

DARLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL & UTILITY BOARD MINUTES
May 2, 2024

CALL TO ORDER:

President Nicole Parker opened the meeting with the pledge. All council members were present along with Clerk-Treasurer Michelle Cash and Marshall Kevin Crull and Deputy Shelby Curtis.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion to approve the April 4, 2024, minutes was made by Vice President Teresa Sutherlin, seconded by Marilyn Cohee. Motion Approved (5-0)

MONEY MATTERS:

The motion to approve the payroll docket accounts receivable and appropriation report for April 2024 was made by Marilyn Cohee and seconded by Jeremy Weliever. Motion Approved (5-0). All reports are emailed *before* the meeting to be reviewed.

A motion to approve a transfer of \$1,000.00 from Code Enforcement 1101001115.000 to Park Salary (part time mowers) 1101001114.000 was made by Mrs. Cohee, seconded by Vice President Sutherlin. (Motion Approved (5-0)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Lauren Hays spoke on behalf of her neighborhood on the conditions a house that has tall weeds, broken doors and window and a cat issue. The house has clearly been left abandoned and she would like to know how the town can proceed to clean it up. The neighbors have been cleaning it up now for several years and would like the town to take over the responsibility. One of the issues pointed out to Mrs. Hays is that it is currently in probate in the court system and the town has no right to enter upon the property and board up windows and doors.

Jeremy Weliever assured Mrs. Hays that the town is looking into the issue and will consult with the town attorney to see what if anything the town is allowed to do. Mrs. Hays also requested the speed board be put up on Madison Street to keep the traffic speeds down. Marshall Crull said he needs to order a battery for the speed board and then plans on placing it out when that is completed.

John Roche addressed the board with several dates for upcoming events with an outdoor band for the Darlington American Legion. Mr. Roche asked if the Ordinance could be changed or an exception to the ordinance to allow the events to go until 11:00 p.m. President Parker made a motion to suspend the ordinance for May 3rd's event and allow the band to play until 11:00 p.m. with the other dates being tabled until June's meeting when she will be able to get more information from the town attorney, the motion was seconded by Marilyn Cohee. Motion Approved (5-0)

Tom Astbury with Astbury Water Technology gave an update on the existing system and the repairs and replacement of materials and maintenance needing done to the plant and lift stations. Along with Mr. Astbury proposal Mr. Allen Galloway, MPA of Triad Associates, Inc who is an engineer presented the council with some more information on upgrading the wastewater plant and options for receiving grants, SRF loans to help offset the cost to the town. A motion to approve the work needed done on Lift Stations 1-4 and 2 was made by Mrs. Cohee, and seconded by Vice President Sutherlin. Motion Approved (5-0)

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Mrs. Cohee to approve Ordinance 1-2024 Amended Salary Ordinance 5-2-23 to add on the part time utility billing clerk, seconded by President Parker. Mr. Weliever voiced his concern with the hours of operation, after some discussion the motion was approved (5-0)

OLD BUSINESS:

The council will be reviewing ways to help with abandoned house and the trash that has been left. Once a discussion is had with the town attorney, the council will revisit and work on other alternatives to get the properties cleaned up. President Parker asked that this stays on Old Business.

STAFF & ELECTED OFFICIAL REPORT:

Attorney Report –none

Wastewater Report – Tom Astbury – Director of Astbury Water Technology, Inc. Mr. Astbury reported the plant in compliance Mr. Astbury sent a monthly report via email.

Electric Report – Not Present

MVH Report- Clerk Cash presented a proposal from Milestone Contractors, L.P. to the council for patch and resurface for several places in town. The motion to approve the proposal was made by Mrs. Cohee, seconded by Mrs. Flaugher. Motion Approved (5-0) President Parker would like for the line downtown to be painted. Mr. Weliever said he would get ahold of the guys to get a date of completion.

Darlington Police Department – Marshall Kevin Crull sent the April activity logs and the May 2024 police schedule in an email. Marshall Crull presented the council with a salary request for 2025 for an increase in the department. President Parker reminded Marshall Crull that these could not be acted on now but will be reviewed during budget time.

Park – Mr. Cash reported the update on Diamond 3 with the help of Steve Helgers providing equipment and lasers to help in preventing the diamond from holding water. Mr. Cash is concerned with the age of the Kubota mower and the many issues that have come about with the wear and tear on it. For now, they are doing fixes, but concerned that this will be able to continue in the future.

Code Enforcement Officers –Mike Smith is continuing to work on clean-up of properties. Mr. Smith issued out several violations this week.

Clerk-Treasurer Cash presented the billing report for April 2024.

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT

Marilyn Cohee – Reported the steps done at the Community Center.

Teresa Sutherlin – Informed the council that the library will be putting a bench and trash bin outside at the library.

Jennifer Flaugher – None

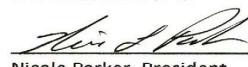
Jeremy Weliever - None

Nicole Parker – None

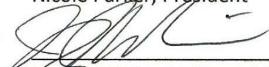
PUBLIC COMMENT - None

The next scheduled Town Board and Utility meeting will be on June 6, 2024 – at 5:00 p.m. – at the Darlington Community Center.

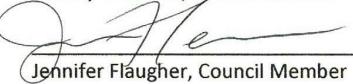
Vice President Teresa Sutherlin motioned to adjourn and was seconded by Jeremy Weliever.
Motion Approved (5-0).



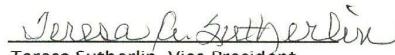
Nicole Parker, President



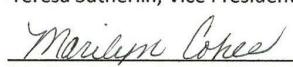
Jeremy Weliever, Council Member



Jennifer Flaugher, Council Member



Teresa Sutherlin, Vice President



Marilyn Cohee, Council Member

Attest: 

Michelle R. Cash, Clerk-Treasurer