

Town of Macclesfield  
Board of Commissioners  
Regular Session Board Meeting  
August 14, 2023 @ 5:00 pm

The meeting was called to order at 5:07 pm. Members in attendance were Mayor Pro-Tem Paula Lewis, Commissioner Charles Lewis, Commissioner Jean Wooten-Jiles, Commissioner Joyce Braxton, Public Works Supervisor Benjy Lassiter, Town Clerk Gracieann Etheridge, and Town Administrator Jennifer Stanley. The citizen in attendance was Mrs. Shelby Wooten. All stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Commissioner C Lewis made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Wooten-Jiles seconded the motion and with none opposed the motion passed.

Commissioner Wooten-Jiles made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner P Lewis seconded the motion and with none opposed the motion passed.

The board recognized Ms. Shelby Wooten to speak. She stated that Commissioner Braxton would speak for her. Commissioner Braxton stated that there were some questions regarding the memorial benches. When would the order be placed? Were the benches going to be secured? Where would the benches be placed? Mrs. Stanley explained that the benches would be placed in the town common, scattered. If there are more bought than would fit at the town common, they could be placed in the park area. Ms. Wooten requested that her bench be placed in the town common. She was assured that it would be.

The board began to discuss old business. The first item was the new accounting software from the league. The town has received more definite pricing and a resolution for the board to approve to move ahead with the new software. Commissioner Wooten-Jiles made a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner P Lewis seconded the motion and with none opposed the motion carried.

Mrs. Stanley reported that the Meals on Wheels program is ongoing with five residents currently participating and there are three to four still being verified. Commissioner P Lewis stated that there needs to be more people to deliver the meals.

Mrs. Stanley reported that there has been \$33,000 sent to Debt set-off.

The vendor fees need to be decided on before we can send out the vendor forms. Commissioner Braxton made a motion to treat all vendors equally and all should pay vendor fees as described on the vendor application. Commissioner Wooten-Jiles asked that the language be clarified for non-profits. Commissioner Wooten-Jiles seconded the motion and with none opposed the motion carried. All vendors will follow the fees listed on the vendor form.

As discussion began on the new business, it was explained that we are still waiting for a contract from C Phase electrical.

Mrs. Stanley explained that the PART F grant gives points for community involvement surveys. There was a survey included in the Commissioner packets for review. Commissioner C Lewis made a motion to include the survey in the bills when they go out this month. Commissioner Braxton seconded the motion and with none opposed the motion passed. Mrs. Etheridge and Mrs. Stanley will make sure the surveys are included in the bills. Mrs. Stanley will also continue working on the Hometown Grant and submit it as soon as the other two letters of support come in.

The WWTP project "Amended Offer & Acceptance" was discussed, and Commissioner P Lewis made a motion to approve the Amended Offer & Acceptance. Commissioner Wooten-Jiles seconded the motion and with none opposed the motion carried.

Commissioner Braxton made a motion to accept the updated fee schedule with the removal of the Park/Shelter Rental Fees and the Animal registration fees. Commissioner Wooten-Jiles seconded the motion and with none opposed the motion passed.

The annual contracts for the cemetery upkeep and the WWTP backup ORC are due for renewal. Commissioner Wooten-Jiles made a motion to accept both contracts for renewal. Commissioner Braxton seconded the motion and with none opposed that motion passed. It was asked why the old water tower did not have "Town of Macclesfield" painted on it. It was explained that when Mrs. Hurdle was here, she wanted the logo painted on the towers. It was too expensive to do so. Mr. Lassiter will contact the company to get them to come back and paint it.

Mrs. Stanley began the finance report. She noted that NCCMT 1819 made over \$1000 in interest this past month. Moving the CDs to NCCMT was a very good decision for the town.

Commissioner Wooten-Jiles asked how the ARP funds were spent. Mrs. Stanley explained that the town spent the ARP funds on salaries and benefits and it is all spent.

Mr. Lassiter reported that the hold up on the ATM project is due to confusion on the attorney's part. He thought the town was selling the lot to the credit union. It was explained that the town would retain ownership of the lot and would be leasing the ATM machine from the bank. The county requires a deed before they can issue a parcel number. Mr. Lassiter will reach out to the attorney again.

Mr. Lassiter spoke with Mr. Rich Moore regarding the bike lanes through town. DOT has done the surveys and drawings for the state roads. Mr. Moore is going to take those drawings and fit them to the town roads. The conversation also arose regarding the possible expansion of the water and sewer lines and the possibility of using grant funding to do so.

Mrs. Shelby Wooten asked if the state is aware of the bridge sinking. Mr. Lassiter will find out when they will repair it.

Mr. Lassiter reported that there have been 15 grass letters sent out and the deadline is tomorrow for compliance. He will ride through to see who has complied.

It was explained that the work being done across from the grocery store is from the catch basin in the storm drain was cracked and it was beyond the capabilities of town staff. A contractor was brought in and they repaired the catch basin and the job was finished today.

Mr. Lassiter has spoken with Electricities regarding tree trimming. They are still waiting for their attorney to complete review of the contracts. He has also spoken with a contractor from Lucama and is awaiting a call back.

There is a house on E Edgecombe (Shelby Webb's) that is up for sale and the realtor has called and is asking about the driveway. The driveway is a town right of way. The board agreed to leave it as a right of way with the understanding that the homeowner will not build any permanent structure in that area.

Commissioner Wooten-Jiles asked if we should be concerned about PFAS. Mr. Lassiter explained that PFAS is not a concern right now. The state is still trying to figure it out themselves.

Commissioner C Lewis asked if there has been anything decided regarding the fire tax. Mrs. Stanley stated that she would follow up with the attorney.

Commissioner C Lewis also made a recommendation to build a BBQ Shelter in the far corner of the Community Building lot. It would only need to be big enough to have a cooker and maybe a table or two and be out of the weather. Mr. Lassiter stated that he would work on getting pricing.

Commissioner Braxton asked again about the camper at Mr. Tim Cole's store. It was stated that the man is definitely living in it but Mr. Lassiter explained that the town would have to prove that he is living there. There is nothing specific in the ordinance stating that you can't live in a camper in the town limits. You cannot live in a business district. Mr. Lassiter will follow up with Patrick on the proper procedure. He will also research the process of an Administrative Search Warrant.

Commissioner Braxton mentioned that Ms. Jalbert and Mr. Moon are asking if there is anything in the ordinance regarding residents having a pony. Mr. Lassiter stated that the ordinance only states no livestock, it does not say anything about poultry (chickens).

She also asked about the cleaning of the curbs and gutters throughout town. Mr. Lassiter stated that it is on the board at the shop to complete.

Mrs. Wooten asked about the spot on her street that always has water standing. Mr. Lassiter stated that he would call the county and if necessary, go over the head of the supervisor there.

Commissioner Wooten-Jiles mentioned that the town needs to be sure to have a housing committee. She mentioned reading about the trouble Farmville is in by not having one. Mrs. Stanley reminded the board that the town has a housing committee, Commissioner Wooten-Jiles is the Chairperson and Commissioner P Lewis is the Vice Chair.

She asked about the Dollar General. Mrs. Stanley stated that the last conversation she had with them, they stated that they needed more land than the lots we have available.

Commissioner Wooten-Jiles stated that she saw Representative Wellingham and reminded him again that we are still interested in getting the ABC Store back in town.

Mrs. Stanley reported that the Children's Library would be kicking off at the park on Wednesday, August 23, 2023 at 4:30 pm. She asked that any available to show up to support. Mrs. Stanley also requested that the Town Hall close at 4:00 pm to allow Mrs. Etheridge to be able to attend since Mrs. Stanley will be in Raleigh for training that day.

Commissioner Wooten-Jiles made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Braxton seconded the motion and with no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.