

**MINUTES OF MIDWAY TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MAY 6, 2019 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT MIDWAY TOWN HALL, 426 GUMTREE ROAD, MIDWAY, NORTH CAROLINA**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor John Byrum called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present.

Pastor Julie Peeler of Oak Forest United Methodist Church in Midway gave the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance prior to the opening gavel.

Councilors present were: Jackie Edwards (arrived 7:10), Keith Leonard, Mike McAlpine, Todd Nifong and Robin Moon. Absent: None. Town Manager Tammy Michael, Town Clerk Linda Hunt, Deputy Clerk Tammy Robertson and Town Attorney Jim Lanik were present.

Each Councilor had been furnished an agenda prior to the meeting.

No members of the press were in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine, seconded by Councilor Robin Moon, Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2019 Budget Workshop as presented.

On motion by Councilor Todd Nifong, seconded by Councilor Keith Leonard, Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2019 Town Council regular meeting as presented.

On motion by Councilor Robin, seconded by Councilor Todd Nifong, Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2019 Budget Workshop as presented.

**PUBLIC ADDRESS**

Jeff and Mona Hardiman of 213 Meadow Trail thanked Council and specifically Councilor Robin Moon for his help in addressing an issue with neighbors firing guns. Mrs. Hardiman stated that the shooting has stopped, and that the neighborhood is much quieter.

Joan Lowder of 196 Ju Lenoir Drive expressed to Council her desire to have a grocery store in Midway. Mayor John Byrum addressed Ms. Lowder's request by stating that the Town is currently in the second year of a contract with Retail Strategies, a marketing firm from Birmingham Alabama that is aiding the Town in securing new business. Currently, with three Food Lions and a Walmart nearby, it is making it difficult to secure a grocer for the Town. Having a grocery store in the Town continues to be a top priority for Council.

**ADOPT AGENDA**

On motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine, seconded by Councilor Jackie Edwards, Council voted unanimously to adopt the agenda as presented.

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

**PRESENTATION – DAVIDSON COUNTY SHERIFF RICHIE SIMMONS**

Davidson County Sheriff Richie Simmons shared with those in attendance, a summary of his first six months in office and aspirations that he has for the citizens of Davidson County. Sheriff Simmons stated that he wants to be reachable and touchable for the citizens and wants to build a community of trust.

Sheriff Simmons said that in the first six months of office, the department has lost a K-9 officer and had two officer-involved shootings. He described this time as like “riding a bull,” it has been very difficult. The first body camera in the history of the Sheriff’s Office has been installed and was able to capture a shooting on video.

Sheriff Simmons described a new Trace Team that can act immediately when drug-related calls are received. Heroin overdoses are declining but crystal methamphetamine overdoses are rising. Sheriff Simmons stated that the department makes drug arrests every day and has a Task Force Drug Enforcement officer in Davidson County.

For years the Sheriff’s Department has been educating fifth-grade students through a program called Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) that seeks to prevent the use of controlled drugs, membership in gangs and violent behavior. Beyond fifth grade, there are no programs available that will continue educating students about the harm in using drugs.

Middle school years are some of the most difficult for children and a new program called Teenage, Alcohol, Marijuana Education (T.A.M.E.) will be offered for those students starting next year. Funding for this program will come from ABC revenues that the ABC Board is required to give to the Sheriff’s Department annually. This equates to \$26,000 next year.

At the high school level, Sheriff Simmons would like for there to be opportunities for at-risk students to intern with businesses to give them a more solid foundation by keeping them away from drugs. He is also interested in a program called Trosa, that Durham County has started, that takes an individual before their sentencing, and offers them drug rehabilitation for two years, instead of prison time. With the Trosa program, an individual would work for two years without pay, but Trosa would provide the treatment that would enable the individual to make a fresh start. If the individual quits the program before completed, then the individual would, in turn, serve their prison sentence. The Trosa program has a seventy-eight percent success rate.

Sheriff Simmons said that he would like to have a larger jail. Currently, the Davidson County jail is running at one hundred ten percent of capacity which is three hundred three individuals. Only the most dangerous inmates are being housed. Looking into the future, Sheriff Simmons would ideally like to have a six hundred bed jail. He said that currently, \$40 per day is made from housing inmates that are serving a ninety-one day to two-year sentence, \$80-150 per day by housing Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE) prisoners and \$214 for housing juveniles. It only costs \$12 per day to house and provide for the needs of inmates.

Sheriff Simmons said that he would like for communities to get involved to help take care of each other. The Sheriff’s Office is also looking at a citizen’s academy to teach individuals what the sheriff’s department does each day along with adding satellite offices throughout the county.

**PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020 - CALL FOR PUBLIC HEARING**

**A. PRESENTATION OF BUDGET BY TOWN MANAGER**

In accordance with North Carolina General Statutes, Town Manager Tammy Michael presented the proposed budget and budget message for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 in the amount of \$2,360,535.00 to Town Council.

In her budget message, Mrs. Michael stated that the budget embodies results of the Budget Workshops held by Council on March 28 and April 15, 2019. The budget represents fundamentally conservative

governmental service provision and revenue projections. The elected body aims to balance resident quality of life with business opportunity and improve recreational amenities through sound financial management. It also continues to maintain a historically strong fund balance, minimal debt and use of cash for nearly all recurring expenses and capital. An appropriation from fund balance for \$957,735.00 is used to balance the budget.

Accountant Tony Brewer with the Town of Midway's audit firm Eddie Carrick, CPA reviewed the proposed budget and recommended increasing the projected sales tax revenues; stating that "historically the Town of Midway receives more in sales tax revenue than what is budgeted, thus reducing the fund balance amount required to balance the 2019-2020 budget."

The recreational use 38 acres of undeveloped land off Gumtree Road purchased in 2013 continues to be an important project for Council and substantial funding is included for this purpose. While use of a portion of the property may still be dedicated for a future active recreational facility, the Council will proceed with design and improvements dedicated for passive enjoyment for the community. This budget allocates up to \$1,200,000.00 toward this endeavor during the next year.

The proposed tax rate remains unchanged at five cents (.05) per \$100 valuation.

The following municipal services are offered for Town residents and businesses:

- Solid Waste and Recycling Collection
- Streetlights
- Land Use Planning, Zoning and Code Enforcement
- Augmented Public Safety

This budget is balanced and prepared in accordance with the North Carolina Budget and Fiscal Control Act. On June 3, 2019 the Town Council will hold a public hearing on the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 budget. Any person who wishes to be heard on the budget may appear at that time. This budget may be reviewed at Town Hall or online at [www.midway-nc.gov](http://www.midway-nc.gov).

### **B. CALL FOR PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020**

On motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine, seconded by Councilor Keith Leonard, Council voted unanimously to call for a public hearing on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2019-2020 to be held on June 3, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall located at 426 Gumtree Road in Midway, North Carolina.

### **AMENDMENTS TO GRANT APPLICATION AND GUIDELINES**

At the Budget Workshop held on April 15, 2019, Council requested that the Grant Request for Financial Support and the Grant Application Guidelines be amended limiting applicants to one grant per fiscal year.

Council was presented an amended Grant Request for Financial Support and Grant Application Guidelines for approval.

On motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine, seconded by Councilor Todd Nifong, Council voted unanimously to approve the amendments to the Grant Application and Grant Application Guidelines limiting applicants to one grant per fiscal year as presented.

### **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORTS**

### **MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT**

Town Manager Tammy Michael provided Council with monthly financial reports for April 30, 2019 as follows:

**April 30, 2019**

Total Income	\$ 1,319,663	100.3 % of overall budget
Total Expenses	\$ 582,455	44.3 % of overall budget

For information only.

**REMINDER: OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY, MONDAY, MAY 27, 2019**

Town Hall will be closed on Monday, May 27, 2019 in observance of Memorial Day.

For information only.

(Mayor Byrum called for a ten-minute recess)

**RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION**

On motion by Councilor Todd Nifong, seconded by Councilor Jackie Edwards, Council voted unanimously to recess to closed session in accordance with N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3) to discuss matters pertaining to attorney-client privilege.

**RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

On motion by Councilor Jackie Edwards, seconded by Councilor Keith Leonard, Council voted unanimously to reconvene to open session.

Upon returning to open session, Councilor Todd Nifong said that he had received a quote from FilmTek LLC for \$191 to tint the door and side lights in the Council Chambers. It was the consensus of Council to proceed with the tinting of the door and side lights for \$191 using a five percent tint.

It was the consensus of Council for staff to coordinate a time for the Town Park Groundbreaking Ceremony and to have a Town Park sign installed announcing the construction of the park.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion by Councilor Todd Nifong, seconded by Councilor Jackie Edwards, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

---

John E. Byrum, Mayor

---

Tammy H. Robertson, Deputy Clerk