monthly report.

Commissioner Daniels commented about the fire hydrant at the end of Finch Street I know it is working and I can not figure out why people keep putting bags over it. If you are going to bag it put a tag on it as to what is wrong with it. There should be a number on each one of the hydrants. I believe the State has a requirement that each hydrant has a metal tag. Leave a list with Kellie that states what is wrong with the hydrants that are bagged.

**Public Comment:**

Ginger Bullock, Parrish Reality stated this area is growing. We have sold houses in the high 190's in the area. The property value is up, which will get builders and developers in this area. There are a lot of people looking for land to build for residential and commercial. Middlesex is set to have the largest dental office in North Carolina. The reason I am here is because I am working with a land owner and a general contractor on a house that has been built in Bailey and we are trying to get water and sewer to that property. The general contractor has a tap, he owns land in Town. My plea is that the Commissioners, the Board and Mr. Sievert would work with me to get that connected. You are looking at a new citizen in Town. That home is schedule to close at the end of November. You are looking at a tax base and a water and sewer customer. I would like to say thank you to the Mayor and Kellie they have been very gracious in guiding me through this process to get to where we need to be. To get the moratorium lifted would be a wonderful thing. I work with contractors and builders that would love to come to Bailey. It would be nice to see the Town of Bailey grow with us.

Mr. Willingham, Resident stated I just want to make you aware of my complaint. I don't think the man is reading my meter. I happened to catch him out there one day. He went so fast I asked, "do you have electric machine", he said, "no, I have been doing this for thirty years." Then he came telling me that the Town of Bailey ain't going to spend no money for electric scanners. He got in his truck and went on.

Mayor Richard stated that would bother me if I was on Town water and sewer and they were not reading my meter. We will get someone on that. We will address it for you. Thank you for coming.

Brayden Gibson, Boy Scout stated my name is Brayden Gibson. I am with Troop 12 in Bailey. I am here tonight working towards my Citizenship and Community Merit Badge. I would like to learn what the Town of Bailey is doing for young people and adults to make Bailey community better. I am in the fifth grade and I go to Bailey Elementary.

Mayor Richards answered by saying we are doing our best to get off of the sewer moratorium and revive Main Street. We will have a better water and sewer system one day to provide growth in Bailey. We are getting a new filtration system for well number one so everyone will have cleaner water. The new sewer system will allow for everyone to be on Bailey's sewer system so we can provide more income to do more things like parks and rec. it is an on going process. It is not going to happen today, but we are going to work on it. Do you have any questions for us? Brayden stated no. That took a lot of courage to get up there. I am still scared to get up here.

Mayor Richards stated we do not have any old business tonight. They have already started on some of the masonry work on Audrey's building. We are waiting for the contractor to get with Robbie to talk about his part of the building. Moving into new business the first item is grading

on the Hardware Store. We have two quotes for this. The first one is \$16,000 from Red Oak Hill. The second one is \$8,250 from Triple S just throwing them out there. I asked someone here in Bailey and they said they were not going to touch it. Steven Smith, Triple S, came back out and gave a quote for more dirt so the water would drain to the alley. This is the guy that did all of the removal of the sidewalk stuff. This money comes out of the grant money.

Commissioner Killion made the motion to accept the estimate for \$8,250 from Triple S. Commissioner Finch seconded, motion passed.

Mayor Richards commented we brought this up last year but I am going to bring it up again, power washing. We were talking about sealing the sidewalks. I talked to a guy that said it takes just as much effort to clean a sidewalk that has been sealed as it does for a sidewalk that has not been sealed. There are some more sidewalks that are busted up, I wanted to ask if we wanted to take some more of that grant money to fix the other sidewalks while we are at it. We can get some quotes for that.

**Kellie Glover, Town Clerk** stated we talked last meeting about upgrading the Town Hall computers, they have not been upgraded in quite a long time. There is a spreadsheet in your packet. The computers from Computer Central are \$789 a piece with \$150-\$200 to transfer the data. There are two state contracts on the sheet. We are required to get a static IP address from Spectrum for the Southern Software. That will be \$99.98 a month. The Police Department has Spectrum now. We discussed Computer Central hosting our server for \$250 a month or to purchase a brand new server for \$7,349 plus \$1000 fee to set up the new server. Southern Software can host our server, just there software not any other data. Which we will have to pay \$1000 to upgrade our current server. My recommendation is to purchase new computers from Computer Central and let Computer Central host our server. The other thing is that we will have a resolution to approve for Nash County to stat collection out taxes at the November meeting for the Board to approve.

**Steven Boraski, Chief of Police** commented Commissioner Killion asked me to give a brief summary of what has taken place since I have been the Chief here in Bailey. The Chief read the Police Department Update report. I am excited about the work that has been done I hope you are too. I am thankful for Mr. Hawley for all of his assistance. I am thankful for the Mayor that he has given me a chance. That is all I have, thank you.

Mayor Richards stated that you, Chief. Vince could not be here tonight. Shelley do you have anything. Commissioner Bullard stated she did not have anything.

**Commissioner Daniels** commented the only thing I have to talk about is the filtration project. Nothing against JP, I know Matt handles Spring Hope this has been a total disaster. Someone complained about the quality of the water here in Town. Then the State of North Carolina got involved. Town well number two just needed the media changed. I asked who asked for all of this. The engineer told me it was Envirolink that wanted everything to be automated. At the time we felt we had to pass this filtration, if not we were going to lose some money. We could have done this whole filtrations for one hundred ten thousand dollars. It is going to cost us two hundred thousand dollars plus two hundred thousand dollars from the State. We are doing this filtration just on a request of what Envirolink wanted. They are supposed to manage our system. But, I don't think they should manage it where the Board members do not know what is going on. That upsets me. Pump number one is all to pieces. I am going to send some pictures around. Poole Well Company told me the Well is not sealed, a rat or snake could fall in there. He told me I have to seal the cases. We had Debbie's guy to come in and fix it. It cost five hundred dollars. If Envirolink was doing their job this would not have happened. We would have been informed of this stuff and it would have been kept up and maintained. I asked Chris,

at Poole Well, why did you guys leave this like this, it has wires exposed. He told me that was the way they found it. The Board Members did not even know the well was not working, nobody informed us. The Mayor has a timeline with all of this documented. The next thing, we are putting this in a well house that looks like this, it is falling all to pieces. I am going to pass around more pictures. The filtration project got behind because nobody told us the well was not working. After all of that, the new pump would not work because the reset button was burned up. Again, Debbie knew someone and we got it fixed. I am sitting here doing Envrolink's job and Anthony's job getting this pump to work. Then Kellie called down there and they did not have anyone to fix it. Nothing against you Matt, but the stuff has sat here so long that the sand and the media is all to pieces. Please pass these photos so everyone can see them. Well number one is dirty, John Boykin told me when you get well number two in the water will be a lot cleaner. Here is a picture of the water running for thirty minutes and this is what it looks like. Why are we putting the automated system in for well one if it is for emergencies. Why are we spending two hundred thousand dollars for pump number one with water that dirty. We could have simply fixed it and put a new well house on it and use it for emergencies. Why are we putting in this new piping and automated stuff, it does not make any sense. As a business person if I was working for some contractor, I would have been let go. To let people make decisions with the Town not knowing. This is what we were talking about a couple of months ago. We were not given any information. I feel that if we were given this information a year ago we would have not gone through these steps. It upsets me that Dwight came in tonight talking about the spray field the numbers are wrong. I asked Dwight what was going on and he told me he did not know. I am not accusing anyone, but it does not make any sense. I think Dwight is the man to get us off of the moratorium. You have to understand if we follow these four steps and we get off of it we still can build and go crazy. Bath is on a moratorium just like we are. He said why don't you bring septic tanks back. There is nothing wrong with septic tanks, I am on a septic tank. Why can't we change the ordinance. I am saying this as a tax payer, not a Commissioner. I may not be here next month. I have wasted a lot of my time running around doing someone else's job which I should not have to do. I have talked to contractors trying to get something done. I flushed the Finch fire hydrant. I turned it on, it was pond water for thirty-five minutes. I just want people to do their jobs. When it comes to Envirolink we need to sit down and get things done. I am not saying throw them out. I am just saying we need someone from outside to tell us if they are doing their job. I think all of this is a breach of contract, myself. I was upset that the contract was signed in 2016 without coming to the board. I wanted to renegotiate. I am tired of my water stinking. I get up every morning having to smell this stinking water. I have to go out and flush it manually. Thank you for your time. I am sorry I have taken up so much time the last two meetings. I am going to send this photo out also. This is a piece of equipment I brought from the city of Raleigh. I have seen this equipment in other Towns. They are not supposed to take this equipment out of Bailey. They wore it slam out and put it at the end of the road, not even under the shelter. That is how it is parked that is a fine way to keep our equipment. Thank you.

**Commissioner Finch** stated I wanted to thank Dwight for coming out. The Town of Bailey is part of NC Rural Water Association. We did reach out to him. It is a very good source, I have found out. Moving forward, Dwight has spend many, many hours here researching trying to figure out what was the basis for the moratorium and what we can do to get out. I am going to make some motions. I believe the answer is right under our nose, I truly believe that. I am going to make a motion to get those flow meters calibrated, flow analysis max at two thousand dollars. Using his third party person to do the calibration. Commissioner Killion seconded, motion passed. The next motion to do a smoke test. NC rural water will do that for us the only thing Bailey has to purchase is the smoke. The smoke was four hundred dollars. I make a motion to get a smoke test done, I am going to cap it at a five hundred dollars. Commissioner Killion seconded, motion passed. A side note we have a great spray field, I want to see us maximize that. I want to make a motion to go with Computer Central for new computers for

\$3000 and use Spectrum and use Computer Central to host our server for \$250 a month. Commissioner Killion seconded, motion passed.

**Commissioner Killion** stated there was a time when several responsibilities were given to one person. To see several people, the CFO and Town Clerk, take those responsibilities and go with them. There is so much accountable and stability that come with that. The team work over the last year has been incredible, from the Chief, the Town Clerk, the CFO and everyone in between. It has been much better. There are two school of thoughts on how the Town will move forward, one is that the Town move forward and grow, progress. The other is to stay the way it has been. So November 5th, will be a time for the people to decide what they want to do. Think about your kids and grandkids, do you want them to stay or run away. I want my kids to stay get married and have their kids here. Go vote. Get your family and friends to vote. People set the motion of this Town. If you want to speak up, go vote. Thank you, Dwan and Allen for speaking and getting things done tonight.

**Mayor Richards** commented so you all know 11 months ago we could not get up with the man that owns the hardware building. Two days later we had his number and we were working on getting this deal going. We got it knocked down by the lowest builder. It was not perfect, but the company we used was reputable. They do huge work all around Chapel Hill and across the State. We are working on fixing what is left of the eye-sore on Main Street. By the parade it should be done, I hope it is. I have had a lot of sleepless nights over that building. People say there is no free money out there for grants. Well, here it is facts don't lie. Reports don't lie. Just in 2019 in our Region. Enfield was given \$890,000 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Principal Forgiveness. Town of Saratoga received an additional \$757,000 forgiveness. Seaboard got \$999,000, lets just say a million dollars. Whitakers was given 1.7 million dollars. I guess that was the place that beat us out. The moral of the story is you have to be in it to win it. If we sit here and do nothing saying I am not going to put in for these grants because we are tired of being told no. We are going to get the same results. We are going full speed ahead, we need to stick our foot on the throat of who ever is doing this. And go in for the kill on these grants and do everything we can, don't give up. These numbers don't lie. That is all I have on that. Someone made the comment they are spending all kinds of money up there. Last year we had \$991,336.43 in the general fund. This September we have \$1,044,429.70. I realized the people before, maybe it was their way of thinking, thought we should save this money up. A nice nest egg. If we are not doing anything in the town to make it better and cleaner, updating the computers, it is not saving the Town or helping the Town. It is not our 401K. We are not spending money like crazy, we are actually saving \$1,100 a month. We have smiling faces here, Chief you have done a great job with the Police Department. We are both bulled headed and don't always agree. You did a great job with National Night Out. The blood drive that is a great way to get people here. Thank you for what you have done. One more thing, we talked about the sewer thing tonight and all of the stuff going on with the moratorium. On November 6 head of the Regional Office of NCDEQ will be here to talk about what we can do with the sewer moratorium. In that time I am going to ask him about Hardee's switching sewer taps on different lots. We will see what happens. One more thing I got this today, it was the shock of the week. Mayor Richards read Vince Sievert's resignation letter. This guy was actually making progress in this Town, like on Vance Street. You could see the letters he wrote to other people. Things were getting fixed. I don't know what else to say.

Commissioner Finch made a motion to go into closed session to discuss water tap situation. Commissioner Killion seconded, motion passed.

Commissioner Finch made a motion for Mr. Green to do masonry work here in town, that he go to 6118 Main Street and repair the bricks and put a lien on the property. Commissioner Killion seconds, motion passed.

Mayor Richards stated I am going to make a general statement at this time the State is not allowing any more sewer taps in Bailey. We are on a moratorium.

Commissioner Bullard made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Killion seconded, motion passed.

  
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Town Clerk

  
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Mayor Thomas Richards