

Town of New London
Board of Commissioner's Meeting
May 2, 2023

Mayor Tate Daniels welcomed everyone and opened the Commissioner's Meeting. Present for the meeting were Mayor Daniels, Commissioners Bill Peak, Johnny Chestnut, Sid Lanier, Timothy Higgins, and Town Manager Susan Almond. Commissioner Richard Kimmer was absent from the meeting. Visitors present at the meeting were John & Cathy Kimmer, Mitzie Lanier and Bill Rogers.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Chestnut. Mayor Daniels asked if there were any changes to the agenda. He added 2 items to the agenda. Commissioner Chestnut made a motion to approve the agenda with the changes, seconded by Commissioner Lanier. Motion carried.

Mayor Daniels asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes from the April meeting. There being no corrections, Commissioner Peak made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Higgins. Motion carried.

Bill Rogers Request- Commissioner Chestnut made a motion to approve Mr. Roger's request to abandon a portion of the street right of way at the end of East Depot St, seconded by Commissioner Peak. Motion carried.

Sewer Report- Commissioner Peak reported that the new refrigeration sampler was delivered as well as 3 new residential pumps to be kept in inventory.

Christmas Decorations- Mrs. Almond noted that the "Merry Christmas" ground mount sign was ordered along with the Sno-Man and Sno-Woman displays from Mosca Design.

Code Enforcement- No new issues to report.

Park Maintenance- Commissioner Higgins reported that a panel needs to be replaced on the playground unit at the old park. Mrs. Almond will communicate with the manufacturer on this issue.

Mrs. Almond reported on the following:

- Audit Proposals- Mr. Tony Brewer with Eddie Carrick's office in Lexington provided an audit proposal totaling \$7,200. Mr. Travis Hardee from Strickland Hardee, PLLC also provided a quote to complete the town's audit for a cost of \$10,000. Commissioner Chestnut made a motion to accept Tony Brewer's quote, seconded by Commissioner Peak. Motion carried unanimously.
- Land Use Plan Update- COG will host an Open House event on Tuesday, May 9th from 6:00 – 8:00 at the New London Community Center. Community members will hear from planners about the land use planning process and have opportunities to provide feedback on their vision for New London. The Town Board is encouraged to attend.

- Bulk Waste Pick-up in New London- Saturday, May 6th.
- June Board Meeting date has been changed to Tuesday, June 13th at 7pm at the New London Community Center.

Mayor Daniels gave an update on the following:

- First reading of the Proposed 2023-2024 Budget- the Town Board was given a copy of the proposed budget for review. Following discussion, Commissioner Chestnut made a motion to set a Public Hearing at the June 13th Board Meeting to hear the second reading of the budget, seconded by Commissioner Higgins. Motion carried unanimously.
- Fiberon Tax Incentive- Fiberon met the specifications for the incentive grant. Commissioner Peak made a motion to pay Fiberon \$68,367.41 for the second grant installment, seconded by Commissioner Higgins. Motion carried.
- Sewer rates- the Board reviewed the proposed sewer rates which are based on the projected 8% increase from the City of Albemarle. Minimum sewer rate is proposed to increase from \$28.25 to \$30.25.
- Upgrade camera system- The Board agreed to proceed with upgrading the camera and DVR system for the Town Hall and to get a proposal for upgrading the cameras at the old park.
- Water tap at new shelter- Commissioner Peak made a motion to approve placing a water tap at the new rustic shelter, seconded by Commissioner Lanier. Motion carried unanimously.
- Board of Adjustments Meeting Update- a public hearing was held Wednesday, April 19, 2023 and the New London Board of Adjustments voted to approve Fiberon's request for a height variance to construct a building at the 2NL facility that is approximately 95 feet in height.
- Powell Bill- We are reaching our maximum accumulation of Powell Bill allocations received from the state. The Board is considering areas in town that need street and sidewalk improvements.
- Tree at Random Hills- Mauldin's Tree Service removed the tree that fell on Random Drive during a recent storm.

A Closed Session was called. The Commissioner's Meeting reconvened. Commissioner Chestnut made a motion to approve the new pay scale effective July 1, 2023, seconded by Commissioner Peak. Motion carried unanimously.

The agenda being accomplished, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Minutes submitted by Susan Almond, Town Manager.