

**TOWN OF MAIDEN**  
**November 10, 2020**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

The Maiden Town Council met on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. for their regularly scheduled meeting, held in the Council Chambers at the Maiden Town Hall.

Present for the meeting were, Mayor Max Bumgarner Jr., Mayor Pro Tem Danny Hipps, Councilmembers Trina Michael, Beth Rudisill, Bob Sigmon, and Ronnie Williams.

Also, present were Town Manager Todd Herms, Town Attorney Scott Conrad and Town Clerk Wanda Barnes.

Others attending: See attached sheet.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Max Bumgarner Jr.

The invocation was given by Mayor Max Bumgarner Jr.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Max Bumgarner Jr.

4. Approval of the Agenda

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BOB SIGMON TO APPROVE THE 10/15/2020 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5-0.**

5. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes 10/15/2020

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DANNY HIPPS TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5-0.**

6. Citizens Request & Concerns

Citizen Samantha Sanders inquiries about the 2020 Fall Festival funds, since the festival was cancelled due to the Covid-19 Executive Order.

Town Manager Todd Herms states that the budget is short due to Covid-19, but the allocated funds would roll back into the fund balance.

Ms. Sanders inquiries about the new equipment for the leaf removal and what are the plans for the old equipment.

Mr. Herms states that the old equipment would be backup to the new equipment.

Mayor Pro Tem Danny Hipps ask if there were any more citizen questions.

Police Chief Tracy Ledford presents Officer Mark Baker recognitions award.

Officer Mark Baker acknowledges Mayor and Councilmembers about working for the best Police Department.

Town Manager Todd Herms acknowledges Town employees for their hard work during the Zeta storm.

## 7. Electricities Presentation

Electricities employee, Charity Barbee discuss Electricities partnership with retail strategies. She states they have work together for many years on town's and city projects. The Town of Maiden invited retail strategies to do some data work. Gathering data is a good step in the right direction. The data will provide information for the project. Retailors have specific requirement when locating to an area. They look at population, demographics, traffic count, and high-income areas. Raleigh, Charlotte and Gastonia are their target areas because they are highly populated. A mobile study was done for the Town of Maiden. The data provided information about where people are shopping and spending their money. Restaurants will be the main target. The first step is to attract the retailors, before restaurants will consider coming. Burger King will have different requirements than a sit-down restaurant. The town property is a big part of the equation. Property owners must be educated on their property, if its available or too high for the market area. They will continue to identify property, go through the process, make pitches and approach retailors to move forward.

Mayor Pro Tem Danny Hipps inquiries about the success of other small towns like Maiden.

Ms. Barbee states that Albemarle is a little larger, but similar to Maiden. It took years, but they had success. Covid-19 has had an effect on retail and restaurants, but some are still expanding. They are aware that the Fire station department location will become available. It will take time, be patient, but it will happen.

Councilmember Sigmon states the town will have a large population increase in the next three to five years and that will help with the project.

Ms. Barbee states it will also depend on the population's median income and the Town's is in the 40's. They also look at the daytime population and the industries in the area is very beneficial to the project. A lot of the people are not aware of the industry in the area.

Councilmember Williams states the expansion of four lane on Highway 16 will be a help to the Town of Maiden.

Ms. Barbee states that it takes time, knowing what property is available and having those building blocks in place. Some cities and towns purchase property, like Gastonia. They are taking on a huge entertainment project. They built a baseball stadium with a brewery and offering loft apartments. When the town owns the property, it gives them more control and flexibility.

Mayor Pro Tem Hipps states there are some creative financing ideas out there to offer the business owners and would like to explore all options.

Ms. Barbee states that some towns offer energy rider assistance to bring retailers in the community. Retailers have a huge impact on the other businesses that the town will attract. The energy rider discount was a really smart move for them to attract businesses.

Mayor Pro Tem Danny Hipps states he is interested in the phone data to see where the Town of Maiden people is going and shopping.

Ms. Barbee states that people drive from South Carolina and Maiden to shop in Gastonia, since they have a variety of retailers.

Councilmember Sigmon states we hope that one person will step out and come to Maiden.

Ms. Barbee states she tries not to disclose information about any area, unless they give her permission. She is from a rural area; therefore, she understands that we have to tell a story of a small town that isn't a Charlotte, Winston Salem or Gastonia.

8. Ordinance/Resolutions/Recognition

- A. Ordinance # 30- 2020 An Ordinance to Amend The FY 2020-2021 Budget in the General Fund.  
(Motion)

Town Manager Todd Herms states that the Town Hall was struck by lightening. This is a budget amendment to receive the insurance check into the budget.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BOB SIGMON TO APPROVE ORDINANCE # 30 – 2020 WITH MOTION CARRIE UNANIMOUSLY 5-0**

- B. Ordinance # 31 – 2020 An Ordinance to Amend The FY 2020-2021 Budget in the General Fund.  
(Motion)

Town Manager Todd Herms states that the budget is being amended to receive the funds for the leaf vac truck.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS TO APPROVE ORDINANCE # 31 – 2020 WITH MOTION CARRIE UNANIMOUSLY 5-0**

- C. Ordinance # 32 -2020 An Ordinance to Amend The FY 2020-2021 Budget to the General Fund  
(Motion)

Town Manager Todd Herms states that the budget is being amended to move the funds from 10561700 & 10564500 into 850 account to make the payment out of one line-item account. It's just an action item. Finance have the authority to move money between line items, if it stays in the same account. It must come before the Council when its two different accounts.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER BETH RUDISILL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BOB SIGMON TO APPROVE ORDINANCE # 32 – 2020 WITH MOTION CARRIE UNANIMOUSLY 5-0**

D. Resolution # 10 – 2020 A Resolution declaring Fire Department Property Surplus (Motion )

Town Manager states that the \$40,000.00 fire department surplus property is a trade-in towards the new air pack equipment.

Councilmember Williams inquiries about the surplus property once it is sold.

Fire Chief Tracy Caldwell states that they have a 15-year life span, therefore they are reusable. We surplus them, since we receive the grant for new air packs.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BOB SIGMON TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 10 – 2020 WITH MOTION CARRIE UNANIMOUSLY 5-0**

9. Old Business

Town Manager Todd Herms states that a discussion was held in the prior meeting about gifts for the employee, fire fighters, committee members and volunteers, since the Town will not host a Christmas party this year. Last year we spent \$7942.30 on the Christmas party. We have a total of 129 people to divide last year's Christmas budget with. Each person would receive a gift card for \$60.00.

Mayor Pro Tem inquiries about the number of part-time employees at the recreation center. Town Manager Todd Herms states the part-time staff have been laid off. We will not bring them back until next March.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR PRO TEM DANNY HIPPS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BOB SIGMON. TO APPROVE GIFT CARDS IN PLACE OF THE CHRISTMAS PARTY. WITH MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 5 – 0**

Town Manager Todd Herms states the Town Christmas parade and luminary options due to the recent role back in the Covid-19 Executive order.

Interim Parks and Recreation Director Keaton Miller state the parade and luminary options and his concerns including virtual.

Mayor Pro Tem Danny Hipps inquiries about the current parade entries.

Mr. Miller states that we have three entries.

Town Manager Todd Herms states that the regular entries have been contacted and made aware of the parade status.

Mayor Pro Tem Danny Hipps states it's would be a great deal of work in two weeks and how would we notify the citizens. He would like to confirm that we are unable to have a normal parade because of the Executive order mass gathering limit.

Town Attorney Scott Conrad confirms the Executive Order.

Town Manager Todd Herms suggests allowing the staff to discuss the options and present it to Council later in the week.

Mayor and Council agree to the Town Mangers suggestion and to host a town Christmas event within the executive order guideline.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR PRO TEM DANNY HIPPS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL. TO APPROVE A CHRISTMAS EVENT WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE ORDER GUIDELINES. WITH MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**5 – 0**

10. Adjourn (Motion)

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRINA MICHAEL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER RONNIE WILLIAMS ADJOURN AT 7:09 PM MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 5-0**

Respectfully Submitted:

Wanda Barnes, Town Clerk

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**Max Bumgarner Jr., Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

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**Wanda Barnes, Town Clerk**