



## **CONTINUED BUSINESS**

### Manager's Report

Manager Cole announced that there will be a Planning and Zoning Meeting on Monday, August 15, 2022. A public hearing will be required, and an advertisement must be put in the newspaper the first week of August. The lease on the Lansing building next to the Perquimans County Senior Center is being taken over. The person taking over the lease would like to use the facility for boat and RV storage. Currently, that building is zoned for boat storage but not RVs. The meeting with the Planning and Zoning Board is to advise the board how he intends to utilize the indoor/outdoor space for storage. A downtown Church Street building owner may be at the meeting regarding the ordinances for apartments they are wanting to build upstairs in one of the storefronts. Additionally, there is a parking requirement for apartments and/or vacation rentals that needs to be addressed.

The ABC Board had a performance evaluation done by Raleigh and certain items will be added to their procedures. A significant outcome of the evaluation is that in the future, Hertford will be receiving a smaller percentage of the net profits than in the past. Based on the amount the town received this year, the new amount would be approximately \$50,000 less. Manager Cole gave Council a copy of the review.

We are still waiting to officially hear about the viable utility grant we submitted. The preliminary engineers report for the USDA Search Grant that was started over a year ago was approved so Hertford will be eligible to apply for certain search grants. We are awaiting the official word and additional information.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Manager Cole stated that we had applied for the REDD (Rural Economic Development Division) Grant through the Department of Commerce which has three categories for transforming rural communities. We tried to purchase some abandoned and neglected houses through one of the categories, but we were not approved. Another category of that grant is the downtown revitalization. For this category, Allison Platt has proposed to submit a grant on our behalf for construction drawings. She would also include improvements to the sidewalks on Church and Market Streets, and possibly a parking area in the downtown area in the grant application. The due date is September 2022. The grant does not actually allow for the work to be done or the construction but would allow for construction drawings up to \$175,000. Ms. Platt will not be imposing a fee on the town to develop the grant, but there is a provision in the grant to allow for 5% as payment if the grant is successful and that would be her fee. Manager Cole asked Council for a consensus to allow Ms. Platt to proceed with developing the grant. Council unanimously supports Ms. Platt to proceed with the grant development.

## COUNCIL REPORTS/CONCERNS

Councilwoman Anderson said that there were 29 vendors who signed up for last weekend's SML Flea Market. She thanked all who participated and came to the event.

Councilman Mimlitsch has been working with the classic car and motorcycle show for the Indian Summer Festival in September. Only a few people have signed up to show a car or motorcycle and they are looking for more. The show has been opened to tractors, too. Registration is available online.

Councilwoman Brothers said that she and her family attended the July 4<sup>th</sup> festivities at the Albemarle Plantation. The contractor who was lined up to do fireworks cancelled but they were able to find another contractor from Edenton. Councilwoman Brothers said the show was spectacular and lasted 17 minutes. The cost was approximately \$6-7K. She asked Council if Hertford could consider hiring him for July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023. There was discussion amongst Council and the Town Manager. Manager Cole stated that she has looked into how this was done in the past, and either individuals or an organization has sponsored the fireworks display for Hertford. We do not have a large Parks and Recreation Department to take on that event. Councilwoman Brothers concluded her report by reminding everyone of the business owners' appreciation luau on August 27<sup>th</sup> at 5pm that is being held at Central Park.

Mayor Brown announced that on July 27<sup>th</sup>, the Seeds of Success, in collaboration with three churches, is hosting Vacation Bible School from 6-8PM, so there is no conflict with SOS activities from 1-3PM. Pastor French has coordinated the Bible School event. On Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, the Fire Department will be hosting safety and water play for the kids at Central Park from 1-3PM.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

Mayor Brown asked for a motion to go into closed session. Councilman Mimlitsch made the motion and Councilwoman Brothers seconded. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote:

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

Council went into closed session pursuant to NCGS§143-318.11 (5), citing real estate acquisition at 6:22PM

Council came out of closed session.

Councilman Mimplitsch made a motion to adjourn, and Councilwoman Anderson seconded. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote:

Councilwoman Brothers	aye
Mayor Pro Tem Hodges	aye
Councilman Mimplitsch	aye
Councilwoman Anderson	aye
Mayor Brown	aye

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30PM.