

**Madison Board of Aldermen
Regular Meeting
Madison Municipal Building
February 8, 2024
6:00 p.m.**

Members Present: Mayor William Phillips
Alderman Matt Bullins
Alderman Alan Hensley
Alderman Virginia Hoover
Alderman Tom Rogers
Alderman Michael Scales
Alderman Micky Silvers

Staff Present:
Town Attorney: Michael Cassidy
Interim Town Manager: Amy Roberts
Police Chief: Richard Hester
Police Captain: Kevin Jones
Finance Director: Tina West
Fire Chief: Jim Ritchey
Public Works Director: Josh Shuler

Others Present:
Wade Greene, W Greene PLLC
Lindsey Pegg, M-M Rotary
Other Interested Citizens
Todd Hurst, Rockingham County Tax
Bobbie Webster, Madison Merchants Guild

Call to Order

Items 1A: Moment of Silence & 1B: Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Phillips called for a Moment of Silence after which he asked that everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 2: Approval of Agenda for February 8, 2024

MOTION, by Alderman Silvers, seconded by Alderman Hoover, to approve the February 8, 2024 Agenda, as revised and presented. Ayes: Aldermen Bullins, Hensley, Hoover, Rogers, Scales, Silvers and Mayor Phillips. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Item 3: Presentation of FY 2022-2023 Audit

Wade Greene, W Greene PLLC stated that the Local Government Commission has accepted the Town's 2022-2023 audit and the Town is in good financial standing. Mr. Greene further stated that revenues in the General Fund exceeded expenditures by more than \$500K, bringing our General Fund Balance to 103.31%. Mr. Greene advised that expenditures in the Water/Sewer Fund exceeded revenues by \$124K but after the transfer of ARPA money, the Town showed an increase in the Water/Sewer Fund and Fund Balance increased to 41.95%. Mr. Greene advised that the Town has undesignated funds to operate one year in the General Fund and four months in the Water/Sewer fund if no monies were received to the Town.

Item 4: Rockingham County Tax Revaluation Presentation

Todd Hurst, Rockingham County Tax Administrator stated that a private contractor is completing the revaluation that is required by NCGS to be completed every eight years to achieve equalization and

uniformity. Mr. Hurst further stated that the last revaluation was completed in 2019 but the County and Municipal Utility Franchise Taxes were penalized last year as our values were not at current full market value. Mr. Hurst advised that the Schedule of Valuations has been approved by the Board of Commissioners, the 30-day appeal period has been completed and the new valuations will be effective January 1, 2024. Mr. Hurst further advised that Piner Appraisal, Inc. is finalizing the appraisals and property owners will be notified by mail in late March of their new valuations. Mr. Hurst stated that valuations may be appealed to the Rockingham County Tax Office and provided options for Senior Citizen and Veteran exemptions.

Item 5: Public Comments

Lindsey Pegg, Madison-Mayodan Rotary Club advised that the 17th Annual Tasting Extravaganza will be held April 27, 2024 from 1:00pm – 4:00 pm at Bakery 1818. Ms. Pegg further advised that tickets will be available soon for purchase from any Rotary Member and proceeds will benefit Toys for Tots of Rockingham County.

Consent Agenda

Items: 6A: Minutes & 6B: Budget Report

MOTION, by Alderman Rogers, seconded by Alderman Bullins, to approve the minutes of the meeting held January 11, 2024 as presented along with the Budget Report ending January 31, 2024. Ayes: Aldermen Bullins, Hensley, Hoover, Rogers, Scales, Silvers and Mayor Phillips. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Item 7A: Consideration of Contract with The Payment Group and Paya for Payment Processing

Mayor Phillips advised that our new software, Black Mountain does not support MyGovHub as a payment processor and recommends The Payment Group and Paya for Debit/Credit Card processing.

MOTION, by Alderman Silvers, seconded by Alderman Hoover, to Approve the Service Agreement with The Payment Group and Paya for Debit/Credit Card Processing. Ayes: Aldermen Bullins, Hensley, Hoover, Rogers, Scales, Silvers and Mayor Phillips. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A copy of this Agreement will be on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Item 7B: Consideration of Procurement Policy and Plan for CDBG-I Grantees

Interim Town Manager Amy Roberts advised that NCDEQ has made changes in their procurement policy and for the Town to continue receiving CDBG-I funding, we are required to adopt this policy.

MOTION, by Alderman Bullins, seconded by Alderman Hensley, to approve the Procurement Policy and Plan for CDBG-I Grantees. Ayes: Aldermen Bullins, Hensley, Hoover, Rogers, Scales, Silvers and Mayor Phillips. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A Copy of the Procurement Policy and Plan for CDBG-I Grantees will be on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Board and Committee Appointments:

Item 6A: Human Relations Commission

Mayor Phillips stated that previous Aldermen Brenda Platt needs to be replaced as the ex-officio member to the Human Relations Commission since she is no longer an Alderman.

MOTION, by Alderman Rogers, seconded by Alderman Hensley, to appoint Mike Scales as the ex-officio member to the Human Relations Commission. Ayes: Aldermen Bullins, Hensley, Hoover, Rogers, Scales, Silvers and Mayor Phillips. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Manager/Mayor Comments & Announcements

Item A & B : Manager Comments & Announcements

Mayor Phillips read the Manager's Comments and advised that February is Black History Month and Bojangles, 6820 NC 135 will host the Chamber Coffee on February 15, 2024 at 8:00 am.

Ms. Roberts stated that the new Finance Software went live on February 1, 2024 and training will be ongoing. Ms. Roberts further stated the Kris Bass is looking to apply for a grant up to \$1M for stream restoration at Idol Park that coincides with the ongoing study/engineering grant and also plans to use the \$200K grant as matching funds. Ms. Roberts advised that the Town was designed as a distressed water system on April 13 and May 3, 2022 and NCGS requires educational training be completed by two Board members and specific Town Staff. Ms. Roberts further advised that the training is on-demand, will be done at Town Hall and is approximately four hours. Mayor Phillips and Alderman Hoover volunteered to take the training for distressed water systems.

MOTION, by Alderman Silvers, seconded by Alderman Rogers, to go into Closed Session to discuss a Personnel Matter Pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11a (6). Ayes: Aldermen Bullins, Hensley, Hoover, Rogers, Scales, Silvers and Mayor Phillips. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Item 9: Adjournment

MOTION, by Alderman Rogers, seconded by Alderman Silvers, to adjourn. Ayes: Aldermen Bullins, Hensley, Hoover, Rogers, Scales, Silvers and Mayor Phillips. Nays: None. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Amy Roberts, Town Clerk

William Phillips, Mayor