



MINUTES

**Town of Weaverville
State of North Carolina**

**Town Council Workshop
Tuesday, June 21, 2022**

The Town Council for the Town of Weaverville met for a regularly scheduled workshop on Monday, June 20, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers within Town Hall at 30 South Main Street, Weaverville, NC with remote access via zoom.

Councilmembers present were: Mayor Patrick Fitzsimmons, Vice Mayor Jeff McKenna and Councilmembers Doug Jackson, John Chase, Catherine Cordell, and Michele Wood. Councilmember Andrew Nagle was absent.

Staff members present were: Town Manager Selena Coffey, Town Attorney Jennifer Jackson, Clerk/Planning Director James Eller, Police Chief Ron Davis, Assistant Police Chief Somer Oberlin, , Water Resources Superintendent Trent Duncan, and Finance Officer Tonya Dozier. Public Work Director Dale Pennell joined via zoom.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Patrick Fitzsimmons called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. I-26 Bridge Replacement and Budget Impact

Ms. Jackson described the negotiation with NCDOT for additional easements, right of entry, and right-of-way on Town-owned property for the upcoming I-26 bridge replacement project. NCDOT has agreed to pay the Town \$20,000 for the right-of-way, easements, and access needed.

Councilmember Cordell motioned to accept \$20,000 as fair and just compensation for the easements and right-of-way and approve the deed for highway right-of-way and agreement for entry and authorize the proper execution of same by the Mayor and Town Clerk. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion which passed 6-0.

3. Water Line Replacement Project and Budget Impact

Mr. Pennell presented information to Council related to a waterline replacement project funded in the FY 2021-2022 budget for the replacement of 3 dilapidated lines in the Town's water distribution system. WithersRavenel prepared plans for the project which achieved state approval. Four bids were received for the project with the low bid of \$349,600 being submitted by T.P. Howard Plumbing Co. Even though the low bid exceeded the \$150,000 cost estimate for the project, Mr. Pennell recommended that the bid be awarded.

Councilmember Jackson motioned to award the bid, add the additional \$199,600 to the FY 2022-2023 water fund budget, and authorize the Mayor and Town staff to execute a contract for this work. Councilmember Cordell seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion which passed 6-0.

4. Overview of Fee Schedule

Ms. Dozier provided Council with an overview of the proposed FY 2022-2023 fee schedule specifically identifying items which had been added, deleted, or revised from the previous year.

5. Overview of Revisions to the Proposed Budget

Ms. Coffey presented information regarding outstanding items within the FY 2022-2023 budget for Town Council’s consideration. Within the general fund, consensus was reached to increase fuel costs, provide additional 911 fees, provide hiring bonuses for firefighter and fire engineer positions, change to a 14-day overtime pay calculation for fire department and police department employees, add a Town Clerk position, add revenues from the NCDOT funds for bridge replacement project, remove funding for two Main Street wi-fi cameras (leaving one for the municipal clock lot), grant a donation to Weaverville Center for Creative and Healthy Living. There was not consensus to add a police officer position or a human resources position. Within the water fund, consensus was reached to increase fuel costs, add for rate increases for purchase of chemicals, add a lawn maintenance contract. There was not consensus to designate the use of ARP funds to the water treatment plant expansion at this time, nor consensus to add a transfer to the water capital reserve fund.

6. Closed Session

Councilmember Jackson motioned to enter closed session to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment or employment of an individual public officer or employee; and to establish the position to be taken by the public body concerning the amount of compensation and other material terms of an employment contract or proposed employment contract. Councilmember Chase seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion which passed 6-0.

[CLOSED SESSION]

Councilmember Jackson motioned to reenter public session. Councilmember Cordell seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion which passed 6-0.

Councilmember Jackson motioned to provide the Town Manager with an annual salary of \$125,000 beginning July 1, 2022 and to continue her benefit package. Councilmember Wood seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion which passed 6-0.

Councilmember Jackson motioned to amend the Town Attorney’s employment agreement to provide an annual salary of \$85,000 and provide her with all other benefits provided to other town employees beginning July 1, 2022, with all other terms being unchanged. Councilmember Wood seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion which passed 6-0.

7. Adjournment.

Without objection, Mayor Fitzsimmons declared the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:35.



James Eller, Town Clerk

**RESOLUTION OF THE WEAVERVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
GRANTING RIGHT-OF-WAY AND EASEMENTS TO THE NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE FUTURE I-26 BRIDGE
REPLACEMENT PROJECT OVER REEMS CREEK**

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has plans to replace US-19, US-23, US-25, US-70, Future I-26 Bridges over Reems Creek, Structures No. 370 and 373, under TIP Project B-4442, as shown on Plan Sheets #5 and #6 (Future I-26 Bridge Replacement Project); and

WHEREAS, NCDOT has requested the Town to sell the following: permanent right-of-way (0.325 ac), permanent drainage easement (0.004 ac), permanent drainage easement (0.039 ac), permanent drainage easement (0.032 ac), temporary construction easement, and agreement for right of entry;

WHEREAS, the Town desires to cooperate with NCDOT to facilitate the construction of the Future I-26 Bridge Replacement Project in a timely manner;


WHEREAS, through a process of negotiation the Town of Weaverville and NCDOT have agreed that \$20,000.00 is a fair and just compensation to the Town for the conveyance of the Right-of-Way Deed and for the Agreement for Entry which contains certain agreed upon conditions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, (1) \$20,000.00 is hereby approved as being just and fair compensation for the granting of the Deed of Highway Right-of-Way and Agreement for Entry for the Future I-26 Bridge Replacement Project; (2) the Deed of Highway Right-of-Way and Agreement are hereby granted for the above-described Future I-26 Bridge Replacement Project; and (3) the Mayor and Town Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the same and deliver them to NCDOT in exchange for the agreed upon compensation.

ADOPTED this the 21st day of June, 2022.



PATRICK FITZSIMMONS, Mayor



JAMES ELLER, Town Clerk

