

TOWN OF BAILEY

The Regular Meeting of the Bailey Town Board was held in the Bailey Town Hall on November 20, 2017 at 7:15pm after the scheduled Public Hearing.

The following members of the Bailey Town Board were present: Mayor Pro Tem Shelley Carroll, Commissioners Allen Daniels, Troy Conner and Town Administrator Timothy Johnson. Commissioners Howard Wescott and Jerry Bissette were absent.

Called the meeting to order:

Mayor Pro Tem Carroll called the meeting to order and opened the meeting and welcomed all guests who were attending the meeting.

Approval of minutes and financial statement:

The financial statement for October 2017 and the minutes for the Regular Board Meeting of October 2017 were unanimously approved upon a motion by Commissioner Conner and seconded by Commissioner Daniels. (3 affirm); (0 nays)

Amendment of Agenda:

Mayor Pro Tem Carroll requested an agenda change by adding Joe Glover and the Contract between WPML, Braswell Library, and the Town of Bailey. Both were unanimously approved upon a motion by Commissioner Conner and seconded by Commissioner Daniels. (3 affirm); (0 nays)

Agenda items:

Contract between Braswell Memorial Public Library, Wesley Privette Memorial Library and the Town of Bailey; Mayor Pro Tem Carroll stated that before the Board was the contract that was entered into by the Town of Bailey regarding the Wesley Privette Memorial Library and Braswell Memorial Public Library. She stated that the agreement was effective July 1, 2016 thru June 30, 2021. She also stated that in the Maintenance of Effort section of the agreement that it stated that during the agreement terms the Town would be responsible for providing the same financial support as was provided in the 2016-2017 fiscal year. She then asked Town Administrator Johnson what was that amount and he advised that it was \$5000. Mayor Pro Tem Carroll then stated that since this is a signed contract that the Town was obligated during the term of the contract to provide the \$5000. She also stated that during the budget workshop in May 2017 that the Board had talked about the disbursement would be in two separate payments. A motion to proceed with the \$2500 request made by Cathy Roche on behalf of Braswell Memorial Public Library was made by Mayor Pro Tem Carroll and seconded by Commissioner Conner and was unanimously approved. (3 affirm); (0 nays)

Kaye Folsom; A resident of the Town of Bailey who resides at 5915 Bissette St wanted to talk about the importance of the library. She thanked the Board on reviewing the contract and voting to provide the funds that it had agreed to. She also stated that she wanted to inform the public and to have a public record of what services the library provided since the WPML Board had not done a good job of getting this information out to the public. The land where the WPML sits was given to the Town by Wesley Privette. The building was built by the Workers Project Administration under the decree ordered by President Roosevelt during the period of 1939 – 1943. She was not sure if the Town had any money in the construction materials but she did know that it did not have any money in the labor to build the building because it was provided by the WPA during the depression. Mrs. Folsom then stated that the first library in the Town was located in what was called the Lucama Kenly Bank and was started by the Virginia Dare Book Club in 1935. After the WPML building was built in 1940 all materials in the library were moved to the new building with an open house event. One hundred sixteen people attended the open house event per the notes from Daisy Privette. Mrs. Folsom reiterated that some of the commissioners in last month's meeting decided not to fund the library due to already providing insurance on the building, grass cutting, garbage collection along with water/sewer services. She then stated that since this is a Town owned building that insurance would be a must on any Town building. She also stated that there could not be much water used in a building that is only open three days a week with one person using the facility. Garbage

collection and grass cutting would be a small drain on the tax payers when it only has one trash can and a very small yard to maintain. She then stated that as Treasurer of the WPML she could not remember when the Town spent a lot of money on maintenance for the building until the HVAC system had to be replaced for \$5000. She then stated that since this is a Town owned building that she would think the Board would want to keep the building in good repair. She then indicated that some of the commissioners were on the Board when the Town was asked for funding of the Bailey/Middlesex Community Park and you voted to spend \$250,000.00 to be paid in increments of \$50,000.00 over five years. She wondered how many citizens use the Bailey Middlesex Community Park regularly that realize how much of our tax money went into that park. She then asked the Board did they spend that money wisely. She suggested that a \$5000.00 investment in the library would have better served the various citizens of Bailey. She then listed services that are provided by the library:

1. Checking out library books both large and small print
2. Use of computers within the library
3. The library provides free WIFI service
4. E-Books for e-readers at no cost
5. Request for book transfer from another Braswell participating library with next day service
6. Check out of WIFI box to take home for WIFI service at no cost
7. If you enjoy star gazing you can check out a telescope from the library
8. There is a children's room with books, dvds and even a computer
9. Statistically there have been 155 people coming into the library every month with 116 WIFI users, 33 internal computer users

There are 440 people with registered cards for the WPML with 85 Town citizens being members of the library. Since the library receives \$14,000.00 from the county then they have a right to use the library as well even though the Town contributes \$5,000.00. She hoped that this enlightens on what services that the library can offer and she again thanked the Board on its vote to support the Bailey library.

Joe Glover; a representative of the Virginia Dare Book Club came before the Board to speak on behalf of the Bailey library. She stated that a letter had been written that she wanted to read to the Town Board. Dear town commissioners the Virginia Dare book club was established in Bailey in 1929 and had been apart of the community ever since. Our organization understands the importance of books, education and access to tools that enables the learning and understanding the world around us. When Wesley Privette Memorial Library was founded in the 1930s, we were excited to have an institution in the Bailey community that also supported these goals. Since the library's founding the Virginia Dare book club has been supportive in various ways including financial support, donated books, and members of the club serving on the library's board. The library has served generations of citizens in the town of Bailey with access to books, encyclopedias, magazines and now technology. The value of accessibility to such materials on a local basis is vital for the community to grow in knowledge, skills and abilities. Even today many school-age children do not have access to books, research material, or the Internet other than through the library. This decision to not provide allocated funds to the library diminishes the ability of the library to continue serving those under privileged youths. Several of the book club members have been educators or involved with education see the importance of the library continuing to operate and being supported by Bailey. In addition to the library's core mission of providing access to education materials for the citizens of Bailey the library also helps economic development of the town. Computers and Internet in the library frequently used by adults who are searching for and applying for jobs. Without access to such technology many individuals would be unable to apply for jobs resulting in fewer employed individuals in a diminished tax base for the town of Bailey. Please do not risk the future of a long-standing institution like the Wesley Privette Memorial Library which provides such core services to the citizens of Bailey. We urge you to continue your support of the library. She then stated that their organization has 20 members and that their regular meeting night was tonight. She stated that they decided to forgo their regular meeting and encourage their members to come to the town meeting tonight to show support or the library. She stated that over half of their members were in attendance at the meeting so this should show you what is thought of the library and the services that it provides. She also indicated that if the library is ever closed it will be something that will not reopened.

Bailey Chamber of Commerce; Cecil Hawley, president of the Bailey Chamber of Commerce stated that the Christmas tree lighting would be Friday, December 1. Santa and the helper will have gifts for the children. There will be school choir groups and church choir groups performing. The Miss Bailey pageant winners will be present representing the pageant. He also stated that there would be hot chocolate and cookies for

ownership with no guarantee of obtaining any kind of monies outside of the general fund to cover the cost for tearing down the building. Commissioner Connor then said that the reason that it looks really bad is because she had her pretty pink building right beside it. Mrs. Perry then stated that yes it looks bad and it is aggravating but her main issue is that it has caused a reduction in the number of parking spaces to one in front of her business. Cynthia Evans then asked for clarification on the matter of demolition. Commissioner Daniels then stated that the land would be given along with a tax package.

Barbara Lewis of 5504 Bloomery Rd wanted to make a comment about the property Commissioner Connor has spoken about called Bob's grocery. She wanted it known that Mr. Eatmon who owned the property was responsible for cleaning it up because he burned it down for the insurance money. Neither her nor Bob owned the building at the Time.

Vince Seivert of 6835 Finch Rd wanted to talk to the Board and plant a seed about Main Street in the Town of Bailey. He and Cecil have talked about this many times and being an active member of the chamber he would like to see Main Street be this happy bustling little town. He stated that the building that is condemned did not happen overnight. It took a long time for it to get in the shape that it is now. He said there are ordinances in place for residents but asked what was in place for businesses and their buildings. He stated that he had gone through all of the ordinances the rules and the regulations that were on the website to try and point the finger to who was ultimately responsible for making sure that they were in the commercial side just like a residential. In his opinion the condemned building now is just the beginning of what will happen to me more. He stated that if the same inspector were to go through more of the buildings on Main Street there would be fences in front of those buildings as well. He stated that he thinks he knows who is responsible and he believes that it falls on the Planning Board. He said that he believed that the Planning Board is responsible for periodic inspections and that codes are being enforced. If that was being done then we wouldn't have issues with the buildings falling down on Main Street. Commissioner Daniels then stated that the building had been falling down even when Drexel owned it because he saw Drexel pickup bricks and to place them back where they fell from his store. Mr. Sievert then stated his point is that there are policies and procedures in place that should be abided by in which someone should be looking at these buildings. He continued to say that there could be property owners in this meeting right now that he is upsetting because of his statements but that he knows that they're being used as storage units. He finished by saying that we can attract more business in town if we had the attractive facilities that they needed in place.

Old Business:

Effluent pump quotes – Mayor Pro Tem Carroll asked if there was any further information in reference to the quotes on the effluent pump. Administrator Johnson advised that this was already covered by Mr. McCann and that he was getting the quotes to us as soon as possible.

Green St Fire Hydrant – Mayor Pro Tem Carroll asked if there was any progress on the quotes for the fire hydrant and Commissioner Daniels stated that he had already met with Mr. McCann and was waiting on a response from Mr. McCann before proceeding forward.

New Business:

Bailey Chamber of Commerce Sponsor Application – Mayor Pro Tem Carroll stated that in the past we have provided half of the cost. Administrator Johnson clarified that the Board set a ceiling amount of \$3000 and they provided half of the cost of that amount. He stated they had enough budgeted to cover any amount that resolution was listed on the application. Mayor Pro Tem Carroll, Commissioner Daniels and Commissioner Connor all agreed that the chamber should provide the actual cost to the next regular board meeting for consideration.

Resolution adopting Statement of Consistency for Zoning Map Amendment – Mayor Pro Tem Carroll read the resolution as it was presented to the full Board. A motion to accept the Resolution was made by Commissioner Conner and seconded by Commissioner Daniels and was unanimously approved. (3 affirm); (0 nays)

Ordinance amending the Town of Bailey Zoning Map District – Mayor Pro Tem Carroll read the Ordinance as it was presented to the full Board. A motion to accept the Ordinance was made by Commissioner Conner and seconded by Commissioner Daniels and was unanimously approved. (3 affirm); (0 nays)

everyone who came. Then he stated that the Bailey Chamber of Commerce Christmas parade would be on Saturday, December 2 at 2 PM rain or shine. He said vendors would begin opening up their trade stands at 11 AM. There will be face painting and balloons available that will be running up till 2 o'clock to keep everyone entertained. He then invited all of the Commissioners, Mayor elect, and Commissioner elect to be in the parade. He then stated that there would be more entries in this parade than there was last year and that was saying something because they had over 100 entries last year. He stated that the cost of the parade last year was \$4371. He indicated about the sponsorship form that was sent to the town and he wanted everyone to know that certain entries such as bands, the Shriners, and others have to be paid in order to appear so it's just not free. He then thanked Envirolink for cleaning the curbing on Sanford Street and Oak Avenue. He then thanked Mayor Pro Tem Carroll for fixing the cemetery.

Envirolink; J. P. McCann from Envirolink stated that as far as activities he wanted to note that we are in leaf season for pickup now. The spotlight of events that they are working on will be the curbing and the cleaning of the parade route. He then provided statistical data that there have been 58 work orders. He stated that he would have the two additional quotes for the effluent pumps by the next meeting. He then covered the report that is provided to the Board each month from Envirolink.

Public Comment:

Mayor Pro Tem opened the public comment section advising that if you were a group that you could have only one spokesperson and that you are limited to three minutes. Mrs. Pearl Finch wanted to speak in regards to the Town's cemetery. She wanted to talk about the care of the cemetery and stated that something needed to be done about it. She stated that the runway lights are a disaster. She indicated that it looks like a carnival is forming out there. Years ago the town had decided to set up a time that the flowers were requested to be removed at the cemetery. That was to help keep the cemetery looking clean and for cutting and various other reasons. Now with all of the runway lights and other paraphernalia that is scattered all around makes it look like a junkyard or a carnival needs to be corrected. She then stated that she appreciated Shelley and that she knew she had this burden on her back but that is in the contract that all of this stuff is not to be put on there. She then stated that she is dealt with adults and with children and that she knows adults are harder to deal with. She stated that she knew adults were hardheaded but they needed to understand what was in the contract and made to abide by it. She wanted for the Board to take her comments into consideration.

Audrey Perry from Fashion Flair spoke before the Board concerning what the Town was going to do with the building that is next to her business because it is falling down. The bricks are coming down and they are damaging her roof. Commissioner Connor then asked Commissioner Daniels if he was working on that. Commissioner Daniels stated that two months ago he called County Commissioner Dan Cone and that he was told to contact the department head for finance in the county. Commissioner Daniels did get in contact with him and he stated that there was some paperwork that he needed to get to him along with a collaborative meeting with the town's attorney. Commissioner Daniels continued to say that the only thing that the town could offer would be a tax incentive package as had been discussed before with Town Administrator Johnson. Mrs. Perry asked at that point if the building was already condemned. Administrator Johnson clarified that yes the building is condemned by the county but it is not owned by the Town of Bailey. Mrs. Perry stated that she understood that. Administrator Johnson then provided an update so that everyone understood what currently had been done. He stated that the County had released the tax value of the building only and as the tax assessor for the town he had released the tax value for the building on the taxes due to the town. This did not eliminate the taxes for the value of the land. Commissioner Daniels then stated that it was just now getting someone to take ownership of. Administrator Johnson stated that with the condemnation there is always the issue of why should taxpayers money go towards paying for demolition of a condemned building when the town does not own the property and there is no benefit to the town to do so. Commissioner Connor then stated that the town wanted it down more than anybody and Mrs. Perry said no you don't. She said I'm the one who has to deal with the cost when the bricks fall on my building. Administrator Johnson then stated that the issue was cost. What the private sector can do for \$50,000 the government would have to do it with \$110,000-\$125,000. He continued to indicate that more responsibility is placed on the government to correct the issue than the private sector. The main issue being cost could be de-frayed if the town could get a Brown's field grant. These are federal dollars that could be used only if the town took ownership of the building and that is the crux of the issue. What does the town gain by taking

Commissioner's remarks:

Commissioner Conner wanted to know when the work was going to start for the water and sewer grants. Administrator Johnson stated that it was already in the works because he reminded them that they had to come back in a recessed meeting last month to approve the project by resolution and capital outlay ordinance. Commissioner Connor then asked about the recycling cans. Administrator Johnson advised that the cans have been ordered and should be distributed out sometime in mid-December. Commissioner Daniels then asked what about the recycling bins out back. Administrator Johnson stated that they would be gone.

Commissioner Daniels then thanked everyone for coming but wanted everyone to understand that he is not against the library but that he would say that the system has gotten into a reversed way of thinking. He clarified his reasons for doing what he did last meeting because he believes that a lot of things need to be state and county funded. He did think that if county citizens were using the library the more funding from the county should be supplied. He feels that the county should be providing more to its citizens. He then stated it was \$14,000 that the county was providing but believed they should be providing \$20,000. Again he stated that he was never in favor of the library closing. He thought there could be more discussion with the state and the county on providing more funding than they were doing because basically it is a state service. He then stated you brought up the issue about recreation. He stated that he was not on the board but yes it was \$250,000 from the town of Bailey and \$250,000 from the town of Middlesex. This was done because the grant of \$500,000 could not be obtained by the county under PARTF. This was something that the county could not pay for at the time. He continued to state that he did not think it was in the best interest of the town of Bailey at the time. He also stated that there are many things that need to be fixed in the town of Bailey such as pipes that were laid down during World War II and streets but that he did not want to see taxes go up because there are people who cannot afford for their taxes to go up in order to cover the cost of these needs.

Mayor's remarks:

Mayor Pro Tem Carroll had no additional comments.

Department Heads Remarks:

Chief Bullock wanted to make everyone aware of check fraud issues that the PD was having in and around town. He stated that what people are doing is getting checks through the mail for them to cash and place the money in a Western Union account. Then the originator places a stop pay on that check and the person who cashes the check is on the hook for the amount of the check. He also wanted to point out that it is the holidays and you need to be aware of your surroundings that people who are coming in and out of town.

Administrator Johnson asked that it get placed in the paper that trash pick-up for Thanksgiving week would be on 11/24/2107.

Administrator Johnson asked for the Board to approve for a service to come out and spray the Town Hall and the PD buildings for insects and spiders. Mayor Pro Tem Carroll asked Commissioner Conner who the store used to spray for bugs and Commissioner Conner stated that he did not know but he used Rid-A-Pest at home. Mayor Pro Tem Carroll stated that she used Empire and then Cynthia Evans stated that they had used Top Pro Pest Control out of Zebulon if we needed a reference.

Administration Johnson then asked if the Board would be willing to hear another proposal from Sarah Johnson on adding the PD building to the cleaning rotation. He asked this because Chief Bullock had asked if this could be done and I advised that it would need to be added as an amendment to her existing agreement with the town. Mayor Pro Tem Carroll asked that this was or had been done in the past and I said yes but it was being handled by John. Commissioner Conner and Mayor Pro Tem Carroll both indicated that Sarah provide an updated proposal for the Board to consider.

Administrator Johnson then advised that he and Debbie Glover had a meeting with Southern Software in reference to seeing how their system worked versus our current vendor of Logics for utilities, taxes, payroll, general ledger and finances. He stated that we currently pay an invoice amount of \$12,860 for support that does not include any updates or training cost. He wants some time to get information together for the Board on the cost comparison between the two and provide them apples to apples what our cost savings would be over time.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Commissioner Conner made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Daniels seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. (3 affirm); (0 nays)

Debbie Glover

Clerk

[Signature]
Mayor Pro Tem