

**TOWN OF MAXTON**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TOWN MEETING**  
**November 21, 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 (Absent), Commissioner Elizabeth Gilmore, Commissioner Paul McDowell, and Commissioner Victor Womack.

Staff Present: Town Manager Angela Pitchford, Town Clerk Michael Cousar and Amber Quatkemeyer, Town Attorney Timothy Snead, Interim Police Chief Shirra Johnson, Public Works Director Preston McKenzie, and Water and Wastewater Director Dennis Freeman.

**Call to Order-** Mayor Paul G. Davis

**Invocation-** Commissioner McDowell

**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.**

Commissioner Gilmore had a conflict of interest with new business matters, subsections B and C.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:**

1. Minutes from Board Meeting of October 17, 2023
2. Tax Adjustment October 10, 2023 thru November 8, 2023

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

**Approval of Proposed Agenda:**

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

**Presentation:**

North Carolina House Representative Jarrod Lowery presented the Town a two and a half million dollar check to assist with the town infrastructure initiative. Mr. Lowery stated that he has lived in Robeson County his whole life and is very proud to be a Robesonian.

Commissioner McDowell said that with a government contract the lowest bid you can do, but it depends on what is in the contract.

Town Clerk Cousar let the board know that these were not contracts just proposals and the contract would be made out by the Town once a contractor had been chosen.

Mayor Davis request a motion. Commissioner McDowell made the motion to accept the proposal from Gr@scape and Commissioner Womack seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

f) Air Burner Land Clearing Project

Mayor Davis request a motion. Commissioner McDowell made a motion to accept the proposal from East Coast Earthworks and Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

g) Beacham Park Light Install Project

Mayor Davis request a motion. Commissioner Womack made a motion to accept the proposal from Earl's Electrical and Commissioner Gilmore seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

h) Sidewalk Renovation Project

Mayor Davis request a motion. Commissioner McDowell made the motion to accept the proposal from Mendoza Masonry and Commissioner Gilmore seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

**Public Forum: (2 MINUTES ONLY)** NOTE: Please state your full legal name. The board & staff will not respond to individual comments or questions during the public forum. If you want our staff members to follow up with you, you can give your address and phone number to the Town Clerk.

Priscilla Hines with Girl Scout Troop 695 would like to thank the Town of Maxton for the support that has been given to them. The troop has been learning about the community and has come to learn of the support given to them by Town Hall. They are a Troop of seventeen girls and out of the seventeen of them nine are on the A and B Honor Roll and are members of the National Beta Club. She said with the continued support from the Town of Maxton they hope to continue to soar academically as well as socially.

Geraldine McLaurin stated that she is proud of the Town for the work they have done to clean up the streets. She said there are a few more streets that the Town needs to work on, but the Town is moving in the right direction. She stated that she is proud of the work that has been done by everyone and thankful they are trying to make the Town of Maxton look better.

Mary McNeill stated that she is proud of the direction the Town of Maxton is heading. It makes her proud to be a part of this community. She is also proud of Troop 695 and seeing people getting involved with the children again. She then stated that the Town needs to work on the street lights due to many not functioning properly.

Aggie Deese stated that she appreciates what the Town is doing, but she has a problem with an overgrown lot that runs behind her home. She said people were living there, but she is not sure if they are anymore.

Sandra McCallum request that we post clearly when limbs and bushes will be picked up by Public Works. Town Clerk Michael Cousar did inform her and the residents in attendance that the information is posted on the Town's website under the event calendar especially around holidays.

### **Reports:**

#### **Recreation**

Mary McNeill reported on Recreation with the following calendar of events:

**November 30<sup>th</sup>** - Food give-a-way.

**December 2<sup>nd</sup>**- Community Yard Sale in the parking lot between Napa Auto Parts and Dollar General. The hours will be between 7:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Participants are to sign up at Town Hall by November 30<sup>th</sup> and the rent will be five dollars.

**December 9<sup>th</sup>** – Christmas Parade & Toy Give-a-way lineup at 8:30 at (Townsend Middle School) parade at 10 a.m. and toy give-a-way following parade.

**December 16<sup>th</sup>** – Senior Christmas Dinner located at Queheel Fire Department from 2pm-4pm.

She said the Recreation Committee is collecting donations for the Toy Give-a-way primarily for the churches. She would also like to thank the citizens, vendors, volunteers, workers, and everyone that helped to make this year's Collard Festival great.

#### **Police Department**

Interim Chief Johnson greeted the audience. He said the Police Department has accepted four applicants, two of which are returning officers. Three of the officers will be working full-time.

#### **Manager Report**

Manager stated that she does not have a report this evening, however she would like to announce that as of November 30, 2023, Preston McKenzie will be retiring from the Town after twenty-eight and a half years of service.

#### **Commissioners Report**

Commissioner McDowell thanked everyone for coming out to the service Sunday night. He said that it was a great service with great singing, everything was wonderful.

Commissioner Womack thanked Public Works for continuing to do a great job. He said there were people complaining about a dead dog and Commissioner Womack called Dennis Freeman with Public Works and he had taken care of it right away.

Commissioner Gilmore thanked the citizens for everything they do to make the Town of Maxton a better place.

Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson stated that Maxton is a better place to live due to the things we all have done and all that we will continue to do. He wished everyone a great Thanksgiving.

Mayor Davis wished everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving.

**Adjourn**

Mayor Davis request to adjourn meeting. Commissioner Womack made the motion and Commissioner Gilmore seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

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Mayor

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Town Clerk