

**Town of Washington Park
Municipal Building
May 2, 2022
7:00 p.m.**

United Bank	General Fund	\$ 350,365.19
United Bank	Capital Reserve Fund/Truck Fund	82,100.00
United Bank	Powell Bill Checking	20,748.72
United Bank	Powell Bill/Saving CD	65,349.12
United Bank	Capital Reserve Fund/CD	76,304.56
United Bank	American Rescue Plan Act Fund	<u>68,278.93</u>
Total		\$ 663,146.52

Present

Thomas Richter, Mayor
Jeff Peacock, Mayor pro tem
Belinda Cowell, Commissioner
Lee Bowen, Commissioner
Wade Dale, Commissioner
Patrick Nash, Commissioner

Absent

Mayor Richter called the meeting to order.

Mayor pro tem Peacock made a motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Dale. Passed by all.

There was no public input.

The financial report and the minutes were approved after correction upon motion by Commissioner Nash. Seconded by Commissioner Bowen. Passed by all.

Old Business

320 Isabella Avenue: Clerk Dale reported that there was a hearing scheduled with the Building Inspector and the owner of the residence on May 16, 2022 at 11:00 am. She said that the resident had been notified by certified letter, regular letter, and a posting of the notice on the front door of 320 Isabella Avenue.

North side of Isabella Ave East end: no report.

Eastern Washington Park town boundary: Commissioner Bowen reported that the Town Attorney is continuing the title search.

Replacement dump truck: No update at this time.

Parking vehicles in the Town's rights-of-way: No report from the Planning Board yet.

Washington Park Land Use Plan: No report from the Planning Board yet.

Commissioner Nash made a motion to go into closed session for a personnel issue. Seconded by Commissioner Dale. Passed by all.

Commissioner Nash made a motion to come out of closed session and resume the regular meeting. Seconded by Mayor pro tem Peacock. Passed by all.

New Business

The clerk presented the FY 2022-23 budget for review by the Town Board. She went over the budget. Discussion followed. Commissioner Dale made a motion to increase the pay that the Town Board receives per meeting, as there had been no pay raise since 2008. Seconded by Commissioner Bowen. Discussion followed with the recommendation that the mayor receive \$150 per meeting, the mayor pro tem receive \$125 per meeting, and commissioners receive \$100 each per meeting. These changes were made to the budget as well as some minor adjustments in attorney's fees and insurance. Commissioner Dale made a motion to accept the updated budget as reviewed and amended, maintaining the current tax rate of \$.29 per \$100 of value for FY 2022-23. Seconded by Mayor pro tem Peacock. Passed by all. There will be a Public Hearing on the Budget at the next meeting, June 6, 2022 at 7:00 pm. The budget will be available for viewing by the public on May 25 and May 26, 2022 in the Municipal Building from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm.

Reports

Commissioner Dale – reported that stainless steel ties had been purchased to replace the plastic ties that hold the tennis court windscreens in place.

Commissioner Nash – no incidents to report from the Sheriff's Office.

Mayor pro tem Peacock – no report.

Commissioner Bowen – no report.

Commissioner Cowell – reported that a Washington Park tree had been removed in front of the residence at 211 College Avenue. Mayor Richter and Mayor pro tem Peacock both reported that they had spoken with the resident in March and told him that it was not his tree to cut down. Discussion followed. Commissioner Nash will be reporting this as a crime to the Beaufort County Sheriff's office.

Clerk's Report

The clerk reported that she had received three resumes for the Public Works Supervisor position, having advertised in the Washington Daily News and NCWorks. The clerk will be following up with candidates. She reported that one tennis key was sold; that ad valorem taxes of \$1,674.07 had been received; and that local option sales taxes of \$11,024.46 had been received. The clerk reported that the Beaufort County Board of Elections had been paid \$1,897.69 for the November 2021 municipal election; that Brian Wood had been driving the truck since Mr. Woolard resigned; and that the garbage truck had been repaired for \$3,618.20 by Elks Garage for brakes, tie rods, lights, and federal inspection. She reported that James would be on vacation from May 16 through May 20, 2022 and that temporary personnel would be used for his position. The clerk also noted that there was an administrative glitch with the reporting for the ARP quarterly report that

was due on April 30, 2022. There is a current case open with the Treasury Department to remedy the problem.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, June 6, 2022 at 7:00 pm at the Municipal Building.

Denise D. Dale
Clerk, Town of Washington Park