

**CITY OF NORTHWEST  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2022  
7 PM**

**ASSEMBLY**

The Northwest City Council held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, 7:00 PM, at the Northwest City Hall located at 4889 Vernon Road.

Council Present: James Knox, Mayor; Councilmen: Sylvester Ballard, Charles Carroll, Michael Troy and Councilwomen Alexis Clemmons and Sheila Grady

Also Present: Gwen Spicer, Retired City Clerk and Interim Chief, Scott Perez

**CALL TO ORDER & INVOCATION**

Mayor Knox called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Councilman Troy gave the invocation.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilwoman Grady **MOVED, SECONDED** by Councilman Carroll to approve the consent agenda. Upon vote the motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ernest Fields was concerned about the roads. He stated that they could at least scrap the roads or something until they find out what they are going to do. He said nothing has been done to them in six months. All of them are in real bad shape. Mayor Knox stated that we will have a roads report farther down on the agenda.

**DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Adoption of Calendar Year 2022 Council Meetings**

Councilman Carroll **MOVED, SECONDED** by Councilwoman Grady to adopt the calendar year 2022 council meetings. Upon vote the motion carried unanimously.

**B. Adoption of Amended Auditor's Contract**

Councilman Carroll **MOVED, SECONDED** by Councilman Ballard to adopt the Amended Auditor's Contract. Upon vote the motion unanimously.

A copy of the Amended Auditor's Contract is hereby incorporated as part of the minutes and placed in Exhibit Book V.

**C. Set Special Meeting (Workshop) to discuss Projects & Goals and the Police Department Personnel, Policies & Equipment (Capital Outlay)**

Councilman Charles Carroll **MOVED, SECONDED** by Councilwoman Alexis Clemmons to set the special meeting on March 15, 2022 at 5:30 pm. Upon vote the motion carried unanimously.

**D. Budget Amendment – Police Department Records Management System (RMS)**

Councilwoman Alexis Clemmons **MOVED, SECONDED** by Councilman Sylvester Ballard to go on the recommendation from Chief Perez on Option 2 -\$15,780. Upon vote the motion carried unanimously.

**E. Can a Public Officer receive a direct benefit from work done for the City?**

Mayor Knox read the correspondence from the attorney. He stated that the correspondence clarified the question. It depends on the population of the town and only a certain amount of money can be used for the calendar year (January to December).

**F. Council Appointment for Mayor Pro-Tem**

Councilman Charles Carroll nominated Councilwoman Sheila Grady. Councilwoman Alexis Clemmons **MOVED, SECONDED** by Councilman Sylvester Ballard to close the nomination on the one said name. Upon vote the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Knox asked?

Are there any other nominations?

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There were no other nominations, so Councilwoman Sheila Grady was unanimously approved by the board as Mayor Pro-Tem. Mayor Knox asked her if she would like to have words. Councilwoman Sheila Grady stated that she appreciates the nomination and appreciates the board confidence. She will strive to perform as Mayor Pro-Tem to the best of her ability.

**LIAISON REPORTS**

***Administration & Human Resources***

***Mayor Knox***

Mayor Knox reported that he and the City Clerk will be taking a Human Resource course at UNCW. It's a 6-month course on-line. He asked council if anyone else was interested in taking the class? Councilman Sylvester Ballard stated that he would like to take it.

***Annexation, Marketing, Planning, IT***

***Councilwoman Clemmons***

Councilwoman Alexis Clemmons reported that she has been looking into getting some shirts for the council (polos), and tee shirts for the recreation committee and planning board. Also, she has been during a lot of posting on face book. We have a lot of new citizens moving in.

She would like to get some information of the businesses so she can post it on face book to let the citizens know what we have readily local in the town.

***Park Equipment, Buildings & Grounds***

***Councilman Ballard***

Councilman Sylvester Ballard reported that he is working on new upgrades to the park area. Details will be presented at the project meeting. He asked if the park was still closed? Mayor Knox said only the walking track and the kids play ground area. Councilman Sylvester Ballard said before we get to that upgrade project, he would like to go ahead and move forward on all the pending things to the park. City Clerk, Donna Strickland has a listing of things that have already been started but has not been finished. He would like approval to get those items complete before starting the new upgrading of the park.

***Police***

***Councilman Troy***

Councilman Michael Troy reported that the new employees are excited to get started. Chief Perez are going to have to train them on stops. There will be some stops going on in Northwest, but he told them to give warranting tickets if a man's taillight is out or a dead tag. That would be good training. On Sawmill Road, a lot of trash have been dumped and could not find any names in it.

***\*Police Report***

Interim Chief Perez gave the police report for the month of January. He also stated that he would call the Sheriff's Office to see if the inmates can come clean up the trash on Sawmill Road. He will also contact the media again about Mr. Bryant. Mike Hill trial will be coming up soon so you may be seeing a lot of media on Sawmill Road. The speed limit signs are in. Councilman Charles Carroll stated that Copelen Taylor would like to work as an auxiliary.

***Roads***

***Councilman Carroll***

Councilman Charles Carroll reported that the city clerk hasn't been able to find any asphalt. Vee's Road has been surveyed and it is 30 feet wide. Haywood Miller stated that Miller-Bryant Road and Robinson Trail roads are in bad shape. Ernest Fields stated that the machine we have cannot do the job. Councilman Michael Troy said it would.

***Finance & Emergency Management, Recreation & Grants***

***Councilwoman Grady***

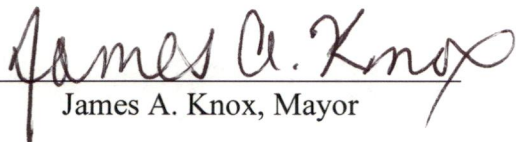
Councilwoman Sheila Grady pointed out the snapshot is under 2a in their agenda packets. She reported that the recreation committee met on February 7. They are planning an Easter Egg drive by on Monday, April 18. The rain date will be April 16. Founder's Day will be in June. The next meeting will be April 7. On February 14, she attended a zoom meeting with The Cape Fear Council of Government. The Annual Banquet will be in person at the Brunswick Center, Stone Chimney in Supply on March 31 from 5:30 pm until 9 pm. You should be getting invitations. The city will pay for council and one guest.

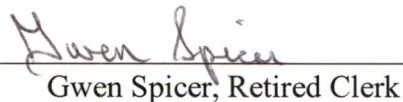
***\*TR-2-2021 Report & LGC-203 December 2021 Report***

Councilwoman Sheila Grady stated that these reports are in the back of the agenda packet.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilwoman Alexis Clemmons **MOVED, SECONDED** by Councilman Charles Carroll to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

  
James A. Knox, Mayor

  
Gwen Spicer, Retired Clerk

Minutes were taken and transcribed by Gwen Spicer.