

Town of Hertford
Work Session Meeting (In Person/Facebook)
Monday, November 28, 2022 – 6:00PM
Horace Reid Community Center, 305 W Grubb Street

The Council of the Town of Hertford held a Work Session Meeting at the Horace Reid Community Center (also by Facebook) on Monday, November 28, 2022, at 6:00 PM.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Earnell Brown, Mayor

Jerry Mimplitsch

Ashley Hodges, Mayor Pro Tem

Connie Brothers

COUNCIL MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Sandra Anderson

STAFF PRESENT

Janice McKenzie Cole, Interim Town Manager

Gina Durante, Town Clerk

A quorum was present.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The invocation was led by Town Clerk Durante and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Hodges to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilman Mimplitsch and unanimously approved with the vote as follows:

Councilman Mimplitsch aye

Mayor Pro Tem Hodges aye

Connie Brothers aye

Mayor Brown aye

CONSENT AGENDA

None

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT

Kari Dunlap of Martin Starnes & Associates presented the Audit FY 2021-2022.
(Presentation attached.)

CONTINUED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Cemetery Rules and Regulations

Manager Cole presented Council with a draft of Rules and Regulations for Hertford cemeteries, as there are no existing rules and regulations. The draft has been modelled after another local municipality's regulations. Items to be included are confirmation with us by undertakers in burial plot locations, purchasers of multiple plots passing away and future designation of the plots they purchased, deeds being recorded at the Perquimans County Register of Deeds effective January 2023, headstone and footstone requirements, placement and removal of flowers/items on gravesites, and digitizing the process. Council was asked to read through the draft and will vote on it at the December Regular Session Meeting on December 12th.

Mandatory ARP Policy Resolutions

Manager Cole explained that the federal government requires units of government to have certain policies in place as a prerequisite to receive and spend ARP funds. Five resolutions based on templates provided by the NC School of Government and adapted to fit Hertford were given to Council for review. Council was asked to read through the draft and will vote on it at the December Regular Session Meeting on December 12th.

Manager's Report

Manager Cole addressed the citizens' concerns expressed at the last Town Council Meeting on November 14th, regarding the excessive speed at which vehicles are coming off the S-Bridge and onto Church Street. She spoke with the Perquimans County Sheriff. They have the radar speed detector that originated with the Hertford Police Department and have been able to get it working, but they do not have the attachment that would allow them to change the speeds and it is set at 25mph. The Sheriff's Department has provided information about a radar speed detector that would collect time and speed data so they can better gauge traffic patterns. Manager Cole is reviewing that information and will probably ask Council to authorize purchasing two with Powell Bill funds. Manager Cole also acknowledged that speeds on Dobbs Street are a concern and will be monitored. Manager Cole thanked Nora Crouch for the

artwork that has been hung in the Community Center. She also stated that on Saturday, December 3rd, the bathrooms at Missing Mill Park will be open for public use during the Christmas Parade.

COUNCIL REPORTS/CONCERNS

Councilman Mimplitsch expressed his excitement to be through the audit and have the report in a timely manner. He thanked the finance team and acknowledged the extra work Mayor Pro Tem Hodges and Manager Cole have been putting in during the audit. Looking forward to the Hertford holiday activities that are starting this weekend.

Mayor Pro Tem Hodges agreed with Councilman Mimplitsch regarding the audit being completed. He also feels that a rate study would be very beneficial to the town and for budgeting purposes. He noted that the Grand Illumination will be Friday, December 2nd, and the Parade on Saturday, December 3rd.

Councilwoman Brothers thanked Council, Manager Cole, and the town staff for their hard work in moving Hertford forward. She was notified about a large pothole in front of the high school that could affect parade participants if they don't know about it. Councilwoman Brothers also mentioned the Grand Illumination, Hertford Christmas Parade, and the Christmas dinner she is hosting on Sunday, December 4th at 3 PM.

Mayor Brown asked that the Brothers and Cole families be kept in our community's prayers amid health issues. She announced that Manager Cole is receiving the prestigious Dogwood Award from the North Carolina Attorney General for her contributions in community service. She thanked the volunteers of Seeds of Success: Vera and Craig Riddick, Beverly Brown, Devin Wilder, Tammy Miller White, Velvet Sanford, and SOS Director Marvin Sutton. In November SOS held etiquette instruction which Councilwoman Anderson helped with by teaching table setting and table etiquette. The newly learned skills were put to use at the SOS mock Thanksgiving dinner. The 20-25 kids in attendance enthusiastically set the table, brought out the food, practiced their table etiquette, and helped with clean up. It was a huge success as these skills build self-confidence and self-esteem in our youth. Nurturing growth, esteem, and maturity in the kids is what the program is about. Mayor Brown thanked Council for providing the space for SOS and thanked Manager Cole and Sarah Nixon for ensuring the space is always open for them. An item Mayor Brown would like to see added to SOS in 2023 is geography. She wants the kids to learn and be curious about places near and far beyond Hertford, NC. Another item she would like to see added is instruction to the kids in finances and how to allocate money for spending and saving.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Brown read the announcements.

Additional announcements included: a fundraiser the Dance Studio is hosting at the Community Center with vendors; the Hertford Methodist Church will be having their nativity celebration on Sunday, December 4th at 5 PM; Toys for Tots will be distributing toys at the Perquimans County Rec Center on December 14th, time to be announced.

Councilman Mimlitsch made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Hodges seconded the motion. It passed 4-0 with the following voice vote:

Councilman Mimlitsch	aye
Mayor Pro Tem Hodges	aye
Councilwoman Brothers	aye
Mayor Brown	aye

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.