

NAVASSA REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

September 15, 2022

7:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Eulis Willis, Mayor
William Ballard, Councilman
Ernest Mooring, Jr, Councilman

Jerry Merrick, Councilman
Ida Dixon, Councilwoman
James Hardy, Councilman

STAFF PRESENT

Michelyn Alston, Clerk
Darryl DeCotis, Police Chief

Attorney Norwood Blanchard

CITIZENS & VISITORS PRESENT

Brenna Flanagan
Walter Mapson
Craig Suggs
Jose Morales
Anthony Jude

Marva Ballard
Scott McCaffrey
Rose Terry
Enzo Morales

Councilman Ballard led the Invocation.
Before Mayor Willis called September 15, 2022, meeting to order at 7:30pm.

ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

A request was made to add Executive Session for personnel and Project update Report.

COUNCILMAN BALLARD MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN DIXON TO ADD THE ITEMS TO THE AGENDA. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

COUNCILMAN BALLARD MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MERRICK TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE AJUSTMENTS. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

COUNCILMAN BALLARD MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN HARDY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES WITH THE NECESSARY CORRECTIONS. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

OLD BUSINESS

Duke Energy Easement

There were some concerns about the Duke Energy Easement from a board member.

COUNCILMAN MERRICK MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN HARDY TO TABLE UNTIL NEXT MONTH MEETING. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

Seaboard Industrial Bond

The board asked that the bond amount be corrected to reflect the correct engineer cost and for a status report to be given to the board periodically.

COUNCILMAN HARDY MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN DIXON TO ASK THAT SEABOARD INDUSTRIAL BOND BE CORRECTED TO REFLECT ENGINEERS COST AND SUPPLY STATUS REPORT PERIODICALLY TO BOARD. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

NEW BUSINESS

EPA Assessing Alternative

The board was informed that the EPA will move forward with the suggested alternative that was received via email.

Private Cemetery Maintenance Workshop

The Board agreed to meet on Sept 19th to hold a workshop for private cemetery maintenance.

United Way Workers

The Board felt that no discussion was needed regarding this matter since an agreement has already been enter into and all questions or concerns should have been addressed prior.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Variance hearing for Morales

Attorney Blanchard informed the board must take a separate vote and vote affirmatively by four-fifths majority on each of the four required findings of fact to approve a variance.

A motion to deny a variance may be made on the basis that any one or more of the four criteria are not met. Any motion shall include a statement of the specific reasons or findings of fact that support it. Councilman Ballard was excused from voting on matter because he has adjoining property.

1. Unnecessary hardship would/would not result from carrying out the strict letter of the ordinance.

Councilman Hardy made a motion seconded by Councilman Merrick that it would create a hardship. Ayes-Merrick, Mooring, Dixon, Hardy.

2. The hardships results/does not result from conditions that are peculiar to the property, such as locations, size, or topography.

Councilman Hardy made a motion seconded by Councilman Merrick that it does not meet test due to the shape of the property. Ayes-Hardy, Merrick, Mooring. Councilwoman Dixon did not vote making her vote go to the majority.

Attorney Blanchard will prepare the written response for the variance denial stating it did not meet criteria, no motion to grant given.

Multiuse Path

Ms. Bray asked the board for permission to move forward with contacting Ken Ording of Blackburn and Ording law firm about handling the title search for the DOT Multiuse Path.

COUNCILMAN HARDY MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MERRICK TO GRANT PERMISSION TO CONTACT BLACKBURN & ORDING LAW FIRM ABOUT HANDLING THE TITLE SEARCH FOR DOT MULTIUSE PATH PROJECT. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The chief brief the board on the following items:

- Security Plus Electrical quote for repairs for building renovations in amount of \$1,650.00
- Animal service relationship with Town of Leland that he is currently working on
- Crime data report he read to the board
- Inform the board that the auxiliary officer background was completed and working on shooting qualification.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

COUNCILMAN HARDY MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN DIXON TO APPROVE THE BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

FY 2022-2023 Budget Ordinance Amendment

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Governing Board of the Town of Navassa, North Carolina that the following amendments are made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

Section 1. To amend the General Fund to transfer funds as follows:

General Fund Amendments

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>(Decrease)</u>
10-4300-75	Police Department Renovations	\$2,100.00	
10-3316-02	Fund Balance Appropriation – GF		\$2,100.00

Adopted this the 15th day of September 15, 2022.

COUNCILMEMBER REPORT

Councilman Mooring and Mayor Willis will be attending a workshop in Charlotte regarding Brownfield cleanup.

Councilwoman Dixon has been in contact with NCDOT regarding potholes on Old Mill Road and the signage on the bike path cross on Broadway Street has been installed.

Mayor Willis reminded everyone about the upcoming Brunswick Heritage River Bike ride that will be taking place September 24th.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Ms. Rose Terry express concern about the following item:

- Express concern about the bike riders on Cedar Hill Road for this upcoming bike ride event
- Concern about the mattresses that are being dumped within the Town limits, asking is there anything that can be done
- Requesting a Chain to place on the dead-end street off Cedar Hill Road that is being used for illegal dumping.

Ms. Marva Robinson asked is it the town responsibility regarding maintenance of Johnson Chapel Church cemetery. Also, questioned the responsibility of the town regarding dilapidated homes. Ask for clarification regarding the Morales decision on the variance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

COUNCILMAN BALLARD MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MERRICK TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

COUNCILMAN BALLARD MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN DIXON TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

A directive was given for staff to investigate two employment matters, no decisive action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor adjourned September 15, 2021, meeting.

COUNCILMAN BALLARD MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN DIXON TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.