

TOWN OF CARROLLTON
BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, November 1, 2022

Mayor: Pamela Lee

Present: Bo Milton
Warren Long
Clint Gee
Tommy Goodman
Galen Shumaker, Water Operator
C.J. Coleman, Clerk

Guests: Devo Lancaster
Rod Nixon, Liberty National

Be it remembered the Mayor and Board of Aldermen met in regular session on Tuesday, November 1, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order and opened in prayer by Alderman Milton.

Guests:

Candidate for the 5th Circuit Judge, Devo Lancaster, introduced himself to the Board and asked for consideration in the upcoming election.

Rod Nixon, worksite specialist for Liberty National, introduced himself to the Board and presented information about his insurance options. As a thank you for listening to the presentation, he offered the Board members several free items. They also offered to present this information and the free items to town residents who would come to a presentation. The Board thanked Mr. Nixon and said they would consider the offer.

Motion was made by Alderman Milton, seconded by Alderman Goodman to approve the agenda with one addition relating to the Modernization Use Tax. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Alderman Goodman, seconded by Alderman Milton to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the previous meetings and to approve them as emailed and printed. The motion passed unanimously.

Galen Shumaker, water operator, reported on leaks that had been repaired or that needed to be repaired. He also updated the Board on the water billing program status.

Bills

A motion was made by Alderman Milton and seconded by Alderman Long to pay the usual and customary bills as listed. The motion passed unanimously.

Reports

The Mayor gave the following reports:

- At a September Board meeting, the Board of Supervisors approved Tax collector Wilton Neal's agreement with the Towns not to charge them for collecting town taxes. By law, he could charge us up to 5%. This agreement is valid only as long as Wilton is in office.
- The Mayor plans to attend the Mid-Winter MML Conference in January.
- The 2022 Pilgrimage and Pioneer Day Festival was the most successful event to date, both by attendance and by income reported by the vendors.

Old Business

The Board discussed the property at 709 Lexington Street owned by Mr. Charlie Montgomery and how to best address the safety concerns related to the stability of the structure and the issues which are out of compliance with the zoning ordinance. A letter to the Town dated October 8, 2021, from McQueen Structural Engineering, expresses the opinion that the structure, while unsafe as it stands, could be stabilized. Should the structure be demolished, care should be taken not to damage the adjacent structure. This information was presented to the Board at the November 2021 meeting where the matter was passed to the Historic Preservation Commission because of the historic nature of the structure. The Commission declined to address the issue in a discussion with the Mayor, therefore the Town wrote a letter to Mr. Montgomery on December 20, 2021, informing him of the engineer's opinion. There was no response from Mr. Montgomery. Since that time the collection of items in the structure has grown, making it in violation of Sections 5.3.1 and 5.4.5 of the Zoning Ordinance. On motion by Alderman Goodman, seconded by Alderman Milton, the Board voted with no opposition to ask Attorney Lane Greenlee to write a letter to Mr. Montgomery addressing the stability of the structure and the zoning violations.

New Business

On motion by Alderman Milton, seconded by Alderman Gee, the Board voted with no opposition to purchase a 12-14" gas chain saw to replace this one. The Mayor asked Alderman Long to research the best value.

On motion by Alderman Long, seconded by Alderman Goodman, the Board voted with no opposition to record the closing of the west end of Magnolia Street to abutting property owners in the County Deed book. In regard to the street issue on Pelham, the Town is waiting for the engineer's survey before taking action.

On motion by Alderman Milton, seconded by Alderman Long, the Board unanimously approved purchasing a half page ad in the December Issue Delta Business Journal with feature story on Carrollton for \$635.00.

After discussing the issues of parking on W Washington Street beside the Town Hall, on motion by Alderman Milton, seconded by Alderman Gee, the Board votes with no opposition to take no action at this time.

On motion by Alderman Goodman, seconded by Alderman Milton, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Municipal Compliance Questionnaire for the year ending September 30, 2022.

The Mayor presented updated copies of the general and water budgets for this year with the new salary and payroll taxes for the town clerk included. On motion by Alderman Milton, seconded by Alderman Gee, and unanimously approved by the Board, these budgets will be inserted in the September minutes.

On motion by Alderman Milton, seconded by Alderman Long, the Board approved advertising for bids to cut grass and maintain ditches in 2023.

On motion by Alderman Milton, seconded by Alderman Gee, the Board voted with no opposition to determine the cost of new meters and their installation and transfer that amount into the Water Fund from the Modernization Use Tax account and to report that amount on the upcoming Modernization Use Tax report. Instructions for this came from Mark Johnson, Office of the State Auditor.

A comprehensive Technical Assistance Work Plan with Communities Unlimited was spread upon the minutes, reflecting action taken in the September 6, 2022 regular board meeting.

As there was no other business at this time, the Board of Alderman adjourned until the regular December meeting on motion by Alderman Milton and seconded by Alderman Goodman. The motion passed unanimously.

C.J. Coleman, Town Clerk

Pamela R. Lee, Mayor

Following the regular board meeting, the Zoning Board was opened by Chairman Tommy Goodman.

- a) Regarding the abandoned vehicle on Jackson, beside 600 Green belonging to Austin Prudhomme, On motion by Bo Milton, seconded by Clint Gee, the Zoning Board approved with no opposition writing the Prudhommes a registered letter asking them to remove it from the town street within 30 days in accordance with Zoning Ordinance Section 5.4, specifically 5.4.7 which states:
 - 7) Wrecked, damaged, demolished, disabled, disassembled or currently unlicensed vehicles.
 - a) Any wrecked, damaged, demolished, disassembled or disabled vehicle left or permitted to remain upon any portion of the premises other than within a private garage, except when a license for salvaging vehicles has been issued for the property where the vehicles are located and the salvage vehicles are being stored properly pursuant to other applicable provisions of the Zoning Ordinance of Carrollton, Mississippi. Evidence under this subsection for determining whether a vehicle is disabled shall include removed or flat tires, partial or complete dismantling or removal of parts, broken glass, missing major parts such as lights, doors, trunk covers, hoods, or motor parts essential for the lawful, safe operation of the vehicle, or other signs of substantial deterioration. Further evidence shall include growth of vegetation about the vehicle, the positioning of the vehicle in other than an upright or operable manner, and vandalism.
- b) Regarding 500 N Greenville Street, on motion by Pam Lee, seconded by Bo Milton, and approved with no opposition, Tommy Goodman will assess the situation and report back to the Zoning Board.

As there was no other zoning business at this time, the meeting was adjourned.