

**MINUTES OF MIDWAY TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MAY 2, 2022 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 Chuck Ireson of Midway United Methodist Church gave the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance prior to the opening gavel.

Councilors present were: John Byrum, Jackie Edwards, Keith Leonard, Mike McAlpine, and Berkley Alcorn. Absent: Robin Moon. 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 press were in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine, seconded by Councilor Jackie Edwards, Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2022 Budget Workshop as presented.

On motion by Councilor Keith Leonard, seconded by Councilor Berkley Alcorn, Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2022 Town Council Regular meeting as presented.

**PUBLIC ADDRESS**

Pastor Chuck Ireson of Midway United Methodist Church addressed Council about the possibility of having a Community Prayer Walk at the Park, an event that he envisions bringing people together from area churches of all denominations to encourage and pray for one another. It would be an opportunity to connect with other Christians and build friendships.

**ADOPT AGENDA**

Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine requested the agenda be amended as follows:

**ADD** item number 2 under VI. REGULAR BUSINESS Town Hall Security Cameras Proposal – AlarmQuest, LLC

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

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

**PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED BUDGETS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 – CALL FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**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 2022-2023 in the amount of \$4,392,174.00 to Town Council.

In her budget message, Mrs. Michael stated that the budget embodies results of the Budget Workshops held by Council on March 24, 2022 and April 25, 2022. The budget represents fundamentally conservative governmental service provision and revenue projections. The elected body aims to balance residential 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 \$ 2,803,960.00 is used to balance the budget.

The recreational use of 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 recreational facility, the Council will proceed with the construction of the Town Park Shelter and Gazebo project dedicated for passive enjoyment of the community. This budget allocates up to \$3,125,000.00 toward this endeavor during the next fiscal 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 6, 2022 the Town Council will hold a public hearing on the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023 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. PRESENTATION OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP) BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023**

On March 11, 2021, the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) became law, thereby, granting substantial aid to state and local governments. The Town of Midway qualifies for monies and has received the first round of funds on July 23, 2021. The second disbursement should be distributed within one year after the first. The monies must be obligated by December 31, 2024, and all funds must be expended by December 31, 2026.

After conferring with Tony Brewer, the Town's auditor with Eddie Carrick CPA-PC, it was advised the Town Council to adopt a separate annual budget for the ARP Funds. Also, the Town's accounting firm, Cannon and Company, will create an additional software account independent of the Town's General Fund to track and maintain the funds.

The Town of Midway received the first deposit of ARP Funds in the amount of \$782,720.92 on July 23, 2021 and the funds were deposited in the Town of Midway's ARP Funds account at Home Trust Bank.

On October 4, 2021, Town Council held a public hearing to accept the ARP monies and establish an American Rescue Plan Budget for FY 2021-2022 by Budget Ordinance No. 22-01.

*In North Carolina, local governments must have statutory authority to undertake any activity, including the receipt and expenditure of federal grant/aid monies. The fact that the federal government is providing monies either directly or indirectly to NC local governments does not, alone,*

*give those local governments authority to spend that money. State law authorizes specifically **G.S. 160A-17.1**, which allows*

*the governing body of any city or county...to make contracts for and to accept grants-in-aid and loans from the federal and State governments and their agencies for constructing, expanding, maintaining, and operating any project or facility, or performing any function, which such city and county may be authorized by general law or local act to provide or perform.*

*Thus, a local government has specific authority to accept ARP funds but must spend the monies consistent with federal requirements and within the contours of state law authority. Note, also, that once grant proceeds are received by a local government, they are public funds and subject to the same budgeting, fiscal management, expenditure control, and accounting rules as all other government monies, according to the **Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act, G.S. Ch. 159, Art. E.***

Town Manager Tammy Michael stated that the ARP budget will need to be amended once the second installment of ARP funds are received, most likely in June or July.

**C. CALL FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS – PROPOSED BUDGETS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022- 2023**

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 2022-2023 to be held on Monday, June 6, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall located at 426 Gumtree Road in Midway, North Carolina.

On motion by Councilor Jackie Edwards, seconded by Councilor Berkley Alcorn, Council voted unanimously to call for a public hearing on the proposed American Rescue Plan (ARP) budget for fiscal year 2022-2023 to be held on Monday, June 6, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall located at 426 Gumtree Road in Midway, North Carolina.

**TOWN HALL SECURITY CAMERAS PROPOSAL – ALARMQUEST, LLC.**

This item was added to the agenda.

Town Hall's current security system was installed during the renovations to Town Hall and is now in need of repairs and replacement of cameras and other hardware. AlarmQuest installed, maintains, and monitors the door alarm component of the system.

Town Staff met with Shawn Logan, the representative for AlarmQuest, to evaluate the system and submit a proposal for repairing and upgrading the current alarm system. Mr. Logan presented the quotation in the amount of **\$9,423.00.**

- Upgrade camera system to new NDAA compliant 4k video
- 16 channel NVR
- Replace existing eight (8) cameras
- Add two additional cameras at the back of Town Hall

By upgrading the current system, Town Hall will have the capacity to monitor areas of the playgrounds (different views than Town Park security system.) Also, the two additional cameras will allow extra views of the parking lot. This camera system is a stand-alone system from the Town Park security system and allows for redundancy in the event of either system being offline.

Town Attorney Jim Lanik stated he spoke with AlarmQuest representative Shawn Logan in regards to the complexity of the contract as proposed by AlarmQuest and his desire to make it more simplistic. The original contract presented to Council is the standard contract used by the company. Mr. Lanik suggested revisions to the contract since the proposal only provides for equipment and no monitoring, which AlarmQuest representatives accepted. Mr. Lanik approves the contract as revised.

On motion by Councilor Jackie Edwards, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine, Council voted unanimously to approve the contract with AlarmQuest, LLC. for the purchase and installation of upgrades to the security cameras at Town Hall in the amount of \$9,423.00.

### **TOWN MANAGERS REPORTS**

#### **MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT**

Town Manager Tammy Michael provided Council with monthly financial reports for April 30, 2022 as follows:

#### **APRIL 30, 2022**

Total Income	\$ 1,995,817	108.2 % of overall budget
Total Expenses	\$ 1,021,455	55.4 % of overall budget

For information only.

### **TOWN PARK UPDATE**

#### **1. SHELTER & GAZEBO**

- Two meetings held in April with architects and contractor. The bi-monthly meetings are to maintain steady communication and select materials, colors, etc., initiate any change orders if necessary
- Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>
- Additional Port-a-john ordered to accommodate increase in visitors
- Bids submitted for septic tank installations

#### **2. PLAYGROUND - No changes/updates**

- Landscaping will begin soon
- Additional shading may be ordered
- Waiting on picnic tables to be shipped (late spring/early summer)

### **REMINDER: TOWN HALL CLOSED ON MONDAY, MAY 30, 2022 IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY**

Town Hall will be closed on Monday, May 30, 2022 in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.

Reminder only.

Mayor Byrum thanked Town Manager Tammy Michael and staff for the time and effort that it takes to prepare the budget for the Town. The commitment of staff to the Town on a daily basis is appreciated.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On motion by Councilor Jackie Edwards, seconded by Councilor Berkley Alcorn, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 p.m.

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John E. Byrum, Mayor

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Tammy H. Robertson, Deputy Clerk