

**Town of Macclesfield
Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting Minutes
Town of Macclesfield Town Hall
April 11, 2022 at 2:00pm**

Members Present

Emily Turner, mayor
Paul Lewis, mayor pro-tem
Charles Lewis, commissioner
Joyce Braxton, commissioner
Jean Wooten-Jiles, commissioner

Staff Present

Benji Lassiter, operations manager
Christie Cobb, town Clerk

Others Present

Pam Hurdle
Rich Moore

The Board of Commissioners regular meeting was called to order at 2:00 by the Mayor Turner
Invocation by J. Wooten-Jiles, commissioner.
Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Turner.

The Board reviewed and approved the agenda: Motion to approve by P. Lewis and Second by J. Braxton. Vote 4-0 passed.

The Board reviewed and amended minutes to include ATM information researched by J. Wooten-Jiles and followed up by Mayor E. Turner. Motion to approve by P. Lewis. Second by J. Braxton. Vote 4-0 passed.

Scheduled Business: Presentation by Rich Moore to follow up on WWTP grant money. Grant will be formally approved on Wednesday, April 13, 2022. Budget has been revised from 3 million to 4 million after the revised budget. September 2021 began asset inventory and funding, testing and evaluation and planning.

May 2 applicants considered and sewer grant will likely be renewed.

As a part of the WWTP grant the board discussed and reviewed two resolutions. The first resolution is to authorize the American Rescue Plan Application Sanitary Sewer Improvements. The second resolution is to Approve Viable Utility Provisions for the American Rescue Plan Act Applications. These acts signify that Mayor Turner will be the town representative for the process. Resolutions were reviewed. Motion to approve both resolutions as written by P. Lewis. Second by J. Wooten-Jiles. Vote 4-0 approved.

There will be a challenge to get contractors to complete work, which may lead to an extension in the timeline. The audit is in process, and the delay is currently not a problem. No money will be spent until the audit is complete. Change orders may impact the budget as changes are needed.

Old Business: Review of Old Business to follow-up from last meeting. Grant was addressed by Rich Moore. Mayor Turner has spoken to T. Varnell on the phone about no change in board decision of fees. No more follow up is needed.

Discussion of Citizen Concerns. No citizens were present but several have complained about the 7% sales tax increase that will take effect in August 2022. Another citizen mentioned the holes in the cemetery drive. B. Lassiter said dragging was needed and bush hog work will be done as soon as possible.
A question was raised by P. Lewis about how often the water lines are flushed. The lines are flushed once per month.

New Business:

Papers are being signed today at Truist to access the 2 CDs by C. Cobb, J. Jiles-Wooten, C. Lewis.
Bank Statements reviewed, p. 2 of packet.
Transaction Query for the month reviewed p.3 of packet.
Budget to Actual reviewed p. 3-8
Budget Calendar reviewed

Packet attached.

Insurance Costs, p. 11 A broker has been contacted to check rates. Decisions will be made during the budget process.

In viewing Financial Reports, the LeBleu water dispenser has very little use. Motion by J. Braxton to discontinue LeBleu Service. Motion was seconded by P. Lewis.

P. Hurdle discussed the report she sent to the league. P.13 shows the questions asked by the League.

P. Hurdle discussed travel policy guidelines. The board reviewed recommendations. A motion was made by J. Braxton to approve and accept the travel policy. Second by P. Lewis. Vote 4-0 Policy adopted.

The Audit Contract is in process. Details and costs are to come. 20-21 audit needs to be followed immediately by the 21-22 audit.

Benji discussed grant applications in place, possible grant ideas being a community garden, basketball court, tractor, street sweeper,

P. Lewis discussed that the parks need work. Beer cans, syringes, and vehicles are seen at the park. The board discussed options to help with this issue. Cameras, lights discussed, calling the Sheriff's Office discussed. Benji will contact Chief Harrell about the camera grant that Pinetops received. Suggestion was made by P. Hurdle to look into a Community Watch.

P. Hurdle reminded the Board that they should be preparing to make Budget Suggestions. P. Lewis expressed the need for law enforcement to be back in town part time. This issue will be brought up again at budget time after further discussion and research about contracting deputies and the needs of the town. The Sheriff's office says the contract price is \$30 per hour. E. Turner will call Chief Deputy Gene Harrell to invite him to speak to the Board on May 9, 2022.

P. Hurdle advised that ARPA funds may be used to offset unexpected salary and professional expenses. Commissioner Lewis was excused to leave for his bank appointment with Truist.

B. Lassiter shared prices of local cemetery plots ranging from \$800-3,000. Our current price is \$300 for residents and \$500 for others. P. Lewis made a motion to increase our cemetery plots to \$800 each, for all, with the price increase to be implemented on July 1. Second by J. Wooten-Jiles. Vote 3-0 passed. E. Turner will include this information in a letter to the public to go out in April utility bills.

B. Lassiter also followed up about the town will no longer be digging graves. Motion to have Funeral Services dig their own graves beginning immediately by J. Braxton. Second by J. Wooten-Jiles. Vote 3-0 passed.

Commissioners Concerns:

E. Turner discussed the ongoing street cleaning and the expectation that all streets/gutters should be cleaned by July 3 event.

J. Wooten-Jiles discussed the need for a Group Text/phone call system such as BLACKBOARD connect would be useful in communicating with citizens. C. Cobb will follow up on options.

Motion to adjourn by P. Lewis. Second by J. Braxton. Vote 3-0. Meeting Adjourned.

Announcements:

Upcoming Essentials Training in June (Turner and Wooten-Jiles interested)

Next Board Meeting May 9 at 2:00

Ethics Training May 26 at Town Hall at 1:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted on Monday, May 9, 2022.

Christie Cobb, Town Clerk

Agenda pages as referenced in these minutes follow and are a part of the official record.

_____, Mayor