



## TOWN OF WEBSTER

### April 7, 2021, Board Meeting Minutes

The Webster Board of Commissioners met remotely on Wednesday, April 7, 2021, via Zoom for a regularly scheduled board meeting at 5:15 p.m.

**Members/Staff Present:** Mayor Tracy Rodes; Vice-Mayor Leigh Anne Young; Commissioners Allen Davis, Kelly Donaldson, and Danell Moses (arriving after call to order); Town Clerk Debbie Coffey; and Attorney Will Morgan

**Members Absent:** Allan Grant

**Public Present/Public Comment:** James McGinnis

**Call to Order/Ethics Statement:** Mayor Tracy Rodes called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. and read the Ethics Statement. No board member expressed any conflict of interest.

#### **Approval of Agenda:**

*MOTION: Commissioner Young moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Moses seconded. Motion carried.*

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the March 3, 2021, meeting were emailed prior to the meeting for review.

*MOTION: Commissioner Moses moved to approve the Minutes. Commissioner Davis seconded. Motion carried.*

#### *CONSENT AGENDA*

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#### **Financial Report:**

February Financial Statements were provided prior to the meeting. March transactions currently include income of \$9,774.80 and expenses of \$27,018.84. Current Account Balances as of today are:

\$ 97,763.61 - Select Business Checking

\$ 85,412.72 - Select Banking and Trust Money Market

*MOTION: Commissioner Moses moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Young seconded. Motion carried.*

#### *ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS*

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#### **Mayor's Report:**

- Mayor Rodes has received additional complaints about speeding dump trucks on North River Road. Mayor Rodes emailed the deputies working Webster and requested additional enforcement measures be taken. Deputy Yopp reported issuing two citations in February and eight in March.
- Information about the Southwestern North Carolina Home Consortium will be available for review in town hall. As part of the effort to create affordable housing, HB-401/S349 has been introduced and will limit municipalities zoning authority. The NCLM has requested local elected officials contact state legislators to oppose the bill. Mayor Rodes encouraged board members to contact Rep. Mike Clampitt and Sen. Kevin Corbin to oppose the proposed bill.
- Complaints have been received about dogs off leash in town. Jackson County Animal Control was contacted by the complainant, and the AC Officer spoke with the dogs'



owners. Letters have been drafted to the dog owners on behalf of the town to request compliance with the Webster Animal Control Ordinance.

- The Annual Planning Session will be next Wednesday (April 14) to work on the 2021-2022 Budget. Mayor Rodes encouraged the board to consider projects and scope of services in areas such as landscaping and sidewalk repairs. Webster will receive \$110,000 as part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), but final guidelines are not available at this time.
- The board may consider returning to in-person meetings in the future.

#### **Council Members' and Clerk's Reports:**

- The clerk reported that the upgrade to Quickbooks 2021 is completed.
- Commissioner Young reported that the Planning Board will share the Webster LUP during their May meeting. The Planning Board has also been invited to participate in the Annual Work Session next Tuesday.
- Commissioner Young attended the virtual meeting of the Jackson County Pedestrian and Greenways Plan Steering Committee today. She shared that the top two projects were located in Webster. The sidewalk project was to fill gaps in the existing sidewalk network and add crosswalks and ADA accessibility. The highest ranking non-sidewalk project was a shared street/advisory lane for Buchanan Loop. Additional information is available on the Jackson County Walks website.

#### *OLD BUSINESS*

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#### **Jackson County Municipal Grant:**

Jackson County Parks and Recreation Director Rusty Ellis recommended that the picnic tables be delivered to the ballfield site. He may be able to help arrange for assembly of the tables also. Attorney Morgan reported that the MOU has been drafted and sent to the county attorney for review. Mayor Rodes noted that the MOU may not be necessary until Park and Recreation finalizes plans for a Pocket Park at this location. Trash service may also fall under the county's jurisdiction.

#### *NEW BUSINESS*

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#### **Donation Request for Webster Cemetery:**

Neil Morgan requested an increase in the annual donation to the Cemetery Fund to \$1,400. The fiscal year 2020-2021 donation has been approved at \$1,000 and will be processed this month. It was the consensus of the board to review the donation amount for future budget years at the Annual Work Session next Tuesday.

#### *ADJOURNMENT*

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*MOTION: Commissioner Young moved to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.*

#### **Next Meeting:**

Annual Work Session April 14, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 5, 2021, at 5:15 p.m.

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Tracy Rodes, Mayor

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Debbie Coffey, Town Clerk