

**TOWN OF TRYON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
APRIL 17, 2018 7:00 P.M.
TRYON TOWN HALL – MCCOWN ROOM**

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Bill Ingham

Commissioners: Crys Armbrust, Bill Crowell, Chrelle Booker

Absent: Mayor J. Alan Peoples

Staff Present: Town Manager Zach Ollis Town Clerk Susan Bell
 Police Chief Jeff Arrowood Town Attorney William Morgan

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Ingham called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of silence. Commissioner Crowell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ADOPTION

Town Manager wanted to add a Resolution honoring Retiring Lieutenant Theda Rickman and closed session to discuss litigation. Commissioner Crowell made a motion to adopt the Agenda with additions. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA ADOPTION

Mayor Pro Tem Ingham asked if there were any changes or deletions to the Consent Agenda. Being none he entertained a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Armbrust so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION HONORING THEDA RICKMAN

Mayor Pro Tem Ingham presented a Resolution Awarding Badge and Service Sidearm to Retiring Lieutenant Theda R. Rickman and also presented her with a Resolution honoring her upon her retirement.

APPOINTMENT TO PARKS COMMITTEE

Town Manager Ollis stated that Faye MacIntyre had filed an application to be placed on the Parks Committee. Commissioner Crowell made a motion to appoint Faye MacIntyre to the Parks Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

DEBIT/CREDIT CARD FEES

Town Manager Ollis stated the Town currently takes debit/credit cards at no charge. We are going to begin taking on-line payments and the software company will charge the town \$3,600 and also will charge one to four percent to process the payments. Susan has pulled together our current cost for the past six months (\$3,890). We are not going to get all of our cost back, but we would like to place a small fee on each transaction of one dollar. That will get at least \$1,400 to help offset the cost. Commissioner

Crowell stated two dollars would get us closer. Commissioner Armbrust stated it is important the public understand the cost.

Commissioner Armbrust made a motion to charge a convenience fee of two dollars. The motion carried unanimously.

FARMER'S MARKET UPDATE

Town Manager Ollis turned over to Patrick from the Farmer's Market. He introduced Erica McMillan who then presented information about the Farmer's Market. The market will begin on May 3, 2018 at the Depot. The Tobacco Trust Fund provided money so there will be no cost. They want to include the local wineries. The radius to be included is twenty-five miles. If you find it in Polk County then they don't allow outside vendors. If Polk County doesn't have it, outside vendors are allowed. The location and whether or not they could have local wineries attend was discussed. She will do more research on the wineries. Patrick stated they are excited to be back.

STREETScape UPDATE

Town Manager Ollis thanked the businesses for working with Trace while installing the new sidewalks. The town could gain a number of parking spaces if the x's were removed. The board agreed to remove the x's. He will get a quote. He received a proposal from Trace in January for Trade and Maple Street. He would like to remove the pork chop and extend the pavement to allow large trucks to make the turn, and to allow a woman to go up the hill with a stroller. He asked the board what they think. Mayor Pro Tem Ingham stated that is a big complaint spot. Ollis will call Trace tomorrow. He had said they will be able to do this right after they finish the sidewalks.

Commissioner Armbrust made a motion to accept the January 24, 2018 proposal from Trace to do upgrades to the Maple and Trade Street corner. The motion carried unanimously.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/MONTHLY PRIORITIZATION LIST

Town Manager Ollis gave a special thanks to the Fans of Harmon Field and volunteers for the Easter Egg-stravaganza. It was a good event for the children. He thanked Jamie for the April Fools day event. He thanked Jamie for the sign design of Morris for the businesses while our sidewalks are under construction. He thanked the public works crew for doing some really good things lately. He thanked Karandall Gary for picking up trash. Recently they were reviewing footage for something and saw Karandall walking down the street picking up trash. It was great to see and he appreciates that. If more people were like that we wouldn't have the issues with trash on the roads. We are going to have hiccups with our new phone line, but it will be good when we get all the kinks out. There will be a significant savings. The crews are working on replacing some infrastructure downtown while Trace is working on the sidewalks. He has coordinated with private property owners to replace private lines while the concrete is being removed. DOT is doing the prep work for paving. The rain gardens at Harmon Field have been designed to slow the water flow to help with the riverbank that we are losing. Near Hog Heaven plans are being made to create a beach like area. He has worked with the Health Department to secure paperwork for the septic at Harmon Field. Blake is working on making the website mobile friendly. The crews have finished work on the Carolina Drive culvert.

Commissioner Crowell asked to track the cost of the Carolina Drive repairs. Ollis stated the cost would be greater because the water and sewer lines have fallen because the culvert has fallen. The truck broke down today. He will get the cost for them.

Commissioner Armbrust asked what happened to the lamp post in Rogers Park. Ollis stated it was hit right after a Summer Tracks concert. The base is bent and he will have to look into that. Armbrust asked for him to look into our insurance. Ollis will check. Armbrust asked about the straightening of the signs. Ollis stated the crews understand they straighten them as they see them.

COUNCIL/MAYOR REPORT

Commissioner Booker thanked everyone for coming out. She congratulated Theda on her retirement. She thanked Jamie for working with the businesses while our sidewalks are being replaced. Tryon Communications is doing a wonderful job of keeping us informed with what is going on. She thanked Meg and Susan for their work and the rest of employees for all they do. She also thanked Dr. Carson for what he does on the East side of town.

Commissioner Crowell thanked Theda for all of her time with the town. He hates that we are losing her. It won't be the same without her. Things are good with the town and going to get better.

Commissioner Armbrust thanked everyone for coming out tonight. He thanked Theda for her 25 years. That is quite an accomplishment. Thanked Trace for doing a great job. The induction of Nina Simone to the Hall of Fame was held this past weekend. In the upcoming days Tryon Tourism has sponsored Ugo Tours for Nina Simone. Enjoyed the Steeplechase. Looks forward to the NCDOT coming into the Central Business District paving.

Mayor Pro Tem Ingham thanked everyone for being here. He reminded everyone of the Huckleberry's celebration in two weeks. He thanked Steven Green for holding the upcoming AFRO/Latina Fest. He thanked Jamie for her hard work on the April Fools Day event. He congratulated Theda. We will miss her tremendously. Sorry to see her go.

CITIZEN COMMENTS & RESPONSES

Jamie Carpenter, TDDA, updated everyone on the upcoming events. TDDA's quarterly meeting will be May 8, 2018 at the Depot. Parsec Financial is hosting. She was fortunate to attend the National Main Street conference in Kansas City, funding provided by Polk County Community Foundation. May 4, 2018 at 8:30 is the planting day for Tryon Blooms. Polk County High FFA grew the flowers. Anyone that would like to help, please come out. The Farm to Trade event is June 24, 2018. The day after is there annual meeting. Tryon Arts & Crafts will be holding their craft festival on April 21st & 22nd.

Karandall Gary asked if the board has plans to promote more businesses. Mayor Pro Tem Ingham stated TDDA works on that. Commissioner Armbrust stated we have a new restaurant opening in town.

John Garguilo stated as a store owner, he would like to say Trace is doing a great job. They are well coordinated. He would like to talk about his situation at the Shops of Tryon with public restrooms. He maintains the restrooms and pays for them. He feels that he is helping out. The Town doesn't have a public restroom except at Rogers Park. He asked for help ten years ago and was turned down. It has cost him \$80,000 to maintain and the cost to build the Rogers Park restrooms was \$50,000. He feels that he should be treated more fairly and get some help on maintaining the restrooms. Commissioner

Crowell stated that he would be willing to negotiate. Ollis stated we are going to look into a counter offer.

Christine Cowles stated they were on track for their event. She requested the road closure to start at 8:00 a.m. so they could get set up instead of the previously requested 12:00 p.m. The Board agreed. Parking will be at HomeTrust Bank, Baptist Church, Episcopal Church, the School and Stott's Ford.

Anne Day invited everyone to Theda's retirement party on April 30. It will be a drop in from 1-4. Commissioner Ingham mentioned that NCDOT will be at the Depot on the 24th.

CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Pro Tem Ingham entertained a motion to convene to closed session to discuss possible litigation pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3). Commissioner Armbrust so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

J. Alan Peoples, Mayor

Attest:

Susan B. Bell, Town Clerk