

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Denton held a regular meeting on Monday, October 2, 2023 at 6:00pm at Town Hall.

The following members were in attendance: Mayor Larry Ward, Mayor ProTem Deanna Grubb
Commissioners: Julie Loflin, David Askew, Scott Morris, Anne Carter Bean
Town Attorney, Misti Whitman, Town Manager, Angel Jenkins; Town Clerk, Paula Hedrick

1. Call to Order

Mayor Ward called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Ward led the pledge of allegiance

3. Adoption of Agenda

Mayor ProTem Grubb made a motion to adopt the agenda.

Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (5/0)

4. Approval of August 28, 2023, September 5, 2023, and September 27, 2023, Minutes

Commissioner Morris made a motion to approve minutes with corrections.

Commissioner Loflin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (5/0)

5. Public Comment

Citizens may speak on items not listed on the printed agenda. Please state your name and address and observe the three-minute time limit.

There was no one present to speak.

6. Approve Changes in the Employee Policy and Procedures Manual

a. Article III: Pay Plan, Section 16: Overtime and Compensatory Time

*This is to change our policy to pay overtime, and also allow staff to accrue time if they prefer. I am providing a redline for review.

b. Article V: Conditions of Employment, Section 7. Use of Town Equipment: Town Provided Boot Allowance for Police Officers

*This is to add boot allowance for the Police Officers

c. Article VI: Leave Policies, Section 1. Holiday Leave

*This is to change the holiday pay from 8 hours regardless of shift to 8 or 12 depending on shift requirements.

Ms. Jenkins presented the changes in the employee Policy and Procedures Manual to the Board of Commissioners. There were no questions or comments.

Commissioner Loflin made a motion to approve the three Articles listed above with the recent changes.

Commissioner Askew seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (5/0)

7. Engineering Update on Infrastructure Projects

Ms. Jenkins updated the Board of Commissioners regarding the Engineering and Infrastructure projects, since the September 27, 2023 meeting.

- SCADA- Ms. Jenkins, spoke with a representative from Law and Oakmont updating the system at the Water Plant. The representative advised they will be at the Water Plant on Tuesday, no later than Wednesday.
- Michael High spoke with Dan Pritchard with Jamestown Engineering. Mr. Pritchard made recommendations on a few things Mr. High can do now to see if it will help with the system pressure.
- Ms. Jenkins reached out to Chris Reid and representatives from Century Housing regarding the pressure pumps. Ms. Jenkins let Mr. Chris Reid and Mr. Anthony Zollicoffer know that the Board approved the purchase of 18 pumps for the houses located on Broad Street. They are purchasing them from Fortiline. The Town of Denton buys our water and sewer lines, and meters direct from Fortiline. They are going to bill us directly for the pumps.
- Ms. Jenkins reached out to Mack Summey regarding the communication with Handy's Engineers and asked if Mr. Summey can provide us with an update by Monday for the meeting.
- Ms. Jenkins spoke with Heather Miller with LaBella regarding the projects we have on going with the ARPA funds:

*The update on 2" waterlines, has been approved by the State to add additional lines. We are reviewing the list of 2" lines that was previously provided and will submit those for approval to the State (DEQ).

The Bar Screen and Conveyor project is in process and will be submitted to DEQ by December 1st for final approval.

The other 2 projects that LaBella is working on is the Stormwater and I/I Study. Ms. Jenkins stated they spoke in length about the pressure issues throughout the Town and the statement from Ms. High that the pressure from the Water Plant has decreased (as this has not been shared prior).

Ms. Miller has taken all the maps from Town of Denton and is working to compile them into one map. Ms. Miller is sending us a jump drive with the maps on them.

Once we have them, Ms. Jenkins will work with Mr. High and Mr. Branch to make sure all information has been recorded on the maps. Once this is completed, they will create a digital map of everything. This will allow The Town of Denton to look at the system as a whole. Ms. Jenkins stated that with all this information the hydraulic study can be completed. Once we review the maps for accuracy, Ms. Jenkins said they could have everything updated, digitized and provide pressure data to us in 6-8 weeks. Ms. Miller said that she will have this on high priority since we are having the issues on Broad and the pending houses sold. She did mention that this will give us a better look at where a booster pump maybe needed.

Ms. Jenkins stated that it is her recommendation that we continue with LaBella for this process, being that have starting compiling the information. Any company that comes in, will have to do the same thing and that will be more time to gather everything that LaBella is already working with.

We also discussed the update needed on the booster pump station on Spring Street. Ms. Jenkins relayed to her that in the current condition of the panel, as Ms. High stated, we would need to look at replacing the panel.

Ms. Jenkins shared with Ms. Miller the concerns for the other projects at both plants. Ms. Miller expressed that they are available when needed. Ms. Miller already had a commitment for October 2nd, she will be at the Nov 6th meeting. Ms. Miller stated that everyone is feeling the frustration on trying to get projects started and completed. With the approval from the state taking 4 months for each process of the project, it is very time consuming. North Carolina DEQ is overworked and understaffed, and the entire state has received funds for infrastructure.

- When Mr. High spoke with Mr. Pritchard, he did provide the name of an engineering firm that is doing hydraulic studies for surrounding towns. They will still require all the information that LaBella is working on for us before they can do a hydraulic study. Once the information is developed and updates are maintained, we will be able to look at any scenario on our system. We just have to get the data established. Ms. Jenkins said she has their contact information for reference.
- All communication with the above was express with urgency.

8. Town Attorney Update

Ms. Whitman advised that she is currently working on a redraft of the Town Ordinance Chapter X Nuisance, which will also include the animal ordinance.

9. Town Manager's Report

Ms. Jenkins recapped the following items:

- October 14th Denton Street Festival
- Fire Department has hired 2 part time employees
- Bulky Item Pickup was this past week, September 25 – 29, 2023
- Police Department has purchased 2 used vehicles
- Police Department has 1 paid employee finishing up BLET school and will be graduating December 20, 2023.
- We have hired a maintenance/operator for the Water Plant, that will start on Monday, October 9, 2023.
- There is an interview scheduled with a gentleman for the ORC position at the Water Plant.

10. Commissioner Comments / Concerns

The following questions were asked by the Board of Commissioners.

- Civic Center Shades replacement – those are being replaced with 2" faux wood blinds.
- Public Works truck that was damaged in accident – Insurance has just recently settled the claim. We are looking at replacement vehicles.
- Details regarding the new police vehicles
 - Vehicle 1- purchased from the NC State Patrol – 2018 Dodge Charger \$12,650. Mileage 110903
 - Vehicle 2 – purchased from Missouri -2019 Dodge Charger AWD \$21,000. Mileage 54329
- Are the Camo Truck and motor grader still operational? Camo Truck still runs but the motor grader does not.
- Paving packets – they are being mailed out by the end of the week.

11. Closed Session in Accordance with NC G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3) Attorney/Client Privilege and (6) Personnel Matters

Mayor ProTem Grubb made a motion to go into Closed Session. 6:30pm
Commissioner Bean seconded the motion. Motion pass unanimously (5/0)


Commissioner Loflin made a motion to come out of Closed Session.
Commissioner Askew seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (5/0)

12. Announcements

No announcements

13. Board of Commissioners Adjournment

Commissioner Loflin made a motion to come out of Closed Session. 8:30pm
Commissioner Askew seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (5/0)



Larry Ward, Mayor



Paula Hedrick, Clerk