

**TOWN OF BETHANIA COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2020**

On August 13, 2020, the Board of Commissioners meeting for the Town of Bethania was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Pro Tem Michelle Leonard. In attendance at the Alpha Chapel were Mayor Pro Tem Michelle Leonard and Commissioners Randy Rogers, Tom Beroth and John Rogers. Also present: Town Attorney Elliot Fus and Town Clerk, Karen Keller. Mayor Brent Rockett was absent.

Mayor Pro Tem Leonard gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Mayor Pro Tem Leonard asked for a motion to adopt the Agenda of the August 13th Board meeting. Commissioner Beroth made a motion to adopt the agenda. Motion passed unanimously (Attachment A).

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Town Clerk, Karen Keller, announced that Mayor Brent Rockett is having shoulder surgery tomorrow. Former Mayor Deborah Thompson is at home recovering from hip replacement surgery and Bethania resident Wayne Purgason is at Salemtowne rehabbing after knee replacement surgery.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mayor Pro Tem Leonard asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2020 Regular Board Meeting. Commissioner Beroth made a motion to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously. The Board signed the minutes.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Commissioner Beroth explained the Financial Reports as of June 30, 2020 (Attachment B), stating we stayed within budget in all categories and are on solid financial footing. Discussion followed regarding the annual audit as well as Occupancy income. Mayor Pro Tem Leonard thanked Commissioner Beroth.

VISITOR CENTER UPDATE: Commissioner John Rogers received a list of current projects from the Visitor Services Manager, Michele Williams.

Mayor Pro Tem Leonard referred to the *Earthwoods* program, a for profit school that proposes utilizing state property in Bethania in their curriculum. She feels that this would present a problem as it is a private business using state land and charging a fee. Further, protocols dealing with sanitation issues need to be addressed and put in place before any groups utilize and/or patronize the Visitor Center complex, as necessitated by the current pandemic. Commissioner John Rogers offered that Visitor Services Manager, Michele Williams, has compiled a list of reopening considerations.

Mayor Pro Tem Leonard and Commissioner John Rogers will meet on Monday, August 17, 2020 at 10:30 to discuss issues regarding reopening the Visitor Center. Mayor Pro Tem Leonard will also contact Dr. Williams with regard to her concerns about the *Earthwoods* program.

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE NORTHERN PIEDMONT REGIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN: Town Clerk, Karen Keller, gave a brief overview of the plan that was originally developed in 2001 and explained that it needs to be reviewed and updated every five years. The updating process began in early 2019 and now the plan needs to be formally adopted by each municipality in Forsyth County. Commissioner John Rogers made a motion to adopt the Resolution as written (Attachment C). Motion passed unanimously.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR THE GRANT OF CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS:

Discussion centered around what the funds could be used for: PPE supplies, such as hand sanitizing stations, employee payroll, touchless faucets in restrooms, etc. The deadline for submitting the CRF Plan, which outlines specifically what Bethania's portion of funds will be used for, is September 1, 2020. The Commissioners then discussed the Interlocal Agreement, which would allow \$3,591 for Bethania's applicable expenditures related to Coronavirus Relief. Commissioner Beroth made a motion to enter into the Interlocal Agreement for the Grant of Coronavirus Relief Funds with Forsyth County. (Attachment D.) Motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE: Town Clerk, Karen Keller stated that there were 32 total tickets written during the month of June, with 32 of those being speeding tickets. The average MPH over was 18.28. There were 18 total tickets written during the month of July, with 15 of those being speeding tickets. The average MPH over was 19.00 There were also numerous security checks and neighborhood patrols.

Commissioner Randy Rogers would like to get more consistent enforcement in Bethania; he feels the speeders have gotten worse and cited specific incidents. He would like to discuss Sheriff Patrol at the Budget Working Session next year.

Commissioner Beroth offered that Michele Williams previously put together a timeline on traffic enforcement in Bethania – incorporating many years' worth of citations - and it showed the speeding did not decrease, despite consistent monitoring.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Discussion regarding the CRF Plan and specific monetary figures for qualifying expenses followed.

Mayor Pro Tem Leonard made a motion to hold a Special Meeting on Monday, August 24, 2020 at 3:30 PM at the Alpha Chapel to fill out the form with Bethania's request for funds. Motion passed unanimously. This shall serve as notice of the Special Meeting.

The Commissioners will gather cost information on qualifying expenses prior to the Special Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Beroth made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted for approval, the Minutes of the Board of Commissioners Meeting of August 13, 2020, consisting of three pages.

**Submitted by Karen Keller
Town Clerk**

APPROVED BY:

**Brent S. Rockett (Absent)
Mayor, Town of Bethania**

**Michelle Leonard
Mayor, Pro Tem**

John Rogers

Randy Rogers

**Tom Beroth
Finance Officer**