

Regular Meeting – January 17, 2023

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fairmont-South Robeson Heritage Center with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Terry Evans, Melvin Ellison, Jan Tedder-Rogers, and Clarence McNeill, Jr. Commissioner Heather Seibles was absent. Staff present included Town Manager Jerome Chestnut, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Town Attorney Jessica Scott, Public Works Director Ronnie Seals, and Police Chief Jonathan Edwards. Several citizens were also present including Rev. Harold Salmon, D'Miyah Jackson, Kadajah Hunt, and Gabriel Washington

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Rev. Harold Salmon, Pastor of Olivet Methodist Church gave the invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor's Presentations

Recognition of three students from area schools who have displayed unity.

Mayor Kemp presented certificates to three students from local schools who have been chosen as the 2023 Dr. Martin Luther King Unity Award winners. They are D'Miyah Jackson, 4th grader at Rosenwald Elementary School, Khadiyah Hunt, 8th grader at Fairmont Middle School, and Gabriel Washington, 11th grader at Fairmont High School,

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Ellison seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance

Nate Thompson

Mr. Nate Thompson questioned how the board responds to citizens during a board meeting.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Commissioner Evans and seconded by Commissioner Ellison, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following consent agenda items:

- a. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, December 20, 2022.
- b. Ordinance 23-222 – Budget Amendment #5
- c. FPIC LGC response letter

A signed copy of the ordinance and letter and hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Old Business

There was no old business this month.

New Business

Resolution 23-01 – Accepting offer and authorizing the sale of the vacant lot on 401 South Main Street (former location of Lumbee River EMC).

Town Manager Jerome Chestnut informed the board that Melecio’s Restaurant has offered \$5,000 for the vacant lot located at 401 South Main Street (former location of Lumbee River EMC). They plan to use the lot for parking. The property was properly advertised, and no upset bids were received. Commissioner Evans made a motion to adopt Resolution 23-01 – Accepting offer and authorizing the sale of the vacant lot on 401 South Main Street (former location of Lumbee River EMC). Commissioner Ellison seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A signed copy of this resolution is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Engineering Agreement – StRAP Drainage Improvements Project No. 22-080-4033.

Town Manager Jerome Chestnut asked the board to approve the professional engineering agreement with LKC Engineering, PLLC, for the \$250,000 StRAP Drainage Improvement Project No. 22-080-4033. Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve the engineering agreement with LKC Engineering, PLLC, for the StRAP Drainage Improvement Project No. 22-080-4033 in the amount of \$37,500.00. Commissioner Ellison seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A signed copy of the agreement is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Commissioner and Mayor Comments

The commissioners thanked the citizens for coming to the meeting and voicing their concerns.

Commissioner Evans would like the town’s current curfew ordinance to be strengthened.

Mayor Kemp thanked the Stop the Violence organization for hosting the Dr. Martin Luther King ceremony. There were 165 people in attendance at the program.

Mayor Kemp announced that Kammeron Polverari will be having a book signing for her historical novel “From the Fires Scattered There” on Friday, February 10 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at The Stage on Thompson Street.

Mayor Kemp announced that the Pride in Fairmont Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, February 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fairmont-South Robeson Heritage Center. He will recognize 141 citizens who gave their time, money and effort to make Fairmont a better place in 2022.

Town Manager Comments

Town Manager Jerome Chestnut said 2023 was off to a great start with economic development and flood mitigation.

Announcements

Tuesday, January 24 - Quarterly Issue Forum, 6:00 p.m., Fairmont-South Robeson Heritage Center.

Tuesday, February 7 – Pride in Fairmont Ceremony, 7:00 p.m., Fairmont-South Robeson Heritage Center

Saturday, February 11 – Senior Bingo, 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m., Fairmont-South Robeson Heritage Center.

Tuesday, February 21 - Regular Town Board meeting, 6:00 p.m., Fairmont-South Robeson Heritage Center

Adjournment

Commissioner Evans made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 p.m. Commissioner Tedder-Rogers seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Jennifer H. Larson
Town Clerk