

Red Oak Town Council Meeting Minutes  
May 8th, 2023, 6:30pm

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**Attendance** – Mayor, Levell Langley

**Council Members:** Tony Bennett, Sandra Russ, Scott Briley

**Absent:** Craig New

Clerk Shearin and LFNC Fellow, Averi Parker were present to record the minutes.

**Public Attendance:** News Reporter, Lindell Kay, Lead for NC Fellow, Averi Parker, Todd Mallory, Richard Davenport, Mary Hadley Rose, Scott Rose, C. Maurice Hedgepeth, Aretha Richardson, Chris Reges, Jason Reges

**Special Video Presentation:** At 5:30pm Commissioners Russ and Briley along with Mayor Langley and Clerk Shearin met with the software company Cloudpermit to discuss potentially upgrading and streamlining the permitting process for the Town.

**Call to order:** Mayor Langley

**Opening Prayer:**

Commissioner Briley

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

Mayor Langley

**Adoption of Minutes and Financial Statement(s) –**

Due to technology issues Commissioner Russ made a motion to postpone the adoption of the March and April Minutes pending the receipt of proposed corrections requested by Commissioner New that weren't received prior to the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Briley.

The April Financial Report was presented by Commissioner Russ. Motion to approve the April Financial Report was made by Commissioner Bennett; seconded by Commissioner Briley. Commissioner Russ then proposed the following motions:

1. Commissioner Russ acting as the Deputy Finance Officer requested that she be allowed to move a portion of the ARPA funds into a twelve (12) month CD with the interest earned the first year to be earmarked and donated to the Red Oak Historic Preservation Society (ROAHPS) for the Teacherage. Motion seconded by Commissioner Briley, and the motion carried.
2. Commissioner Russ requested authorization to pay the remaining \$200,000 to the Northern Nash Water Fund in FY 22-23 resulting in all ARPA funds being expended. Motion seconded by Commissioner Briley, and the motion carried.

**Old Business:**

**Item(s) 1: Earp Nuisance Care**

The Court Order to photograph the property was served on Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup> and carried out by Clerk Shearin accompanied by Nash County Sheriff's Deputy Blount. This is the first step in enacting a lien on the property.

**Item(s) 2: Carriage Trail, West Hampton, Reges Store Road Annexations**

Clerk Shearin updated the Council that she is still waiting on the Surveyor for the annexation boundary map for recording. An email request went to them on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 and there is no other update.

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**Item(s) 3: Community Grant Request 22-23-01**  
Currently there is no update.

**Item(s) 4: Landfill Remediation: Remediation Draft Approved**  
Clerk Shearin updated the Council that the Public Comment Period for this item is in place for the next 60 days. Construction bidding will start once the Public Comment Period has ended. She met with NCDEQ and was given a potential start date of October.

**Item(s) 5: Loop Road Nuisance Complaint: Resolved**  
Clerk Shearin stated that the property owners spoke with the renter and had them clean up the area. The renter had complied within the week of receiving the notice and the matter had been resolved and is satisfied.

***New Business:***

**Item(s) 1: Public Hearing: Title IV Zoning Amendments (Attachments filed with April Agenda)**

Mayor Langley went into a Public Hearing and in turn opened the floor for anyone to comment on this item. Planning Board Member, Richard Davenport, gave a brief synopsis of the Zoning Amendments. Red Oak resident, Aretha Richardson asked for a defined Amendment Process and timing and then wanted to know if Red Oak considered mixed use districts. Clerk Shearin along with Davenport explained the process and that the Planning Board had been working on this for well over a year. Mixed use was considered in the matter as most of the area is mixed use and wanted to preserve the front yard of people's homes and businesses. With no other comment Mayor Langley came out of the Public Hearing. A motion to approve the Title IV Zoning Amendments was made by Commissioner Briley and seconded by Commissioner Russ; motion carried.

**Item(s) 2: Public Hearing: FY 23-24 Budget Ordinance (Attachment I)**

Mayor Langley went into a Public Hearing and in turn opened the floor for anyone to comment on this item. With no comments on the matter Mayor Langley came out of the Public Hearing. A motion to approve the FY 23-23 Budget Ordinance was made by Commissioner Briley and seconded by Commissioner Bennett; motion carried.

**Item(s) 3: Budget Amendment FY 22-23 (Attachment II)**

Mayor Langley presented budget amendments for FY 22-23 in the category of Salaries and Wages. With no further comment, a motion was made by Commissioner Briley to approve the Budget Amendment FY 22-23, seconded by Commissioner Bennett; and the motion carried.

**Item(s) 4: Scott Rose: COECO Copier Presentation (Speaker will provide handouts)**

Scott Rose with COECO presented the current copier's leasing statistics and cost breakdown and the statistics and cost breakdown if it were to be purchased outright by the Town. The Council discussed briefly the options presented and determined which option would be most economical and beneficial. A motion was made by Commissioner Russ to enter into a 63-month rental agreement for the new printer seconded by Commissioner Bennett; and the motion carried.

**Item(s) 5: Moore Road Nuisance Complaint (Attachment IV)**

Clerk Shearin presented the Moore Road Nuisance Complaint. The Council was provided the complaint along with the photos submitted with it. Clerk Shearin also presented photos of the property. Council reviewed the photos and determined that it was not a substantial complaint to move forward with. A motion was made by Commissioner Briley to abandon the complaint seconded by Commissioner Bennett; and the motion carried.



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**Item(s) 6: LEO Contract Statistics Report: (Attachment VI):**

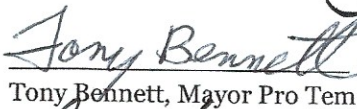
Council reviewed the report with minimum discussion. Mayor Langley asked about the decline in deputies signing up to work. Clerk Shearin responded explaining that deputies had opportunities to make more money at local event venues during graduation and wedding season. Commissioner Briley commented that he had spoken to some of the deputies that patrol Red Oak and wanted to suggest changing the sign-up dates and times to get out of the dormant state of patrolling since it was causing potential for criminals to learn the schedule and patterns of the deputies' time on and off.

**Public Comments:**

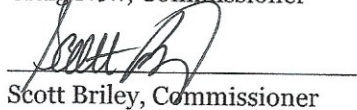
C. Maurice Hedgepeth came before the Mayor and Council to request that the speed bump that was removed from School Street to be put back. He stated that the speedbump installed on the entrance of School Street is still there but once the construction of the new school started the one at the end of the street was removed. Mayor Langley wanted him to be aware that the Town did not remove it but, will look into finding the old one or ordering a new one. Commissioner Briley asked Mr. Hedgepeth since he is more knowledgeable of the street if he could recommend where the best location is for the speedbump. Mr. Hedgepeth responded that there is no need to move the speedbump but, for the safety of the school and drivers to just put it back in the same spot. The Mayor and Council thanked him for bringing this to their attention and for his time.

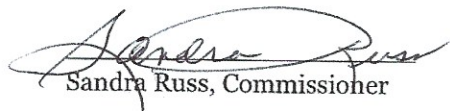
Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Bennett, seconded by Commissioner Briley; the motion carried; the meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

  
Levell Langley, Mayor

  
Tony Bennett, Mayor Pro Tem

  
Craig New, Commissioner

  
Scott Briley, Commissioner

  
Sandra Russ, Commissionher

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Averi Parker, LFNC Fellow

  
Tracy Shearin, Clerk