

**Regular Board Meeting Session Minutes – April 14<sup>th</sup> ,2025 @5:00pm**

Mayor Michael Speight called the meeting to order at 5:01pm. Commissioner Jean Wooten-Jiles offered prayer. All in attendance were Mayor Michael Speight, Commissioner Jean Wooten-Jiles, Commissioner Paula Lewis, Commissioner / Mayor Pro Tem Jason Taylor, Commissioner Joyce Braxton, Town Administrator Jennifer Stanley, Town Clerk Gracieann Etheridge, Public Works Director Benjamin Lassiter, Town Attorney Gabriel DuSablon, Andrea Radford with Stewart Engineering, citizens Kimberly Owens, Kim Pabingwit, and Tammy Lane. Everyone in attendance recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Approval of the agenda motion was given by Commissioner Lewis and seconded by Commissioner Wooten-Jiles.

Approval of the minutes the motion was given by Commissioner Lewis and second by Commissioner Joyce Braxton with none opposed the motion passed.

Land use plan public hearing: Commissioner Wooten-Jiles made the motion to go into the public hearing and it was seconded by Commissioner Taylor. With none opposed the motion passed. Ms. Andea Radford went through a PowerPoint presentation and explained what they have been working on and gathering information and the three phase step plan that they will be following. She informed us that the plans do need to be updated roughly every ten years. She discussed some of the goals that the citizens would like to see/keep here in the town. Also, how this will lay as the groundwork or template on to how appropriate the use of the land in the future.

Commissioner Wooten-Jiles made a motion to adopt the new land use plan, it was seconded by Commissioner Braxton and with none opposed the land use plan was adopted.

Commissioner Wooten-Jiles made a motion to close the public hearing for the land use plan. This was seconded by Commissioner Lewis, with none opposed the motion passed.

Citizen concerns were addressed next up on the agenda. Citizen Tammy Lane spoke with her concern about the housing project outside of town. Mayor Speight spoke with her to answer questions and concerns the best way possible. Next, all citizens in attendance were concerned with the new dollar general being built, and the amount of traffic that was going to be on the side roads, and the speed of traffic with the children near the area playing in the roads. She spoke with DOT, and they informed her that those aren't state mandated roads. The town Commissioners informed them they would get some caution warning signs to put up on town roads for the children's safety.

Under old business Jennifer reported that the bids for the wastewater treatment project were accepted.

Under the new business administrative and financial reports were given by Jennifer Stanley. She also stated that the 50/50 tickets are ready for the July 3<sup>rd</sup> celebration. Mayor Speight stated there had already been some items donated. Also, she gave the amount of interest earned on the balance sheets that were provided in the agenda packets, there was also the budget-to-actual. This report along with the annual draft budget goes to Ms. Natalie Roundtree. If things need to be changed there needs to be a workshop for that.

Public works updates were given by Benjamin Lassiter, and he stated that he couldn't find the transformers needed to provide power to the new Dollar General. The Commissioners discussed several different options, and they came up with a plan to reach out to several different vendors to find them.

Commissioners' concerns are as follows; Commissioner Lewis was asked about the leash law if we had one and what about the county laws. If something could be posted addressing the various amounts of loose animals that run through town. It was determined that the town does not have a leash law. Commissioner Wooten-Jiles asked if it would be okay if there was someone who wanted to play music in the gazebo would that be okay and/or if there would be a charge to set up. It was discussed that there would be a charge since it would use the town electricity. It was decided that the charge would be \$45 to cover the cost of electricity. She asked about the grant extension on the EV parking spaces. Also concerned about the storage of various items in the yard and the tree limbs near property lines. Commissioner Braxton was concerned about a citizen and whether they were going to move out of town and leave the house torn up. Mayor Speight was discussing the storm drains that need attention again and what can be done about them. He mentioned the roof on the Town Hall needing some attention. He also asked about the audits and the status of them.

A motion was made to go into closed session by Commissioner Lewis, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Braxton, with none opposing the motion passed at 6:15pm.

And a motion was made to go into open session by Commissioner Lewis, motion was seconded by Commissioner Wooten-Jiles, with none opposed the motion passed at 6:23pm.

Announcements were that the next board meeting would be May 12<sup>th</sup> at 5pm at the Town Hall.

Adjournment motion was made by Commissioner Lewis and seconded by Commissioner Wooten-Jiles. With none opposed the motion passed. The meeting came to an end at 6:24pm.