

## **MINUTES FOR BOARD OF ALDERMEN WORK SESSION**

**JANUARY 26, 2021**

**5:00 PM**

The following elected officials were present: Mayor Coleman, Alderwoman Morrow, Alderman Milton, Alderman Cearley, Alderman Huggins, and Alderman Withers.

The following staff members were present: Maria Stroupe, Town Manager; Nolan Groce, Development Services Director; Robert Walls, Police Chief; Shannon Whittle, Town Clerk; Jonathan Newton, Finance Director; Brandon Whitener, Recreation Director; Earl Withers, III, Fire Chief; and Bill Trudnak Public Works Director.

Mayor Coleman called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Mayor Coleman opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, followed by the Invocation, given by Pearl Burris Floyd.

At this time, Mayor Coleman proceeded with the swearing-in ceremony for Alderman Frank Milton. In August 2020, Alderwoman Stacey Thomas resigned her seat on the Board of Aldermen. On January 12, 2021, the Board of Aldermen appointed Mr. Frank Milton, by unanimous vote, to fill the remainder of the term held by Ms. Thomas. Alderman Milton was sworn in to complete the remaining term, which is up for reelection in November 2021. Please see Exhibit 2 for the Oath of Office.

Mayor Coleman then asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda, then proceeded to add one addition, to be addressed as Item #4G in New Business. Alderman Huggins motioned to approve the agenda with one addition, seconded by Alderman Milton, and carried unanimously.

Item 4A was regarding the parking lot modifications at Town Hall. Alderman Cearley asked that the Town Engineer look at options to modify current Town Hall Parking Lot configuration due to limited access from the W. Wilkins St. entrance. When the parking spaces on both the right and left sides from that entrance are full, vehicles must back out onto W. Wilkins St. to access the entrances on N. Holland St. Attached (Exhibit 4A) are two options from Mr. Johnny Denton, Diamond Engineering. Option 1 would remove two parking spaces and allow access to the remainder of the parking lot without exiting the W. Wilkins St. entrance to access one of the N. Holland St. entrances. Option 2 would remove one parking space to allow a vehicle to turn around and exit the W. Wilkins St. entrance, without backing out into the roadway, to then access one of the N. Holland St. entrances. Option 1 was decided to be the more favorable course of action and the Town will move forward with that process.

Item 4B was a discussion of the No Parking Zone on W. Trade St. With the increased traffic and number of parked vehicles along the 100 block of W. Trade St., it has come to Staff's attention that a fire hydrant is being blocked. In order to provide emergency access to the fire hydrant,

Staff is recommending that one parking space in front of the fire hydrant be designated as no parking in the Town's Parking Prohibited Ordinance. Please see Exhibit 4B. This will be discussed as a possible ordinance change at a later date.

Item 4C was a discussion for No Parking on E. Robinson St. In December 2020, a citizen called the Development Services Director to inquire about the Parking Schedule of the Town Ordinance. The citizen requested that the Board of Aldermen consider adding E. Robinson St. to the list of Parking Prohibited streets in the Town. Staff has reviewed the area and recommend no parking on E. Robinson St. from S. Spargo St. to S. Davis St. to be added to the list of Parking Prohibited streets in the Town Ordinance. Please see Exhibit 4C. This subject will be brought back for discussion as part of ordinance update and will be scheduled for a public hearing.

Item 4D was regarding the Manufactured/Mobile Home Ordinance Update. During the October 15, 2020 Planning Board Meeting, the Development Services Director asked input from the Planning Board in regard to their interpretation of §153.018 Manufactured/Mobile Homes of the Town Ordinances. Staff interpreted B (3) of the ordinance as true masonry material, not to include cladding or vinyl product. The Planning Board is in favor of this interpretation, and suggested clarifying the ordinance requirement. During the November 19, 2020 meeting, the Planning Board unanimously recommended the attached ordinance update and consistency statement (please see Exhibit 4D). If the Board of Aldermen is in agreement to update the ordinance, a public hearing date will need to be set at the next regular meeting. A future public hearing date will be set for this issue.

Item 4E was regarding abandonment of a right of way. As part of the Conditional Rezoning project off of Dallas Stanley Highway, the Town must adopt a resolution to abandon part of its current right of way. Currently, the Town has approximately 400 feet of right of way extending onto Parcel ID #216368. The existing road continues approximately 170 feet onto the parcel. The right of way will not serve the development. New right of way will be dedicated to the Town, per the rezoning plan. Currently the Town utilizes a section of this right of way to turn around trash trucks. Staff is working with the developer to provide an area for the trucks to make a three-point turn. Please see Exhibit 4E. A preliminary discussion for this topic will be addressed at a later time.

Item 4F was a discussion regarding the upcoming baseball program season. It is the time of year when, historically, preparations are being made for the Town's baseball program and registration to participate in the program is opened. Based on the current pandemic situation, a discussion on the possibility of sponsoring a baseball program is appropriate in order to allow the Recreation Department time to plan and prepare for a potential season. Brandon Whitener, Recreation Director, will be participating in discussions with other area programs in the coming days and this topic will be picked back up for discussion once more information becomes available.

Item 4G was a regarding litter pick up, per request of the Mayor. Mayor Coleman and other Board members are concerned with the growing amount of litter collecting on the side of the Town's streets and would like to discuss adding one (possibly two) part-time position to help with this. The Town will move forward with posting an ad for this role.

At this time, Maria Stroupe, Town Manager, informed everyone that the process of adding security cameras and more police equipment is moving along smoothly. She also announced that the Town is in the process of apply for a grant that would provide body cameras for the police department and cover 100% of the cost.

Alderman Cearley motioned to adjourn, seconded by Alderwoman Morrows, and carried unanimously. (5:57 pm)

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Rick Coleman, Mayor

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Shannon Whittle, Town Clerk