

Town of Macclesfield  
Regular Session Board Meeting  
October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 @5:00 pm

Mayor Michael Speight called the meeting to order. Members in attendance were Mayor Michael Speight, Mayor Pro-Tem Jason Taylor, Commissioner Paula Lewis, Commissioner Joyce Braxton, Commissioner Jean Wooten-Jiles, Town Clerk Gracieann Etheridge, Public Works Director Benjamin Lassiter, Attorney Gabriel DuSablon, Tyrone Moore with Moore Trucking, and citizen Stacy Bridgers.

Commissioner Wooten-Jiles offered the invocation. All in attendance recited the pledge of allegiance. Commissioner Lewis made a motion to accept the agenda and Commissioner Wooten-Jiles seconded the motion. It carried with none opposed. Commissioner Wooten-Jiles made a motion for the approval of the minutes. Commissioner Lewis seconded the motion and with none opposed the motion carried.

Citizen concerns there was Mr. Tyrone Moore proposing the idea of his refrigerated trucking company that goes and picks up food from Roanoke Rapids and brings it to the citizens of the towns to do distribution for them out the kindness of his heart. He would be bringing various refrigerated items some from the company Reser's Fine Foods. He will be asking for help with the cost of fuel, which would be around five hundred dollars. He would bring a few of his friends to help with the passing out of the food and organizing the pick-up line to keep it in an orderly fashion. There could also be some help from the commissioners so the citizens would see a familiar face. The question was asked about possibly having a delivery of turkeys during Thanksgiving or Christmas? Mr. Moore stated that he could get in contact with his provider and that some towns wouldn't do both holidays, but one or the other.

Next was Mrs. Stacy Bridgers with the issue of a water leak on the bill and asking for some type of break on the bill. Seeing that the bill was 85,000 gallons of usage. There was some discussion among the commissioners. With considerable deliberations the board of Commissioner agreed that they wanted to enact a new policy regarding any customers' bill regarding unidentified leaks. That the customer would be assisted with the bill with proof and receipts of findings being fixed. Commissioner Taylor made a motion to put a new policy in effect stating that if a citizen's bill is super high because of a leak and the leak is repaired, the bill will be adjusted to double their normal bill amount plus taxes and any additional services. Commissioner Lewis seconded the motion and with none opposed the motion carried.

Under old business Rich Moore didn't show. Commissioner Wooten-Jiles suggested reaching out and reminding him that he was supposed to attend the meeting. Benjamin stated that he usually will show if he didn't show up to the previous meeting, but he will reach out to him this week.

On to the insurance claim that was tabled last month for the repair of the shop roof on Third Street. This was the quote that the insurance company gave and the deductible needs to be paid to receive the payment to get the repairs completed. There was a motion made by Commissioner Lewis to accept the offer from the insurance claim. It was then seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor. Motion passed with none opposed. Benjamin then began to explain that he had reached out to a few companies and received some quotes to present to the board for the repair work to be completed. The quotes were from Dwyane Everette with MDE Construction, Roofing Solutions, Pro Construction. There was some deliberation among the board members. Commissioner Lewis made a motion to accept the quote from MDE Construction to repair the shop roof. This was seconded by Commissioner Braxton. With none opposed the motion passed. Once paperwork is filed, they will start construction promptly.

Next was the concerns of the trailer park water and sewer tap assistance. Benjamin stated that it looks like all work can be completed by our public works guys to keep in house which would make it cheaper. Although we may have to borrow some equipment from the Town of Pinetops to complete some of the work. The commissioners noticed that the driveway was repaved and re-rocked and stated that it looks good. Also, some of the trailers have/ are being completely remodeled. The board of commissioners agreed to try to assist with the cost as long as they are updated with the different stages of the process. The new landowner wants to install a good number of trailers, and to have them still be affordable.

Next up the board of the town was asked if it would be possible to send out the Stewart surveys in bills and up on the Facebook/ website. To be able to generate some type of response from the citizens in the community to help with the construction of the land use plan. There was some discussion about making sure everyone has adequate access to the survey and so there was a motion made by Commissioner Braxton to include them in the bills. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Lewis. With none opposed the motion passed.

Next Gracie gave a report on how well the fall festival went and there was some discussion of wanting to switch the weekend that it is held, so that we may have a better turnout for the town. We did have some ideas from the citizens interested in some activities that we might be able to incorporate into the town. The town council decided they did not want to do anything for Halloween this year, but they wanted to focus on Christmas.

The administrative/finance reports were given including how much interest was gained from the town accounts. It was asked how much revenue the town gets from electric sales and if the information can be reported at the next meeting. It was asked about another finance report to be added to the commissioner packets. It was discussed that the Dodge truck needs to be put up on gov deals. There was discussion of the taxes that were charged to the grocery store account, and that the electric sales taxes were not being charged in the past and since has been added on, so it would have to be paid. The town could legally go back three years and charge unpaid sales taxes on all bills.

Public Works gave reports of the storm water system that was fixed on Edgcombe Street and that Brick Mill Road would be next to get repaired. Benjamin Spoke to a representative at Wilson energy about solar panels information for the citizen.

Commissioner concerns were up next, and commissioner Wooten-Jiles asked to make sure all the ARPA funds are used up. She was assured that it would be checked. Another commissioner spoke about the audit update. Jennifer printed out a lot of pages of work. With the new printer getting installed the scan and send feature wasn't working properly. They finally got it fixed and are now able to send documents to the auditors. Commissioner Wooten-Jiles stated that she doesn't want no mail to be opened if their names are on it. If there is a policy that says that it must be open, she wants to know about it.

Mayor Speight wants to make sure Justin is getting paid to be to full time and to get back pay for full time amount.

What can be done at the Macclesfield Mill business because its lease is going to end soon. The board would like to have the logs removed and taken to the town's yard waste dump site. There needs to be a signed agreement between Mr. Darrin Wall and the town giving the town permission to remove the raw materials at the town's expense. Attorney DuSablon stated that the town ordinance is too vague to do anything now and he will do some research. Mayor Speight stated that one piece of maple needs to go back to citizen Mrs. Poling.

Commissioners mentioned that some yards need to receive violation letters. Mr. Lassiter said he would get to work on those.

Commissioner Wooten-Jiles asked if we have any updates regarding a Dollar General. There has been extra soil testing because of a gas leak at the old store years ago.

The board discussed the possibility of discontinuing the paper timesheets for staff, but the new timeclocks are not compatible with FMS. Instead, the board wants copies of the time clock paperwork and paper copies of time sheets every three months.

June 27, 2022, motion about comp time had to be approved, once gained it had to be used by the following week. The attorney stated this might be a problem under FLSA rules/ laws. There was a motion to eliminate this policy by Commissioner Taylor, and it was seconded by Commissioner Lewis. With none opposed the motion passed. Everyone now must update the mayor or mayor pro tem of overtime at any time prior to it occurring. Attorney DuSablou recommended that the board enact a cap on PTO earned and just pay out anything over the cap. He will return with new policies to enact the comp time rules.

Commissioner Lewis made a motion to go into closed session. Commissioner Braxton seconded the motion and with none opposed the board entered closed session at 6:38 pm.

Commissioner Wooten-Jiles made a motion to return to open session. Commissioner Lewis seconded the motion and with none opposed the board returned to open session at 7:04 pm.