

Ordinance 2021-01 Annexing Certain Territory to and Bringing within the Town Limits
Ordinance 2020-15 Code of Ethics for the Town Council of Pittsboro

**PITTSBORO TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2021 @ 7:00 PM**

QUORUM:

Jarod Baker - ZOOM
Melodi Ingalls – ZOOM
William Majeske
Jay Thompson – ZOOM
Randy Price – ZOOM

Jim Buddenbaum, Attorney – ZOOM
Shari L. Ping, Clerk Treasurer
Police Chief Scott King – ZOOM
Asst. Police Chief Carl Carson – ZOOM

OTHERS: Jason Love; Town Manager; Steve Maple, Building Comm; Troy Hanna, Tech Support
ZOOM attendees: Rachel Miller, Parks & Rec; Bill Zeunik, Fire Chief; Brian Estes, 130 Lakeside Dr; Jacquelyn Briggs; Kyle Martin, 108 Woodview Dr; Larry Woods, 457 Woodland Place; Lauren Snyder; Linda Thompson, 7722 Quail Creek Trace; Rick Finchum, 517 Woodland Place; Rob Wilson, 409 Karen Ct; Spring Deaton, 86 Woodview Dr; Tom Stinson, 388 Karen Dr; Tom Caldwell, 101 Sterling Dr.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE:

Vice President William Majeske brought the Council Meeting to order by establishing a quorum. All five (5) members are present. Bill then asked the Council, staff and audience to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and to follow with a Moment of Silence.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Vice President Bill Majeske asked for nominations for President. Jay Thompson nominated Bill Majeske, no one seconded. Bill Majeske nominated Jarod Baker. Melodi Ingalls seconded. Bill Majeske took a roll call vote-Melodi-yes, Jay-yes, Randy-yes, Bill-yes, Jarod-yes. Motion passes 5-0.

Bill Majeske asked for nominations for Vice President. Melodi Ingalls nominated Bill Majeske, Jarod Baker seconded. Roll call vote – Melodi-aye, Jay-aye, Randy-aye, Jarod-aye, Bill-aye. Motion passes 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

President Jarod Baker asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the December 15th meeting. Jarod Baker had no corrections, Melodi Ingalls had no corrections, Jay Thompson sent corrections to Shari and she made the corrections, Bill Majeske had no corrections. Bill Majeske made a motion to approve the minutes, Jarod Baker seconded. Jarod took a roll call vote: Melodi-yes, Bill-yes, Jay-yes, Jarod-yes, Randy-abstains. Motion passes 4-1 abstain.

PUBLIC HEARING – ANNEXATION OF FISHER-HILL PROPERTY:

President Jarod Baker opened the Public Hearing for the annexation for the Fisher-Hill Property consisting of 159.121 acres as agriculture zoning. Jarod asked the Council if they had any questions regarding the **Ordinance 2021-01 Annexing Certain Territory to and Bringing within the Town Limits**. The Council had no questions or comments. Jarod then turned the meeting over to the public comments. Larry Woods, 457 Woodland Place, has contacted several of the Council members asking that nothing goes forward on zoning to a PUD. He would like to see the task force organizing plans for the Town to grow and develop. Follow the criteria of where the town wants to go with future development.

Jarod Baker asked if there were any objections to continuing the public hearing to the February 2nd meeting. Council had no issues of continuing. Steve Maple explained that a decision has to be made within 60 days from today. Jim Buddenbaum explained that the petitioner could take it to court and let them decide. Bill Majeske made a motion to continue until the February 2nd meeting. Jay Thompson seconded. Roll call vote – Melodi-yes, Jay-yes, Randy-yes, Bill-yes, Jarod-yes. Motion passes 5-0.

TOWN STAFF REPORTS

TOWN MANAGER:

Jason Love gave an update on the new building-the insulation work is done, start hanging drywall next week. He gave an update on the new meter reading with the changes made to our current system. The readings can be done in about 2 hours with a laptop and antennae.

Jarod Baker asked about the construction progress, is anything being held up at this time? Jason said no, the suspended ceiling should be ready to install in a few weeks. He wants to sit down with Shari to discuss paying for the rest of the construction.

POLICE CHIEF:

Scott King reported the Police Commission meeting was cancelled for January.

Scott gave an update on the building remodel. He is working on getting pricing for signage, HVAC, audio/visual and furnishings separately. He feels the furnishings could be cut in half by researching. Scott is setting up a meeting with the rep from State Bank of Lizton after tonight's meeting.

CLERK TREASURER:

Shari Ping apologized for not getting an updated 60/90 list due to the computers being down. The office was painted on Monday, January 18th since the office was closed. So then rebooting computers didn't go as smooth as we would have liked. The drive thru window is open and people are loving it.

BUILDING MANAGER:

Steve Maple gave a report on 2020 totals. There were 242 permits issued, 86 new homes, and the new assessed value of the town is \$21,921,071.66. They also completed over 1000 inspections. Bill Majeske asked Steve when will Arbor start building in the next section on Baldauf property? Steve explained the process is in the works, all 72 lots have been sold with 20 permits waiting to be approved once the process is complete.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS:

Larry Herring reported there was no meeting.

FIRE BOARD:

Bill Zeunik, Chief, sent the attached report. Nothing to report, they have been working on year end stuff. Bill Majeske reported that the Fire Dept. ended in up good financially. They added another firefighter this year, six (6) firefighters on duty at all times. He reported they did approximately 40-550 more runs in 2020 than in 2019.

PARK AND RECREATION:

Rachel Miller apologized for the late report. She gave an update on what was spent out of the Park Impact Fund. Accomplished a lot such as landscaping, planting trees, updating soccer fields and bleachers for the basketball courts. Working on for 2021-pricing on pickle ball courts, concession stand/storage building for the baseball diamonds.

POLICE COMMISSION:

Scott King reported the January meeting was cancelled.

REDEVELOPMENT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONS:

Jason Love said there is nothing to report.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Steve Maple reported that in December they asked M/I Homes to make some changes to their plans and we should have them soon. At the next week's meeting M/I Homes will be asking for the rezone as well as Arbor Homes. Not sure if they will vote or continue to the next meeting.

Steve Maple reported that a lot of cables are coming into the Town underground. Jarod asked if this will be available to the Town residents? Steve feels it will be commercial only. Jason told Jarod that one of the companies is Endeavor. They are providing the internet to our new water plant.

CONTRACTED BUSINESS:

Eric Wathen, RQAW was not available. Jason gave an update on the new water plant. Dates have been set up for Filter Commissioning around the 2nd or the 7th of February. Training will be around the 10th or 12th of February. We should be ramping up and coming online around the 12th or 15th of February.

OLD BUSINESS

Cares Act – Jarod Baker asked Jay to give an update. Jay reported the encryption of the police radios should be in the bank today. He asked Shari if she had a chance to look at the account, but she was not able to due to computers being down. Jay asked Jason about the audio/visual in the new building. He submitted a quote and they won't pay off of a quote. He asked Jason if he had received a bill and he said no since the new building isn't online using the service yet. Jason will send an email asking for a bill to submit.

Code of Ethics for Town Council – Jarod Baker opened the discussion for this Ordinance. He is concerned about some of the lines in the ordinance. Some of the verbiage is not appropriate for our needs. We should always have the best interest of our residents when considering any issue in Town. Melodi Ingalls agrees we should always have a Code of Ethics but the language is wrong and should be looked into further. Jay Thompson suggested looking into seeing if the County has a Code of Ethics or other small towns, and asked if there is one for the employees of the Town? Jim Buddenbaum said he is not aware of any for the employees. Jim explained why it even came to the Council. Jay Thompson explained that when he came into the Town Hall to be sworn in, he asked if he needed to go take a drug test since he is an employee of the Town? Shari Ping said no, Council members do not need to be tested. Jarod Baker asked Jim Buddenbaum if this Ordinance needed to be voted on to vote it down? Jim Buddenbaum said it should be noted in the minutes so a motion would be ideal. Jarod then asked for a motion to approve **Ordinance 2020-15 Code of Ethics for the Town Council of Pittsboro**. Jarod made the motion, Jay Thompson seconded. Roll call vote – Melodi-no, Jay-no, Bill-no, Randy-no, Jarod-no. Motion voted down-5-0.

Police Commission Appointments – Jarod Baker explained that these needed to be redone as Council appointments. Landon Karst and Melodi Ingalls are the two (2) that need to be re-appointed. Jarod made a motion to appoint them to a 3-year term 2021-2023. Roll call vote – Jay-yes, Randy-yes, Bill-yes, Jarod-yes.

Jason Love asked about the Code of Ethics Ordinance being introduced in 2020, can Randy Price vote since he wasn't on the Council then? Jim Buddenbaum said he could. Jason just wanted the records to be correct.

Executive Order set to Expire 1/31/2021 – Jarod Baker explained how we operate our meetings remotely and the office is closed. He asked how the other Council members felt about this. Bill Majeske would like to see the boards and commissions meet in person as long as masks and social distancing rules are followed. Jay Thompson reported several people he has talked with would like to see the office open since several months ago we had an ordinance stating we should be open today. Randy Price agrees with Bill that we should open meetings for the Council and other commissions and keep the office closed until January 31st. Jay Thompson asked Scott King how he felt about opening the police lobby. Scott said the lobby is small and the door to the offices is locked at all times. Melodi Ingalls asked Shari Ping how she felt. Shari said the residents are using the drive thru window and they are loving it. She feels there is no need to open the doors. Jason is concerned about opening to the public for meetings since our conference room is so small. The room is full with just the Council, attorney and staff. Jarod would love to go back to normal. But the space is an issue. He opened it up to those who feel they need to be in person that they can come to the Town Hall for meetings. Randy Price asked about continuing the meetings via ZOOM for the public to be able to participate. Jarod sees the ZOOM being available for a long time. Jim Buddenbaum explained that we could rescind Ordinance 2020-14, and pass a resolution with the correct wording. Town Buildings are closed to the public but can enter with an appointment, Council/Commission members can attend meetings at their option, public meetings closed to the public, and keep ZOOM and Facebook postings available. Jarod Baker made a motion to consent to the amendments to Ordinance 2020-14 as mentioned above. Melodi Ingalls seconded. Roll call vote – Melodi-yes, Jay-yes, Randy-yes, Bill-yes, Jarod-yes. Motion passes 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Construction Standards Manual – Jason Love reported it is not complete but should have next week.

Pay raises for Town Manager, Clerk Treasurer and Police Chief – Jason explained that per the salary ordinance and salary manual the Town Council needs to approve the raises for these three (3). Bill Majeske made a motion to give a 3% pay raise for the Town Manager, Clerk Treasurer and Police Chief as approved in the budget. Jarod Baker seconded. Roll call vote – Melodi-yes, Jay-yes, Randy-yes, Bill-yes, Jarod-yes. Motion passes 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jarod Baker read a comment from Kyle Martin concerning the technology of the meetings on ZOOM. Jarod explained how we are working to improve our audio system.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Jarod Baker asked for any other comments from the Council. Jay Thompson reported that a couple of people have been asking about putting a survey on our website regarding the rezoning issues and let the public make their comments known. The link could be put on our utility bills for the survey.

Jay asked Jason if he had a date for opening the new building. Jason did not have a date yet.

Jay then asked about the Ordinance to change Ash Avenue to a one-way alley? Jim Buddenbaum will work on putting together the Ordinance and have it available at the February 2nd meeting.

Jay then asked about a resident being concerned about his well being pumped dry when our new plant goes live. Jay spoke with Chris York and Eric Wathen and he said the water supply should be enough to handle the new plant as well as any residents in the area.

Jay then asked about the \$4000 expense from the Riverboat Wagering fund. Shari explained that this is for the annual Clean Water act (MS4) and is paid from the Riverboat revenue we receive.

Jay then asked about the payment for the Panhandle Eastern lawsuit. Is this going to keep going? Jim Buddenbaum explained that the estimate was \$10,000. He asked if we met that amount. Shari will need to run a vendor report for 2020. Jim and Jason will contact UGM to get an update.

Jay asked about the power surge and investigation expense to RQAW. Jason said it must have been with the Sewer. Jay then welcomed Randy Price to the Council. Everyone else welcomed Randy as well.

ATTORNEY

Jim Buddenbaum gave an update on the ½ acre in Brixton. He will be sending Greg Steurwald a new document with dates to help the County along.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

APPROVAL OF DRAFTS & CLAIMS

Jarod Baker asked Shari Ping to present the drafts and claims for January 19, 2021. Shari Ping explained the final payment coming from the ESR account to close out the account. Bill Majeske made a motion to approve, Randy Price seconded. Roll call vote: Melodi-yes, Jay-yes, Bill-yes, Randy-yes, Jarod-yes. Motion carries 5-0.


Bill Majeske asked about the agenda for the February 2nd meeting. Jarod went over the three (3) things we discussed to put on the agenda. 1) Close out the public hearing for annexation, 2) official adoption of Ash Avenue to one-way, 3) Construction Standards Manual.


ADJOURNMENT


Jarod Baker asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Melodi Ingalls made the motion, Jay Thompson seconded. Roll call vote – Melodi-yes, Jay-yes, Randy-yes, Bill-yes, Jarod-yes. Motion passes 5-0.


Respectfully submitted,

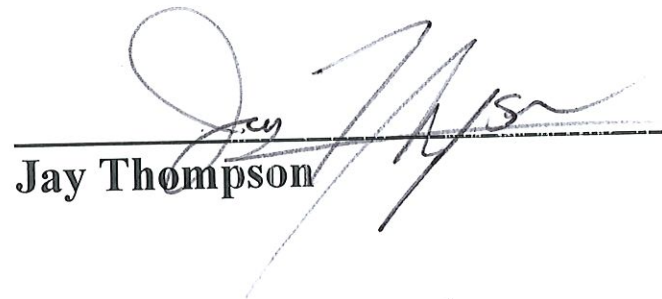
Shari L. Ping
Clerk Treasurer



Jarod Baker, President


Melodi Ingalls


William Majeske


Randy Price


Jay Thompson

Attest: 
Shari L. Ping, Clerk Treasurer