

**TOWN OF MAXTON, NORTH CAROLINA
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TOWN MEETING
May 16, 2023, 7:00 p.m.
Minutes**

The Board of Commissioners of Maxton, North Carolina met in formal session in the meeting chambers of the Town of Maxton Town Hall located at 201 McCaskill Avenue Maxton, North Carolina at 7:00 p.m.

Attendees: Mayor Paul Davis, Mayor Pro Tem Virgil Hutchinson, Commissioner Toni Bethea, Commissioner Elizabeth Gilmore, Commissioner Paul McDowell, and Commissioner Victor Womack.

Staff Present: Town Manager Angela Pitchford, Town Attorney Timothy Snead, Town Clerk Michael Cousar, Finance Ursula Goins, Chief William Davis, Public Works Director Preston McKenzie, and Water and Wastewater Director Dennis Freeman.

Call to Order- Mayor Paul G. Davis

Invocation- Commissioner Elizabeth Gilmore

Does any member have any known conflict of interest and appearances of conflict with respect to any matter coming before the board today? If so, please identify the conflict and refrain from any participation in the particular matter involved.

Mayor Pro Tem Virgil Hutchinson recused himself from item d) Freight Building Contract.

Approval of Consent Agenda

1. Minutes from Board Meeting of April 18, 2023
2. Minutes from Special Meeting of April 26, 2023

Mayor Davis request a motion to approve Consent Agenda. Commissioner Womack made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Gilmore. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Adoption of Proposed Agenda

Mayor Davis request a motion to approve Proposed Agenda and add item c) Town of Maxton Water Shortage Response Plan to agenda. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Bethea. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Old Business:

- a) Zacchaeus Legal Services Contract

Mr. Mark Bardill from Zacchaeus Legal Services explained to the Board of Commissioners what Zacchaeus does which is to collect tax revenue and the reason for their increase contract fee. He stated that the increase contract fee was due to inflation.

Mayor Davis request a motion to approve Zacchaeus Legal Services Contract. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Gilmore. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

b) Scotland County Board of Election 2023 Municipal Election Proposal
Board of Commissioner tabled the Scotland County Board of Election 2023 Municipal Election proposal.

c) Robeson County Public Library Budget Request
Mayor Davis request a motion to approve continue paying the Robeson County Library the same budgeted amount as last year. Commissioner Womack made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner McDowell. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

New Business:

a) S. Preston Douglas & Associates LLP Contract to Audit Accounts.
Mayor Davis request a motion to approve S. Preston Douglas & Associates LLP Contract to audit accounts. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Womack. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

b) Robeson Community College (RCC) Contract.
RCC President Melissa Singler spoke to the Board of Commissioners and residents about starting educational classes and creating a future academic curriculum to be held at the Town's Learning Academy. She mentioned

Mayor Davis request a motion to approve both Robeson Community College contracts. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Womack. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

c) Town of Maxton Water Shortage Response Plan
Mayor Davis request a motion to approve Town of Maxton Water Shortage Response Plan. Commissioner McDowell made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Bethea. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM (2 MINUTES ONLY) NOTE: Please state your full legal name, address, and phone number the board & staff will not respond to individual comments or questions during the public forum. The appropriate staff member will follow up if needed.

Mr. Anthony Raynor, 419 Croom Road, Maxton, NC, 631-320-9168. Mr. Raynor said he has taken an interest in the Town owned property located at 104 Railroad Street. He stated that there is a conflict of interest involving Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson because his address is the same as the current leaser and he voted in 2021 to reduce the rent on the building and that it can be

confirmed by the Robesonian. He also said that the building is being operated without a current lease per the Town Manager.

Mrs. Sandra McCallum, 421 Croom Road, Maxton, NC, 910-318-2740. Mrs. McCallum said she would like to donate two (2) poles to put up signage purchased by the Recreation Committee for the Juneteenth Parade and Festival.

Mr. Chip Morton, Maxton, 910-510-6833. Mr. Morton thanked the Maxton Police Department for bring back the PALS Program.

REPORTS

Recreation:

Recreation Chairman Mrs. Jamie Smith said the Town residents have a problem working together as it pertains to contacting businesses for support and asking for donations. She thanked various supporters and organizations within the Town for their efforts in supporting the Town's youths.

- Juneteenth Pageant will be on June 17, 2023. On March 31, 2023, Paint the school Purple will take place at Townsend Elementary School.
- Juneteenth Parade and Festival will be on June 17, 2023 from 10 am to 5 pm.

Police Chief:

Chief William Davis thanked everyone for May 6, 2023, Youth Day volunteers. He said the Town's National Night Out will be on August 1, 2023 and an information meeting regarding Nation Night Out is scheduled for Friday, May 19, 2023, at 11 a.m.

Manager:

Town Manager Angela Pitchford read an email sent to her from Mr. Bobby Warren. In the email he wanted to show what the youth at Maxton Fresh Manna Pentecostal Holiness Church are doing for the Town. He said on Wednesday, March 29, 2023, the youth cleaned up South Austin Street and were met and greeted by the community expressing their gratitude for their efforts. He asked about adopting Austin Street and requested a sign be placed on Austin Street displaying Adopt s Street Campaign.

Commissioners:


Commissioner Bethea said she was one of the volunteers that helped drive Maxton Cheerleading Squad to the Nationals in Florida where they place first in the event.

ADJOURN

Mayor Davis request a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Bethea made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Gilmore. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.



Paul Davis, Mayor



Michael D. Cousar, MBA