

NAVASSA REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

October 21, 2021

7:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Eulis Willis, Mayor
William Ballard, Councilman
Antonio Burgess, Councilman

Jerry Merrick, Councilman
Minnie Brown, Councilwoman

MEMBERS ABSENT

James Hardy, Councilman

STAFF PRESENT

Barnes Sutton, Planner
Claudia Bray, Administrator

Jackie Green Admin. Assistant
Attorney Norwood Blanchard

STAFF ABSENT

Michelyn Alston, Clerk

CITIZENS & VISITORS PRESENT

Zoom participants

Darryl Decotis

The Invocation was led by Councilman Ballard.
Before Mayor Willis called September 16, 2021, meeting to order at 7:30pm.

ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

The Administrator asked for the following three items to be removed from the agenda.

- 7c. Police Department Renovations Totally Electric Quote
- 7d. Police Department Renovations Graham Security Quote
- 10a. Budget Amendment O-2021-06

Also, asked that the following three items be added to the agenda.

- 7c. Quote from Reliant Special Police Department, Inc.
- 7d. Equipment Use Agreement with Dreamscape Landscaping
- 10a. Date for a Special Meeting

**COUNCILMAN BALLARD MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY
COUNCILWOMAN BROWN TO APPROVE THE ADJUSTMENTS 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 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES WITH ANY CORRECTIONS IF THERE BE ANY. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution Amending Personnel Policy Covid Vaccination

Attorney Blanchard provide update on what qualifies as an exemption for the COVID 19 vaccination. The two exemptions are religious beliefs and Underlying health issues. Councilmembers held a brief discussion on the “sunshine date” for vaccination with the attorney informing them that the board can change at will.

COUNCILMAN MERRICK MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BALLARD TO ACCEPT THE RESOLUTION AMENDING PERSONNEL POLICY TO CREATE INCENTIVES FOR COVID VACCINATION R-2021-09 AS WRITTEN. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

Amending Personnel Policy to Create Incentives for COVID Vaccination

Whereas, on March 10, 2020, the Honorable Roy Cooper, Governor of the State of North Carolina, declared a State of Emergency to coordinate North Carolina’s response and protective actions to address the public health emergency created by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) and to provide for the health, safety and welfare of residents and visitors located in North Carolina; and

Whereas, on June 10, 2021, Governor Cooper issued Executive Order No. 219, authorizing certain incentives by the State of North Carolina to encourage citizens to become vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus in order to help accelerate statewide vaccination efforts in an attempt to curb the spread of the virus; and

Whereas, on September 9, 2021, the President of the United States issued an Executive Order finding that COVID-19 vaccines are widely available in the United States, and that such vaccines are proven to be safe and effective to protect people from getting infected and severely ill, and significantly reduce the likelihood of hospitalization and death from COVID-19; and

Whereas, the governing body of the Town of Navassa has concluded supporting the efforts to encourage vaccination among the Town’s employees would further the health, safety

and welfare of the citizens and residents of Navassa, and such efforts would also have the effect of providing for a safer workplace.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Town Council of the Town of Navassa hereby amends Article VII, Section 12 of the Personnel Policy to include the following provision:

Section 12(a). In an effort to encourage all full and part-time employees of the Town of Navassa to become vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus, effective 10/21/2021, the Town will require all current employees to provide evidence of vaccination against the COVID-19 virus, consistent with the standards set forth in the Emergency Temporary Standard proposed by the President on or about September 9, 2021. The Town Administrator is directed to require such proof of vaccination of employees as is required under the proposed Emergency Temporary Standard, subject to such exemptions as may be required by law, including any directives of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the United States Department of Labor, or the State of North Carolina. The Town Administrator may provide a reasonable amount of time to employees to bring themselves in compliance. This provision of the Personnel Policy shall expire on the earlier of these dates: (a) June 30, 2022; (b) the date designated in the Emergency Temporary Standard; or (c) at such time as the Governor of the State of North Carolina declares that the State of Emergency to address the COVID-19 virus is rescinded.

Adopted this the 21st day of October, 2021.

Dreamscape Quote

Ms. Bray informed the board that the ditches and side road maintenance wasn't included in the prior motion for services from Dreamscape. The original contract only included 3 parks, 4 cemeteries, and a special maintenance for upcoming bike ride. The Equipment Use Agreement and rates would be for ditches and roadside maintenance at the rate of \$45/hour using town equipment without using town equipment \$50/hour. Also, Dreamscape would be responsible for equipment damage and fuel.

COUNCILMAN MERRICK MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BURGESS TO ENTER INTO EQUIPMENT USE AGREEMENT WITH DREAMSCAPE LANDSCAPING. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

Reliant Special Police Department, Inc.

Mr. Decotis presented to the board an agreement with Reliant Special Police Department, Inc regarding having them inventoried and catalog all the PD evidence.

COUNCILMAN MERRICK MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BURGESS TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH RELIANT SPECIAL POLICE DEPARTMENT, INC. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Davis Creek Beautification

Mr. Sutton made the recommendation to the board a quote from Dreamscape Landscaping in the amount of \$1,450.00 for the Davis Creek Beautification project.

COUNCILMAN BURGESS MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MERRICK TO ACCEPT THE QUOTE FROM DREAMSCAPE LANDSCAPING IN THE AMOUNT \$1,450.00 FOR DAVIS CREEK BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

NCDEQ MS4 Permit

Mr. Sutton request approval to adopt the stormwater management plan as part of the State renewal permit process.

COUNCILMAN MERRICK MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN BROWN TO ACCEPT THE PLANNER RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL OF THE STORMWATER PERMIT NCDEQ MS4. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Special Meeting

The administrator will poll board members for availability for the special meeting to discuss the Town's project and send notification.

COUNCILMEMBER REPORT

Councilman Burgess requested an update on the upcoming bike ride that is scheduled for October 23rd.

Mr. Sutton informed the board that the registration will be begin at 6:30 am-7:15am, Participant will leave from Phoenix Park at 7:30 am traveling to Belville returning to Phoenix Park, 100 participants for this event.

Councilman Burgess asked if the community is aware of Ride Micro program. Mayor informed the board that flyers were provided throughout and suggested that board members pick up some to distribute.

Councilman Ballard informed the board about the ongoing racing on Cedar Hill Road that is becoming a nuisance and asked about the status of the Police Department staffing.

Mayor stated his concerns about the dirt bikes and 4 wheelers on the street on the weekend.

Councilwoman Brown added to the report that they are taking advantage of the PD situation.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Ms. Ida Dixon wanted to inform the board about the parking for the bike ride suggesting using the lot across the street from Phoenix Park or the Church parking lot. Also asked if the board could designate an area within the town for the people to ride the 4 wheelers.

Mr. Al Beatty questioned if the Town was still in the water/sewer business? Also, asked that the Town assists the citizens who do not have sewer to obtain it.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor adjourned October 21, 2021, meeting.

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

ATTEST:

Town Clerk

Mayor Pro Tem