

BADIN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – SPECIAL MEETING

February 17, 2025

BADIN TOWN HALL

VISITORS

None.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Demar Huntley, Mayor

Charles Council, Mayor Pro Tem

Deloris Chambers

Dale Ward

Gary Rife

STAFF PRESENT:

Jay Almond, Town Manager

Opening prayer by Deloris Chambers.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag recited.

Mayor Huntley called the meeting to order.

BUSINESS

Council discussed Waterfront Park project. Council consensus to use 12 ADA rectangle picnic tables with side overhang. Almond will check prices from Global Industrial. Almond will consult Local Government Commission (LGC) before recommending use of a large sum of town funds for Badin Waterfront Park - Phase 1. He will contact PARTF to learn range of changes to approved contract. PARTF checklist must be met for grant reimbursement. If requirements aren't met, town must pay back grant reimbursements. Parking lot, walking trail, site prep are completed. Water/Sewer, restrooms, playground and pavilion are not completed. There is nearly \$80,000 left in waterfront park account. PARTF is reimbursable, first it must be spent on qualifying items, then requested for reimbursement. \$60,000 has been reimbursed to town to date for drawings and documents. Including PARTF grant, town is approximately \$400,000 short to finish Phase 1. The council requests itemized list of completed work. If the town doesn't meet grant requirements, the \$60,000 already reimbursed will have to be returned to PARTF. Huntley asked how much is needed for storm water projects. Estimates will be available after scope of work is completed. Council discussed options storm water funds that could go toward the park. \$150,000 was designated to the police department for cars, Tasers, and radios, leaving about \$428,000 for storm water projects. Council would like to see all town funds. Almond said staff is more than happy to provide but requested the council resist considering all funds as "available funds" for the project. LGC says to hold a minimum of 3 months operating expenses exclusive of revenue. Ward said we need 3 months operating expenses in a CD. Almond said NC Capital Management Trust is like a CD, but with better interest rates, and it can be accessed or redeemed anytime without penalty. Almond said the LGC would have to be consulted before a large expenditure. Huntley said council is at a crossroads and needs to make a decision. Almond recommends moving forward until a definitive "all stop" point is met. Ward requested a breakdown of funds from the waterfront park construction company. Huntley said we narrowed the sidewalk to reduce cost but haven't seen the cost compared to the estimate. Rife said it would also be helpful to get estimates from Chambers on the storm water project. Almond said Chambers is doing only the scope of work, Thompson Grading is the construction contractor.

Motion to move forward on Phase 1: Rife

Second: C. Council

Discussion: Ward wants to know what funds we have left to pull from.

Rife amended his motion to move forward on Phase 1 pending review of information requested including the conversation with the LGC, PARTF, contractors, finances and town financial position.

Second: C. Council

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Council discussed donation options for Badin Waterfront Park. The council must decide what items to ask for before putting out information requesting donations. The park needs 12 picnic tables, 4 grills, and 4 trash cans. The town can use Facebook and the Badin Villager newsletter to announce the donation possibilities. C. Council mentioned mailing a flyer to Badin residents. Huntley suggested getting a packet together including the town's donation application. Council discussed corporate sponsors, rotary club, and local businesses.

Council discussed auction for town surplus items. Huntley said to discuss the auction at the March 10 council meeting. The council discussed the asset list and equipment. Ward said funds received from auction should go toward conference center. Almond recommended that the council stay on topic of waterfront park project per the agenda which was advertised. Rife said they need a scope of work for the conference center for contractors. Almond will send the scope created by Construction Professionals Network Institute partner HICAPS.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn February 17, 2025 Special Meeting: C. Council

Second: Chambers

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Minutes approved March 11, 2025.

Minutes prepared by Amanda Bowers.