

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Denton held a Regular Scheduled Meeting on Monday, January 6, 2025 at 6:00pm at Town Hall.

The following members were in attendance: Mayor ProTem Deanna Grubb

Commissioners: Anne Carter Bean, Hayden Hicks, Barbara Hogan

Town Attorney, Misti Whitman, Town Manager, Angel Jenkins, Town Clerk, Paula Hedrick

Absent: Mayor Ward, Commissioner Scott Morris

1. Call to Order

Mayor ProTem Grubb called meeting to order at 6:00pm

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor ProTem Grubb led the Pledge of Allegiance

3. Adoption of Agenda

-Commissioner Bean made a motion to adopt agenda.

-Commissioner Hick's seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (4/0)

4. Approval of December 2, 2024 Minutes

-Commissioner Hogan made a motion to approve December 2, 2024 minutes.

-Commissioner Bean seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (4/0)

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.

No one present to speak.

6. Police Department Swearing in of Officer Carson Wood

Chief James spoke and shared it was a pleasure to be able to swear Carson Wood in as an Officer. He has known him for a very long time and has known his father Greg Wood through the State Highway Patrol and Stoke's County Sheriff's office.

Ms. Whitman swore Carson Wood into his position of as a Denton Police Officer.

Mr. Greg Wood pinned his son with the Denton Police Officer Badge.

Officer Wood's family was present to honor him during his swearing in ceremony.

7. Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Audit Report – Eddie Carrick

Mr. Carrick was present to review the 2023-2024 Audit report. Mr. Carrick stated that he was presenting a clean audit, which is what the Town wants. Mr. Carrick review the highlights of the audit. There is one item that will need to be addressed with the State regarding a loss on the Enterprise Fund account. This is related to the cost of water associated with the bulk water purchase to Handy Sanitary District. Mr. Carrick thanked staff for all the information provided to them during the audit. He stated to reach out with any questions. The final audit has been submitted to the State.

8. Approve Fiscal Year Bulk Water Rates for Handy Sanitary District

Mr. Carrick provided the Board of Commissioners an increase rate of \$1.8059 for bulk water for July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. This calculation is based on the expenses for the 2023/2024 budget year. This figure will be provided to Handy Sanitary District for Board review and approval.

Commissioner Bean made a motion to approve Fiscal Year Bulk Water Rate for Handy Sanitary District.

Commissioner Hogan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (4/0)

9. Public Hearing- Request from Chad Easter to Close Alleyways on West Finch Avenue and West Noell Avenues-Angel Jenkins

Ms. Jenkins stated this public hearing was advertised in the Denton Orator for 4 consecutive weeks, property owners were notified, and the property was posted. We had one adjacent property owner question if the alleyway had been closed in the mid 80's. After reviewing the information, their property had an alleyway closed that is not in conjunction with this request. Mr. and Mrs. Randall Garner at 206 West Noell Avenue called stating that they were unable to attend the meeting but would like to share that they are in favor of the alleyway closure and their property join's the alleyway.

Ms. Jenkins shared that Mr. Easter was present if the Board had any questions regarding this request.

Staff recommendation is to approve this alleyway closure request.

Mayor ProTem asked for a Motion and Second to Open Public Hearing

-Commissioner Bean made a motion to Open Public Hearing

-Commissioner Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (4/0)

No one present to speak, and there were no questions from the Board.

-Commissioner Hogan made a motion to Close Public Hearing

-Commissioner Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (4/0)

-Commissioner Hogan made a motion to Approve Alleyway closure on West Finch Avenue and West Noell Avenues.

-Commissioner Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (4/0)

10. Consideration of Maintenance Easement at 89 W. Salisbury Street

Ms. Jenkins stated she had met with the Mr. Don Swink and the property owners of 89 W.

Salisbury Street in regards to the creek line that runs through the back of their property.

They have the property for sale and would like to speak with the Board about a

maintenance easement for the Town to maintain the area and help with the flooding in this area.

Mr. Don Swink with DeLille and Field Commercial Real Estate out of Highpoint, NC spoke on behalf of his clients at 89 W Salisbury Street. Mr. Swink stated that the private property is prone to flooding and request that the Town of Denton consider a maintenance easement.

Ms. Jenkins stated the flow of water may need to be reviewed by the Army Corp of Engineers.

Ms. Grubb stated that Town Attorney Whitman and Town Manager Jenkins will review and bring back before the Board their recommendations.

11. Appoint Members to the Town Advisory Boards – Angel Jenkins

Ms. Jenkins stated that the Planning and Zoning Board (P&Z) as three seats that are up for renewal this year. She has spoke with the three current Board members, Carter Burns, Jones Loflin and Lisa Brock and they have stated that they would like to continue serving on the Planning and Zoning Board.

Ms. Jenkins stated that the Parks and Recreation (P&R) Board has three seats that are up for renewal this year. Ms. Susan Craven (in Town) is currently serving and wishes to be reappointed to the P&R Board. Rosemary Cranford (out of Town) has resigned her position with the P&R Board due to declining health. There is also a vacant seat for an in-Town position. We have received an application for our out-of-town seat from Sandhi Rushing. Ms. Rushing has volunteered her time around town to do several projects. She would be a great asset to the P&R Board.

Ms. Jenkins stated that it is staff recommendation to reappoint Susan Craven, in-Town, and appoint Sandhi Rushing for the out-of-town seat.

The Board still has one vacant in Town representative if the Board has any recommendations, please let staff know.

-Commissioner Bean made a motion to approve the reappointment of Carter Burns, Jones Loflin and Lisa Brock to the Planning and Zoning Board.

-Commission Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (4/0)

-Commissioner Hogan made a motion to approve the reappointment of Susan Craven and appoint Sandhi Rushing to the Parks and Recreation Board.

-Commission Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (4/0)

12. Approve 2025 all Board Meeting Schedules – Paula Hedrick

Ms. Jenkins stated that Ms. Hedrick has put together the Town's meeting schedule for all Boards. The only update is the next Planning and Zoning meeting will be held January 16, 2025 at 6:00pm rather than January 13, 2025.

-Commissioner Hogan made a motion to approve 2025 Board Meeting Schedule for all Boards.

-Commission Bean seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (4/0)

13. Civil Engineering Proposal for Water Main Extension on North Jones Street to Fletcher Lane – Bobby Kivett, Summey Engineering

Mr. Kivett presented a scope of work for the project to connect the waterline on North Jones Street (Highway 47) to the dead-end line at Fletcher Lane. He stated that this project would connect the 6" waterline on Jones Street to improve the water flow in that area and create a loop in the system.

Commissioner Bean asked what the timeline would be for this project.

Mr. Kivett stated it would depend on the availability of the contractor, survey, permit and drawing of the plans.

Mr. High asked Mr. Kivett what they would do about the 1 ½" water line that runs beside the current 6" line. Mr. Kivett stated that he would do whatever the Town wanted him to do in regards to the extra water line.

Ms. Jenkins stated that we would need a Motion and Second to approve the scope of work.

-Commissioner Bean made a motion to approve Summey Engineering Associates Scope of Work.

-Commissioner Hogan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (4/0)

14. Town Department Head Reports

Administration – Paula Hedrick

Public Works – Michael High

Police Department – Chief Mike James

Water Treatment Plant – Jason Faunce

Fire Department – Chief Brandon Dorsett

Wastewater Treatment Plant – Troy Branch

(Documentation attached for reference)

15. Town Attorney Update

Ms. Whitman stated that she has been reviewing the old liens with Ms. Hedrick.

16. Town Manager's Report

Ms. Jenkins recapped her weekly updates (copies attached to the minutes), provided project updates from LaBella, and noted that Alliance Code Enforcement has included

additional notes to their report of where the cases are in their process.

Ms. Jenkins stated she had spoken with Duke Energy regarding the street light project on Highway 109 North near The Classic Restaurant and Lowes Food Plaza. Duke Energy indicated due to the area being an North Carolina Department of Transportation (NC DOT) restricted access area the street lighting project has been cancelled. The existing light at East Third Street will remain. The light at the driveway for The Classic Restaurant and Lowes Food will need to be removed due to the power source being removed from the vacant property between Handy Sanitary District office and the Classic Restaurant. Duke Energy stated if they had access to power from the Classic Restaurant building, they could leave the streetlight at the driveway.

Ms. Jenkins stated that she reached out to Mark Smith, the owner of The Classic Restaurant, explaining the situation and asked for permission for Duke Energy to connect to his building for a source of power for this streetlight. The Town would be responsible for the billing of the light. Mr. Smith declined the request for connection stating they did not need the light. A copy of the letter provided to Duke Energy with the denial was given to the Board and a copy is attached to the minutes for reference.

17. Commissioner Comments / Concerns

No additional comments or concerns.

18. Announcements –

- Planning and Zoning meeting January 16th, 6:00pm
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday- Town Offices will be closed-January 20th
- Parks and Recreation meeting January 21st, 6:00pm

19. Closed Session – In Accordance with the N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3) Attorney/Client Privilege

Mayor ProTem Grubb asked for a motion and second to go into Closed Session. 6:56pm

-Commissioner Hogan made a motion to go into Closed Session.

-Commissioner Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (4/0)

Mayor ProTem Grubb asked for a motion and second to come out of Closed Session.

-Commissioner Hogan made a motion to come out of Closed Session. 7:51pm

-Commissioner Bean seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (4/0)

20. Board of Commissioners Adjournment

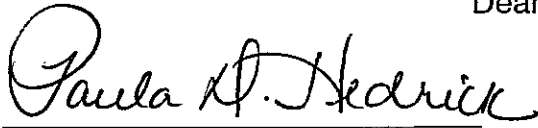
Mayor ProTem Grubb asked for a motion and second to adjourn. 7:52pm

-Commissioner Bean made a motion to adjourn.

-Commissioner Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (4/0)



Deanna Grubb, Mayor ProTem



Paula Hedrick, Town Clerk