

**Town of West Jefferson - Board of Aldermen  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
April 1, 2024 | 6:00 pm**

**Board Members Present:** Mayor Tom Hartman, Alderman Rusty Barr, Alderman Calvin Green, Alderman John Reeves, Alderwoman Shelton, and Alderman Stephen Shoemaker

**Town Staff Present:** Town Manager Brantley Price, Assistant Town Manager Rebecca Eldreth, Police Chief Brad Jordan, Maintenance Supervisor Eric Miller, and Wastewater Superintendent Brandon Patrick

At 6:00 pm Mayor Hartman called to order the meeting of the Board of Aldermen. After the invocation was given, those in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of April 1, 2024 Agenda** – Alderman Barr made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Alderman Reeves seconded with a motion of 5-0 in favor.

**Public Hearings**

**Consideration of Permanently Closing Proposed Road Off Wade Vannoy Road** – Mayor Hartman stated the purpose of the public hearing is to hear any comments on the proposed road closure off Wade Vannoy Road. The public hearing was open at 6:01pm. With no comment, Mayor Hartman closed the public hearing at 6:02pm.

**Regular Session**

**Approval of Minutes** – With no discussion, Alderman Shoemaker made the motion to approve the minutes to the regular meeting on March 4 and Special meetings on March 20 as presented. Alderwoman Shelton seconded the motion with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Consideration of Permanently Closing Proposed Road Off Wade Vannoy Road** – With no discussion, Alderman Shoemaker made the motion to permanently close the proposed road off Wade Vannoy Drive between the Miller and McGuire properties. Alderman Barr seconded the motion with a vote of -0 in favor.

**Consideration of Resolution of Street Closure for Christmas in July & Antique Fair** – With no discussion, Alderman Barr made the motion to approve the resolutions as presented. Alderman Reeves seconded the motion with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Consideration of ABC Appointment** – The board was in unanimous agreement to reappointment of Jak Reeves to the ABC Board. Alderman Barr made the motion to approve the reappointment. Alderwoman Shelton seconded with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Consideration of the NCDOT Local Agreement for Debris Removal** – The NCDOT is requesting the approval of the Disaster Related Debris Removal Agreement so that is the town was needed to assist during a disaster this agreement would allow the town to be reimbursed by FEMA. Alderman Shoemaker made the motion to approve the agreement as presented. Alderman Reeves seconded with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Discussion of Budget Meeting Date** – The board agreed to meet Monday, April 22 at 6:00pm.

**Discussion of Board of Adjustment Date** – The board agreed to meet Monday, May 13 at 5:30pm.

**Tax Releases** – With no discussion, Alderman Shoemaker made the motion to approve the tax release as presented. Alderman Barr seconded the motion with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Summer Cruise Ins** – Mayor Hartman talked about the starting time for the cruise ins this summer and requested for the events to start at 4:00pm on Saturdays. Alderman Green made the motion for the cruise ins to start at 4:00pm on Saturdays and leave the start time at 3:00pm on Sundays. Alderman Reeves seconded the motion with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Police Report** – Chief Jordan gave his report to the Board for the month. A total of 233 calls were dispatched through the communications center including 8 motor vehicle crashes, 11 larcenies, 2 drug cases, 3 DWIs, 5 trespasses, 19 minor citations, and other miscellaneous calls. Chief Jordan mention that the town should consider writing town citations verse state citations. The Board thanked Chief Jordan for his report.

**Water & Wastewater Report** – Wastewater Superintendent Brandon Patrick gave his report to the Board. Almost 6 inches of rain were reported for the month. Annual water reports for the previous year have been submitted. Both filters have continued to run at full capacity. The Board thanked Brandon for his report.

**Maintenance Report** – Maintenance Supervisor Eric Miller gave his report to the Board. Monthly totals were reported with 20 locate tickets, 1 water tap was made, 3 water leaks, and 2 sewer issues. The maintenance department finished flushing sewer lines, opened the park bathrooms, prepared the fence to paint, washed and put away the salt truck, and picked up brush. The Board thanked Eric for his report.

**Town Managers Report** – Town Manager Brantley Price gave his report to the Board. The contract awarded to Municipal Engineering for the lead service line project was awarded prematurely as a letter to fund the project has not been received. LGC approval will be needed before moving on with the project. The AIA water and sewer project is scheduled to begin this month with NC Rural Water. Both trails at Paddy Mountain Park are complete. Construction on the connector loop to the parking lot has begun. Bid documents should be completed by mid-May, so advertisements for a contractor to oversee the project can be published. Taxes collected to date total 95% of the levy. Sales tax is up .6% over last year. The TDA marketing campaign is scheduled to start April 15<sup>th</sup> through June 10<sup>th</sup> with digitals ads, google, YouTube, Facebook, and Google display. Television ads will be broadcasted in April to the Charlotte and Greensboro markets. The Scottish Highlands dance students will be performing at the Backstreet stage on April 26<sup>th</sup>. The Shrine Club will be holding their annual paper drive on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. The library plans to host a foam party in the park on June 20<sup>th</sup>. Town Manager Price read an article that GE will be adding an additional \$5 million investment to the WJ plant in the next couple of years. The Board thanked Brantley for his report.

**Public Comments** – Town resident Shelley Elliott shared with the board that West Jefferson was mentioned in an article in Blue Ridge Country magazine.

**Aldermen Comments** – Alderman Green started off alderman comments for the board. Alderman Green stated that he would like to see more accommodations for visitors and would

like to welcome a new hotel to town. Alderwoman Shelton complemented the landscaping throughout the town and restated that she would like to see white lights in the tree year-round. Alderman Barr and Alderman Reeves thanked the town employees for a job well done. Alderman Shoemaker extended the appreciation to everyone including everyone, employees, and new businesses.

**Adjournment** – With nothing further, Alderman Shoemaker made the motion to adjourn the regular meeting, seconded by Alderman Barr with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

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Tom Hartman, Mayor

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Rebecca Eldreth, Town Clerk