

**TOWN OF LONG VIEW  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING  
JUNE 11, 2018**

The Town of Long View Board of Aldermen met on Monday, June 11, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers of the Government Center in Long View, North Carolina.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** The following members of the Board were present: Mayor Marla G. Thompson, Mayor Pro Tem/Alderman Randall Mays, Alderman David Elder, Alderman Gary Lingerfelt, and Alderman Thurman VanHorn.

**BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:** The following member of the Board was not present: Alderman Dallas Tester.

**STAFF PRESENT:** The following members of staff were present: Town Administrator David Draughn, Town Clerk Stephanie Watson, Town Attorney Jimmy Summerlin, Jr., Finance Director James Cozart, Town Planner Charles Mullis, Public Works Director Chris Eckard, Fire Chief James Brinkley, Police Chief Michael Winters, Major Justin Roberts, Officer Joshua Rector.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** The following people were present: Shirley Lowman, Merlene Long, Winston Hines, Steve Ward, and Phyllis Pennington.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** Mayor Marla Thompson called the meeting to order and Alderman David Elder gave the invocation.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Mayor Marla Thompson asked for approval of the minutes.

Motion was made by Alderman Randall Mays, seconded by Alderman Thurman VanHorn to approve the May 14, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes and May 14, 2018 Closed Session Minutes. The vote to approve was unanimous.

**PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS THE 2018-2019 BUDGET**

Town Administrator David Draughn stated that the FY 2018-2019 budget has been submitted. The Budget is balanced in accordance with the North Carolina Local Budget Fiscal Control Act.

**General Fund**

The General Fund recommended spending program for the coming fiscal year amounts to \$3,459,156.

The General Fund revenue highlights include the following:

- Revenues are based on a tax rate of 57 cents per 100
- Other revenues are based on current year actuals
- The sanitation fee has been increased by 1.6% to absorb the increase by Republic Services and to maintain a break-even sanitation and recycling program
- The Box Truck Rental Fee has been increased

- The Planning and Zoning Fees have been increased

General Fund expenditure highlights include:

- 2% cost of living adjustment for employees
- Replacing longevity pay with a Christmas Bonus for employees
- Adding three additional holidays to match the State Calendar
- Included increases in all insurance programs (health, workers compensation and general liability)
- Purchase two Police cruisers
- Purchase of three Fire vehicles on the new and used purchase program
- An increase to the fuel budget
- Improvements to the Council Chambers audio system
- May Days Festival
- Budgeted Contingency

**Utility Fund**

Town Administrator David Draughn informed those present that the recommended spending program for the Utility Fund is \$1,939,700.00.

Utility revenue highlights are as follows:

- Water and sewer rates anticipated to increase by 2.1% to absorb the increase by the City of Hickory
- An addition sewer increase of 12 cent per 1000 to allow sewer charges to break even with the City of Hickory
- Budget will remove the third rate structure tier ending a two year process to place the Town's rate structure in accordance with current standards

Utility expenditure highlights are as follows:

- Same as General Fund for employee benefits and insurance costs
- A final year repayment to the Department of Commerce
- \$25,000 has been budgeted for the Shuford Area Grant Low-to-Moderate Income expense
- Increase in fuel and tire expenses
- Frye Creek pumping expenses are up slightly
- \$30,000 has been budgeted as a repayment to the General Fund
- Budgeted Contingency

**Shuford Area CDBG Grant Fund / Century Grant Fund**

The Shuford Area CDBG Grant Fund / Century Grant Fund recommending spending program for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 is \$2,216,540.00. That is 100% grant funding, most of which will be expended this year. The Century grant still remains with no activity but adjustments will be made if activity occurs. The Shuford Area Water and Sewer Line Replacement Project is underway and is going well. The project is anticipated to be done as early as September.

### **State and Shared Proceeds Fund**

For the State and Shared Proceeds Fund, the recommended spending program amount of \$30,000 is based on seizure estimates. It will be amended as necessary.

### **Powell Bill Fund**

The Powell Bill Fund, that will be separated based on auditor recommendations, will have a recommended spending program in the amount of \$141,814. Powell Bill will operate out of a separate fund.

Powell Bill revenue highlights include:

- Revenues are based on State estimates

Powell Bill expenditure highlights include:

- Sidewalk repair
- Dirt road resurfacing
- Street resurfacing as estimates allow

Mayor Marla Thompson declared open the public hearing to discuss the 2018-2019 Budget.

There being no comments, motion was made by Alderman Thurman VanHorn, seconded by Alderman David Elder to declare the public hearing closed. The vote to approve was unanimous.

### **CALL FOR A SECOND PUBLIC HEARING ON MONDAY, JUNE 25, 2018 TO DISCUSS THE 2018-2019 BUDGET**

Motion was made by Alderman Thurman VanHorn, seconded by Alderman Gary Lingerfelt to call for a public hearing during the scheduled Board of Aldermen Meeting on Monday, June 25, 2018 to discuss the 2018-2019 Budget. The vote to approve was unanimous.

### **DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL ATM LEASE - TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DAVID DRAUGHN**

Town Administrator David Draughn informed those present that the Town was exploring the possibility of having an ATM placed on the property across the street from Town Hall. The Town had approached the State Employees Credit Union and had been working on a negotiated lease. The Credit Union has expressed interest but were in talks with the Town about cost to place the ATM versus the lease amount.

At the last meeting, the Board agreed on the short option estimate without curbing added, which would cost \$21,000 to do. In order to recoup this amount, the Town was asking for a 5-year lease for \$350.00 per month. The Credit Union has informed the Town that they are only willing to do a 5-year lease at \$200.00 per month. This amount would only bring in \$12,000 for the term of the lease. In this scenario the Town would recoup a little more than half of its investment.

Mr. Draughn stated that the Board needs to decide if this proposal is enough to proceed, do they wish to submit a counter proposal, or should the project be abandoned.

Alderman Randall Mays stated that if the Town is not able to recoup a good portion of the amount, then he is willing to abandon the project. The Town has an up front price of \$21,000 to begin with. If the

Town were to agree to \$200 per month, the Town would barely recoup half the money that is put into it. If they are not willing to come up to where the Town can recoup 75-80% over the 5-year lease, then he would be for abandoning the project.

Alderman David Elder asked if there would be a continuation of the lease after five years.

Mr. Draughn stated that they would not want to pay anymore after the five years. There would still be a lease.

Alderman Thurman VanHorn asked if the Town could do a public hearing to get public input about this. The Town has lost its banks which is why this was brought up in the first place. He said that he is with Alderman Mays as the money is going to have to come from somewhere to pay for this project.

Mr. Draughn stated that it would be up to the Board to decide to have a public hearing to see what public opinion is for getting an ATM.

Alderman Mays stated that if the Town could not recoup at least 75-80% of the money put into getting the ATM, he is not putting the tax payers' money out there.

Alderman VanHorn stated that he was not sure if it should only be that much. The Credit Union should cover 100% as the ATM is at a good location and they will recoup a lot of money. The amount of \$21,000 is nothing to a bank like that. They are just trying to strong arm the Town.

When Mayor Thompson asked what the Board's decision was, Alderman Elder suggested doing a counter offer first before abandoning the project.

Mayor Thompson stated that the Town could submit a counter offer and hopefully get a response by the June 25, 2018 Board of Aldermen Meeting. If the bank does not agree, the Town could abandon the project. She asked what the Town should counter offer.

Alderman Mays suggested that the Town counter offer \$300.

Mr. Draughn stated that taking in \$300 per month will bring in \$18,000 over a 5-year lease.

Alderman VanHorn stated that if this gets accepted, to make sure that an ATM was put in that does everything.

Mr. Draughn stated that they would put in whatever type of ATM the Town wants.

Motion was made by Alderman David Elder, seconded by Alderman Randall Mays to submit a counter offer rental fee in the amount of \$300.00 to the State Employees Credit Union. The vote to approve was unanimous.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DAVID DRAUGHN**  
**Newly Elected Official Ethics Course**

Town Administrator David Draughn informed the Board that the newly elected council members have a year to take the ethics course. The Mayor has already taken it. The Town can provide that course for viewing in the Meeting Room of Town Hall. He asked the members to meet with him or Town Clerk Stephanie Watson about setting up a date and time.

The following is a list of newly elected officials and their Ethics Course status as of the current meeting.

<b><u>Newly Elected Officials</u></b>	<b><u>Ethics Course Completion Status</u></b>
Mayor Marla Thompson	Completed
Alderman Gary Lingerfelt	Not Completed
Alderman David Elder	Not Completed
Alderman Dallas Tester	Not Completed

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Dorothy Phillips stated that there is a cat problem in her community. The gentleman across the street from her has more cats than allowed and they are causing issues to his neighbors' properties.

Merlene Long stated that Mr. Dewey Morris, the property owner with the cats, started feeding them and that made the cats want to stay. It is causing damage to her property. She has talked to Animal Control and they have done nothing. They were supposed to bring cages but they never did. Long View has not handled it. The cats continue to multiply. She stated that Mr. Morris told her that the cats are not his and she told him that if he feeds them, they are his.

Mayor Thompson stated that she had given the information to Town Planner/Code Enforcement Officer Charles Mullis. She informed Ms. Phillips and Ms. Long that she would follow the progress of this and report to them.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

#### **Comments by Alderman David Elder**

Alderman Elder stated that he wished to commend everyone involved in the Long View Senior Day. It is going really well. He enjoyed the Fire Department's presentation of fire prevention, fire safety and what to do in case of an accidental fire. The meals have also been tremendous.

#### **Comments by Alderman Randall Mays**

Alderman Mays wished to reiterate what Alderman Elder said. A lot of people have taken an interest in the Senior Day. Pastor Randall needs some recognition because everyone loves him. He has received comments about him.

#### **Comments by Alderman Gary Lingerfelt**

Alderman Lingerfelt stated that he felt the same way. It gives his dad something to do on Wednesdays.

#### **Comments by Mayor Marla Thompson**

Mayor Thompson requested that everyone present please tell their neighbors that the Senior Day is offered on Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

There being no further business, motion was made by Alderman Randall Mays, seconded by Alderman David Elder to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. The vote to approve was unanimous.

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Stephanie C. Watson  
Town Clerk, CMC, NCCMC

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Marla G. Thompson  
Mayor