



TOWN OF PRINCEVILLE

Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2022, 7:00PM

201 S Main Street, Princeville, NC 27886

Amid the COVID-19, the Board of Commissioners meeting will not be open to the public but will be available via teleconference.

Board Present: Mayor Bobbie Jones, Mayor Pro-Tem Linda Joyner, Commissioner JoeRoam Myrick, Commissioner Alvin Jones

Staff: Town Manager Glenda Knight, Town Clerk Jessica Rudd, Public Works Director Rydedrick Porter, Attorney Dana Jones

Guest: Edgecombe County Sheriff Office (ECSO), Aja Alston, Chad Sary

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call (Mute phones please. Presider, please state the date for recording purposes)- Mayor**
- II. Invocation-Commissioner Alvin Jones**
- III. Pledge of Allegiance-N/A**
- IV. Public Comments: (Limited to 2 minutes. Read by Clerk)- None**
- V. Announcement (Read by Mayor Bobbie Jones)**
 - 1) Coronavirus testing sites: Freedom Hill, Vidant walk-in clinic, Heritage Park
 - 2) Covid Vaccination: ECHD, Freedom Hill, Walgreen, Walmart, OIC
 - 3) Nash Edgecombe Wilson Community Action INC. (NEW)
- VI. Adjustment to Agenda- Commissioner Jones motioned to move Board Code of Ethics to executive session, Commissioner Myrick seconded. Vote carried 3-0. Commissioner Jones motioned to add HMGP to #8 under Town Manager report, Commissioner Joyner seconded, Vote carried 3-0. Commissioner Myrick motioned to add Reopening of Town Hall Meeting to the Public to #4 Old Business, Commissioner Joyner seconded, Vote carried 3-0. Commissioner Jones motioned to add UNCG CPOW to #5 Old Business, Commissioner Myrick seconded. Vote carried 3-0. Commissioner Jones motioned to add Princeville School Research Project to #5 New Business, Commissioner Myrick seconded. Vote carried 3-0.**
- VII. Approval of the Agenda (Recommendation: Approval)-Commissioner Jones motioned to approve the agenda with necessary additions Commissioner Joyner seconded. Vote carried 3-0**

Consent Agenda-Commissioner Joyner, motioned to approve the consent agenda, Commissioner Jones seconded. Vote carried 3-0
- VIII. Presentation**
 - 1) ECSO- Sheriff Cleo Atkinson introduced Captain Williams, lead detective Matt Johnson, and Corporal Jones. Sheriff Atkinson stated their main goal has been to

partner with the Town of Princeville and to make things as safe as possible. He stated the Sheriff's office received a grant of \$24,000 and used it to purchase license plate reader cameras. He stated they solved a murder in the past 3 weeks and recovered several stolen vehicles. He added those cameras were so helpful in solving those crimes and they are working now to get cameras on the north and south end of the county. Captain Williams asked if there were any questions from the board regarding Princeville and there were no questions. Corporal Jones gave a more detailed report on the license plate readers and Detective Johnson explained how those cameras are used. Detective Johnson stated those cameras help close 3 felony cases in Edgecombe County, 2 felony cases in Nash County, and 2 felony cases in Rocky Mount. No further questions.

- 2) Town Manager introduced Miss Aja Alston from Martin Millennium Academy. She stated she and Mayor Pro Tem went to Martin Millennium to view the projects the students did on Princeville for black history month. Miss Aja Alston came before the board to talk about her project on the hydroelectric dam. She stated it would benefit Princeville and Tarboro in preventing floods by generating electricity. She added if you were to build a community around the dam it would increase the tax base and put money back in the community. Mayor Jones thanked her. Mayor Pro Tem stated how great the project was to see and hear. Commissioner Jones stated the same.
- 3) Chad Sary from Stewart Inc. came before the board to inform them of the proposed addition of a Mixed-Use District and map amendment for the 53 acres and addition of a Historic Princeville -Downtown Core District. He stated the planning board recommended adding Beasley, Walston and Church Street to the Downtown Core District. Commissioner Myrick motioned to move forward with the recommendations of Stewart Inc for the Princeville- Downtown Core District, Commissioner Jones seconded. Vote carried 3-0. Chad Sary stated the next steps would be to have a public hearing to get feedback from the community. No further questions.

IX. Department Reports (See attachments)

- 1) Public Works- Commissioner Myrick asked for an update on the property next to Dollar General. Town Manager stated the owner is transitioning from Florida and will continue to clear his property after the transition. Commissioner Myrick asked about a light pole on Greenwood Blvd and Public Works Director stated he would follow up to get the date and who installed it. Public Works Director asked the board would it be ideal to clear about 40 feet back from the Senior Center for vegetation. Commissioner Joyner motioned that they clear 40 feet behind the Senior Center, Commissioner Jones seconded. Vote carried 3-0.
- 2) Finance- No questions. Mayor thanked Finance Officer for writing in the margins exactly what the Town spent money on.
- 3) Historic Preservation Coordinator- No questions
- 4) Senior Center- No questions. Mayor stated Ms. Tate is doing a wonderful job visiting other centers to see how the Town can improve our Senior Center.
- 5) Edgecombe County Sheriff Office- No questions
- 6) Princeville Volunteer Fire Department- No questions

X. Town Managers Report

- 1) Senior Center-Town Manager stated they are still working on the elevator and fire system at the Senior Center. She stated most recently the engineer went to inspect

the elevator and found that the sump pump needed an extension. Burney & Burney researched and found it to be true and submitted an additional scope of work for \$3,013.41 to improve the piping. Commissioner Joyner motioned to approve the preventative measure offered to the Town by the experts, Commissioner Jones seconded. Vote carried 3-0. Town Clerk shared the additional information on the Senior Center Pricing. Mayor recommended the hours of operation to be from 8 am-9pm and the security deposit be 150 for non-citizens and \$75 for citizens. There were no objections. Commissioner Joyner motioned to charge non-citizens \$500, citizens \$300 to rent the Senior Center Building and charge \$100 for 3 hours, \$25 for each additional hour to rent the Senior Center space for meetings, Commissioner Myrick seconded. Vote carried 3-0.

- 2) Farmer's Market/Heritage Park- Town Manager presented work that her and Kelsi developed to bridge the funding gap for construction of Farmer's Market. Kelsi submitted application to the Tobacco Trust Fund grant for \$300,000 to meet the ¾ deadline. Mayor provided provisions to the scope of work that was submitted to NC Commerce. She stated that the pursuit is to secure funds for construction. She also stated that CTNC will start phase 2 of the walking trail at Heritage Park and are seeking youth to help. Town Manager also stated the expected arrival for equipment for Heritage Park is in May. Town Manager shared the prices for renting Heritage Park for the board to be considering if necessary. Town Manager stated the Conservation Trust seed resilience project has been expanded and they are partnering with NC State Coastal Dynamics Lab to expand their funding with the resilience and stormwater management. She added over the next 2 years to have 6,000 square feet of rain gardens to manage wetlands on the vacant lots, opening up 24 bed model community gardens, planting of trees and plants for over 250,000 gallons of water absorption and creating trails for educational and health benefits.
- 3) Museum- Town Manager stated the Museum is still at a standstill and FEMA is encouraging the town to locate the operating budget to the building before it was a museum and when it was a Town Hall. She stated if they are not able to find that operating budget they have the following options; Town could revise the mitigation to a different less costly mitigation method or remove the request for mitigation entirely, add mitigation to the improved project scope of work and understand FEMA would not provide funds for that portion of the project, FEMA would only review this as an associated action for compliance review, or as previously discussed with some items proposed for the scope of work to restore to pre disaster conditions those will be denied and those that have not been added to the estimated scope of work to restore to pre disaster. Town Manager asked the board to let her know if they have any suggestions or resources that will help secure an operating budget for the museum when it was a Town Hall. No further questions
- 4) Health Initiative- The staff at the Town Hall will be hosting walking sessions throughout the community to promote health and wellness, starting in April entitled Steps with Staff. Time and location to be announced.

- 5) Youth Committee/ Academy- Town Manager stated the youth academy will be reengaged in April of 2022 to plan for upcoming events.
- 6) Edgecombe County Citizen Academy- Town Manager informed the board she was apart of the Edgecombe County Citizen's Academy with the county, and it has been very instrumental.
- 7) Floodgates- The engineers are waiting on the approval from the Army Corp of Engineers with the 408 permit. The 408 permit proposes modifications and alterations to ensure that there will be no adverse impact on the levy.
- 8) HMGP- Town Manager stated because the board request to meet with leaders of NCEM and NCORR, state funds have been allocated and secured to cover two eligible mitigation recipients under the reconstruction. One of the projects is well underway. Town Manager shared photos of one of the properties that was elevated.

XI. Attorney Report

- 1) Transportation Waiver- Attorney Jones asked if there were any additional questions or concerns regarding the waiver and thanked Town Manager for providing email when the waiver was sent to be reviewed. No further questions.
- 2) Dumping Ordinance & Litter- Attorney Jones shared the dumping ordinance included in the packet. Mayor asked about the bulk pick up in April and Town Manager stated bulk items are every Monday by request of the citizens. Town Manager stated she would send the bulk item policy to the Attorney to be added to the dumping ordinance. Commissioner Myrick asked about the fees for yard waste pick up and Town Manager stated the staff doesn't have the capacity to carry out that task. Commissioner Myrick stated that section doesn't needs to be in the ordinance and Attorney Jones stated this was not a final copy of the ordinance but was put in the packet to talk about the highlighted portions. No further questions.
- 3) Board Code of Ethics- Moved to Executive Session.
- 4) Cemetery- Attorney thanked the Town Manager for sending information regarding the cemetery. She stated she will continue to research.
- 5) Zoning Matters (1st Street)- Tabled to next meeting.
- 6) 88 acres- Tenant has come in to pay for a year's lease and Attorney will make sure that the proper extensions are in place and requested a copy of those certified funds.
- 7) Pioneer Court- Attorney Jones introduced the board to Attorney Florence Bowens who assisted the Town with Pioneer Court. She added Attorney Bowens helped with the deed restrictions and made sure they were able to close timely. She added that Attorney Bowens was able to get some HUD funds and should be closed by today at 5.

XII. Old Business

- 1) Poverty to Prosperity- Mayor read updates on the Poverty to Prosperity Initiative.
- 2) Conetoe Alumni (update)- Town Clerk shared copy of ad that was submitted to the Conetoe Alumni Association. She stated that the front cover was taken so the add will be placed on the back cover.
- 3) UNC-CH (CoPE update)- Town Manager reminded the board of the CoPe program and how instrumental this project appears to be for the community. She referred them to the slides.

- 4) Upcoming Budget Session & Retreat Dates- Town Manager reminded the board that the 2nd Budget Session will be on April 5, 2022 at 5:30pm. The retreat is scheduled for May 21, 2022 at 9:00am. Town Manager recommended the board utilize the Senior Center to have the retreat and there were no objections. Town Manager added if there is anything the board desires to have on the agenda at the retreat, to please let the clerk know.
- 5) UNCG- Town Manager gave an update on the UNCG partnership and stated the Portraits of Humanities have traveled around the world and are expected to be back in North Carolina in the early spring. She added the group has discussed the Portraits of Humanities coming back to Princeville in February 2023 and would need a space of about 1,300 square feet. She stated that Heritage Park, once the area is cleared, would be a good place to host them.

XIII. New Business

- 1) Planning Board Policy- Town Manager shared the planning board policy as a FYI and stated it's a very good time to look at reappointments and the appointments of your board as well as tracking the alignment of your ordinance.
- 2) Ward 1 Vacancy- The Town received 3 submissions for the Ward 1 Vacancy and Town Manager asked the board how would they like to proceed. Town Manager stated once the decision is made, she would have to send a letter to the board of elections identifying that the position was vacant, the Commissioner's letter of resignation, and the decision the board makes on who would be in that position. The board agreed to have the interviews on March 23, 2022 at 5:30pm.
- 3) Evaluating Manager and Board Performance- Town Manager shared information gathered from her last training on Evaluating Manager and Board Performance for the boards review. Mayor stated he hopes the board can go over this during the retreat.
- 4) Reopening of Town Hall Meeting to Public- Commissioner Myrick motioned to open the board meetings to the public beginning next month with a max of 20 citizens and masks are required Commissioner Jones seconded. Vote carried 3-0
- 5) Princeville School Research Project- Mayor sent an email from Ms. Sandra Stanley and Mr. Leon Wilkins and asked the board to let them know if they would like for them to present to the board.

XIV. Executive Session: Commissioner Myrick voted to go into executive session, Commissioner Jones seconded, vote carried 3-0.

- N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1)(6) To prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of this State or of United States, or not considered a public record within the meaning of the Chapter 132 of the General Statutes.
- N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4) To discuss relating to the location or expansion of industries agreement on a tentative list of economic development incentives that may be offered by the public body in negotiations or to discuss matters relating to military installation closure or realignment.

Commissioner Jones motioned to end executive session, Commissioner Myrick seconded, vote carried 3-0. Commissioner Jones motioned to resume regular session, Commissioner Myrick seconded, vote carried 3-0.

- 1) Economic Development- Attorney Jones gave an update on the Lynch Drive connectivity properties and other acquisitions. Town Manager shared listing of citizens who applied for the DEHC grant.
- 2) Legal- The board discussed the ordinance for special events and the importance of following proper protocol. Town Clerk will send invitation for Princeville Homecoming to present at the next board meeting.
- 3) Personnel- Commissioner Jones motioned to approve the Attorney contract for mediation, Commissioner Joyner seconded. Vote carried 2-1. Commissioner Myrick opposed. Commissioner Joyner motioned to retain Attorney Jones contract until the next month, Commissioner Jones seconded. Vote carried 3-0
- 4) Board Code of Ethics- Tabled to next month

XV. Board Comments- Commissioner Joyner announced she will be having a meeting with the citizens in Ward 2 to address any concerns they may have. The meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2022 at 6:00pm. Mayor stated he sent an email from Dr. Nelson and asked the board to let him know if they would like for her to come and present to the board. Commissioner Myrick motioned to ask Princeville Homecoming to present at the next board meeting, Commissioner Jones seconded. Vote carried 3-0.

XVI. Adjournment- Commissioner Jones motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Myrick seconded; vote carried 3-0.

Bobbie Jones 04/20/2022
Bobbie Jones, Mayor Date

Jessica Rudd 4-20-2022
Jessica Rudd, Clerk Date