

**TOWN COUNCIL
COMBINED COMMITTEE
MEETING
AGENDA
May 13th 2021
4:30 P.M.**

- I. Agenda Changes
- II. Adoption of Minutes
 - 1. April 8th 2021
- III. Police Department Training
- IV. Chicken Regulations
- V. On-Street Parking
- VI. Library Board Position
- VII. Personnel Policy Revision
- VIII. coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds
- IX. General Information
- X. Town Council Agenda
- XI. Next Meeting Date: June 10th 2021
- XII. Adjournment

**Combined Committee Meeting of
Town Council
Minutes
May 13th, 2021**

Mrs. Ball called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. at 802 Main Street, West Point, Virginia 23181.

Members Present: Mayor Jim Hudson, Vice Mayor Deborah Ball, Robert Lawrence, Jack Lawson and John Ragsdale.

Members Present Via WebEx: Chris Vincent

Also Present: John Edwards, Town Manager; Karen Barrow, Town Clerk; Tim Sawyer, Chief of Police and Donna Pauley, Human Resource Officer.

Town Staff Present Via WebEx: Walt Feurer, Director of Public Works; Holly McGowan, Director of Community Development and Susan Harlow, Town Treasurer.

I. Agenda Changes

There were no changes made to the agenda.

II. Adoption of Minutes

A. April 8th, 2021

Mr. Lawrence made a motion to adopt the minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Ragsdale. Upon a unanimous vote the motion was approved.

III. Police Department Training

Chief Sawyer advised that the basic police officer training is 24 weeks at the Academy, the equivalent of 960 hours. There is a variety of training that includes, driving, tactical, forensics, traffic, traffic stops, de-escalation, criminal and civil, DUI and firearms are a few of the topics. The training we do not get enough of is unusual training such as firearms. Unusual shooter training such as shooting into cars, sitting down, standing up are all unusual positions that require additional training.

Mr. Ragsdale ask if the police department is using ITI property for training.

Mr. Edwards advised that the Town has not be able to use the ITI property without contacting King and Queen County, we have been using the West Point

Gun Club. King & Queen has just given us permission to use the ITI property. Recently we looked at the property and some work will need to be done before we can schedule training events.

Mr. Hudson asked if the police department have been able to purchase supplies.

Chief Sawyer advised yes. Recently 1,000 rounds of ammunition was purchased on state contract from Atlantic Tactical. The department is well equipped.

Mr. Edwards stated that one of the challenges for the Town is hiring and keeping good officers. Agencies around us are increasing salaries to attract good officers.

Chief Sawyer advised that the profession is seeing an increase in exodus from the law enforcement profession due to the current situation across the country. The State Police are down 500 officers at the moment and have another 300 going out in July due to attrition.

Mr. Edwards stated that in order to compete with salary ranges we will need to look at salaries and other compensation to retain and attract good officers. One option would be to review the take home car policy.

Mayor Hudson thanked Chief Sawyer for operating a good department with good officers.

IV. Chicken Regulations

Mr. Edwards presented sample chicken ordinances from adjoining agencies and towns.

Mr. Hudson suggested that if someone owns 1 acre, they can have a certain number of chickens.

Mr. Edwards stated that the Town Attorney has advised that any current chickens would be grandfathered.

Mrs. Ball stated that there is a problem with chickens in town and we should not allow roosters. Mrs. Ball also stated that her neighbors have 30 chickens that roam around her yard, they are on the deck and there is chicken manure all over the driveway and yard.

Mr. Hudson ask the Town Manager to draft an ordinance for Town Council to review.

V. On-Street Parking

Mr. Edwards advised that there was a suggestion that Town Council look at downtown parking regulations regarding the width of vehicles. You can regulate the width of vehicles with on-street parking. A regular truck is 7 feet wide; a dual

wheeled vehicle is more than 7 feet wide. Mr. Edwards asked what Town Council would like to do about on-street parking.

The consensus of Town Council is that nothing be done about On-Street Parking at this time.

VI. Library Board Position

Mr. Edwards advised that Mary Montague Sikes has resigned her position on the Board of Directors for the Pamunkey Library. West Point Town Council submits a recommendation for the replacement to the King William Board of Supervisors. The term expires June 30th 2025.

The consensus of Town Council is for the Town Manager to talk with Tina Gulley to see if she is interested. If Mrs. Gulley is not interested to check with the Friends of the Library to see if there is a volunteer.

VII. Personnel Policy Revision

Donna Pauley advised that the State is in the process of changing their computer system. The Towns policy does not comply with the new program. The changes would be that any new employee health insurance begins on the 1st of the month after there higher date.

VIII. Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

Mr. Edwards presented the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds that covers water, stormwater projects, Revenue Loss and funds can be used to assist businesses. We are are still reviewing what will be covered. Mr. Edwards also stated that we can use some of the funds to assist businesses that have not received assistance with previous funding from COVID projects. The Town will receive 2 payments, the first sometime in July the second next year in 2022.

IX. General Information

1. Food Trucks

Mr. Edwards stated that the first Food Truck event is next week at the pavilion, the vendors will Sandston Smokehouse, Jeeps & Butts, Sno-to-go and Gauthier Vineyards.

2. Chesty Puller 10K

Mr. Edwards advised that the Chesty Puller 10k is scheduled for June 26th 2021 and that Town Staff continue to plan for the event. The Governor is expected to make an announcement on the numbers for outdoor gathering by June 15th when he is expected to increase those numbers.

3. Industrial Park Project

Mr. Edwards advised that the project is moving forward and that the Governor will soon be making an announcement regarding the project.

4. School Funding Audit

Mr. Edwards advised that the results on the audit are very different to what was reported to the Town a year ago. What was an over expenditure last year has turned into a \$30,000 under expenditure this year. The auditors have reviewed a 5 year period, but the issue is where did the funds come from. If the funds came from the General Fund, then it needs to be fixed. The town will continue to work with the County on the issue.

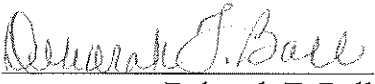
X. Town Council Agenda

Mr. Edwards advised that the Personnel Policy will be on the Town Council Agenda.

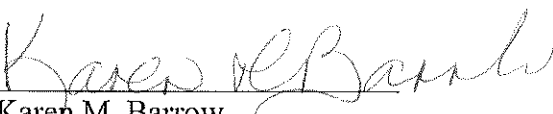
XI. Next Meeting Date: June 10th, 2021

XII. Adjournment

There being no further business Mrs. Ball adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.


Deborah T. Ball
Chairperson

ATTEST:


Karen M. Barrow
Town Clerk