

**Town of Washington Park
Municipal Building
September 12, 2022
7:00 p.m.**

United Bank	General Fund	\$ 347,203.30
United Bank	Capital Reserve Fund/Truck Fund	82,100.00
United Bank	Powell Bill Checking	20,748.72
United Bank	Powell Bill/Saving CD	65,403.75
United Bank	Capital Reserve Fund/CD	76,368.34
United Bank	American Rescue Plan Act Fund	<u>136,524.79</u>
Total		\$ 728,348.90

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. Commissioner Nash made a motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Dale. Passed by all.

There was no public present for public input.

The financial report and the minutes were approved as amended upon motion by Mayor pro tem Peacock. Seconded by Commissioner Bowen. Passed by all.

Old Business

320 Isabella Avenue: Clerk Dale reported that on September 6, 2022, she had sent the Finding of Fact letter written by the City of Washington Building Inspector, Mike Weldin to the owner of the property with the decision. This letter was sent certified, return receipt. The property owner was given until October 27, 2022 to either (a) repair, alter, or improve the building in order to bring it into compliance with the Town Building Code, or (b) vacate, close, remove, or demolish the structure.

North side of Isabella Ave East end: no report.

Eastern Washington Park town boundary: Commissioner Bowen reported that he had spoken with the Town Attorney regarding the updated survey by Sorrell Land Surveying. Discussion followed. Mayor pro tem Peacock made a motion to give the Town Attorney permission to write a letter to Hood Richardson Surveying regarding the updated survey map and title opinion synopsis, and if no answer from Mr. Richardson within a 14-day period, the Town Attorney has the authority to follow up with legal action. Seconded by Commissioner Dale. Passed by all.

Parking vehicles in the Town's rights-of-way: No report from the Planning Board yet. The clerk has reached out to the Planning Board Chairman, Seth Laughlin, who will have this issue presented at a future Planning Board meeting.

Washington Park Land Use Plan: A public hearing for the Land Use Plan will be held at the next regular Board meeting on October 3, 2022. The public notice will be published in the Washington Daily News as required by statute.

Washington Park tree cut on College Avenue: Mayor Richter is awaiting a valuation of the Washington Park pecan tree that was removed.

Washington Park waterfront trees cut down: Mayor Richter has taken a copy of a proposed sign offering a reward for information regarding the cuttings to Lt. Kelly Cox of the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office for his approval. Lt. Cox is head of the Crimestoppers Program in Beaufort County.

New Business

Commissioner Nash initiated a discussion of a tree at the Johnsons' house at 407 River Road. In reviewing the location of the tree, it was determined that the tree is not on Town property and the homeowner can remove it at his expense.

Reports

Commissioner Dale – reported that a Scouting event is scheduled on the waterfront on September 17, 2022; that the metal ties at the bottom of the windscreens at the tennis court have been replaced; that the pine bark mulch has been distributed in the playground; and that Mr. Askew has tightened the chain at the waterfront and put a post where golf carts were coming onto the waterfront.

Commissioner Nash – reported that there had been two incidents during August, one on August 2nd at 100 Riverside Drive, and one at 150 River Road on August 4th. Commissioner Nash also asked permission to block off Walnut Street between Riverside Drive and Isabella Avenue between 3:00 and 6:00 pm on November 12, 2022 for his daughter's wedding. Approval was given by acclamation.

Mayor pro tem Peacock – reported that he was continuing to be impressed by Mr. Askew's initiative regarding equipment and maintenance as well as general good work for Washington Park.

Commissioner Bowen – reported that the homeowner at 505 Fairview Avenue has asked about permission for a driveway on the Hickory Street side of her property. Discussion followed regarding trees and drainage at primary driveway locations.

Commissioner Cowell – reported that the homeowner at 200 Isabella Avenue had asked permission to take down a crepe myrtle tree in his yard that is not dead. Discussion followed regarding the Town policy of removing only dead, diseased, and dangerous trees.

Clerk's Report

The clerk reported that the Town had received \$2328.35 in ad valorem taxes; that the Town had received \$13,293.10 in local option sales tax; and the Town had received

\$68.19 in solid waste tax. She reported that five tennis keys had been sold; that the letter about the new garbage pickup policy had been mailed on September 6, 2022 to all residents and that seven residents had asked about the "Special Sanitation Application." The clerk reported that she had written a letter of Zoning Compliance for 200 Isabella Avenue for a cantilevered roof over sliding glass doors; a letter of Zoning Compliance for 411 River Road for an outbuilding; and a letter of Zoning Compliance for an outbuilding at 100 Spruce Street. Clerk Dale reminded the Town Board that they must complete the Ethics Training by October 31, 2022.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, October 3, 2022 at 7:00 pm at the Municipal Building.

There being no further business, Mayor Richter adjourned the meeting.

Denise D. Dale
Clerk, Town of Washington Park