

**Town of Washington Park
Municipal Building
November 9, 2020
7:00 p.m.**

United Bank	General Fund	\$ 166,031.68
United Bank	Capital Reserve Fund/Truck Fund	82,100.00
United Bank	Powell Bill Checking	12,773.78
United Bank	Powell Bill/Saving CD	65,124.86
United Bank	Capital Reserve Fund/CD	<u>75,978.28</u>
	Total	\$ 402,008.60

Present

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

Absent

Mayor Richter called the meeting to order. Commissioner Dale made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Nash. Passed by all.

Mayor Richter called for public input. Mr. Steve Fuchs and his agent, Maria Wilson, were present to discuss the commercial property that he is buying at 512 River Road. He asked the clerk to read his letter to the Board saying that after his purchase of the property he will demolish the existing buildings and hopes to work with the Town Board for development of this commercial property. Mayor Richter thanked Mr. Fuchs for coming to the Board meeting.

Mayor Richter called on Mr. Will Page. Mr. Page said that he was there representing his parents regarding drainage easement on the east and north of their property. He said that his parents are concerned about the erosion that is occurring in those areas and wanted to begin a discussion regarding this issue. Commissioner Bowen said that the Town's drainage policy and maintenance is evolving and that the Town would be evaluating erosion problems and possible solutions in the future. Mayor Richter thanked Mr. Page for coming to the Board meeting.

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

Old Business

320 Isabella Avenue: Mayor Richter reported that neither he nor the clerk had heard from the property owner.

Hurricane Isaias debris pickup reimbursement: Clerk Dale reported that she had a virtual Recovery Scoping Meeting with FEMA and that most of the documentation for debris removal had been uploaded to the FEMA Grants Portal. The estimated reimbursement is \$19,447.04.

Reports

Commissioner Dale – reported that he had asked the men to blow leaves off the tennis court to prevent staining; that he had asked for more sand to be added to the diggers in the playground, and that there was a wedding on the waterfront scheduled for October 2, 2021.

Commissioner Nash – reported that he had received a report from Will Caputo at the Sheriff's office that they were still having trouble differentiating calls in Washington Park; but that there had been a felony trafficking report in the 300 block of Fairview Avenue. It was also noted that there had been increased Highway Patrol traffic control on River Road.

Mayor pro tem Peacock – reported that the Town audit was complete and the clerk distributed copies of the audit. The clerk noted that there were no red flags per the auditor, and that expenses were greater than revenues this year. The major expenses were the new tractor at \$20,500, the new garbage truck at \$37,900, and the Powell Bill drainage expenses of \$69,012. Mayor pro tem Peacock also asked for an update on the dump truck body. The clerk said that she would ask Mr. Woolard to follow up on that request.

Commissioner Bowen – reported that the private drive grinding and paving should be completed within the next two weeks. He also asked that Mr. Woolard place another stob at the Hickory and Small intersection to prevent people from driving around the speed hump.

Commissioner Cowell – reported that she had spoken with ReLeaf Washington and that they would be planting three trees some time in the end of November. She will speak to Ross Boyer regarding planting small growth trees in the Isabella median.

Mayor Richter said that he had had a conversation with the resident at 620 Bank Street regarding the ditch behind his house. The clerk will ask Mr. Woolard to look at the ditch and revise as needed.

Clerk's Report

The clerk reported that the twenty-four-year-old Municipal Building gas pack had major damage. Commissioner Nash made a motion to have the clerk get bids to replace the unit with an upper limit of \$6000, and award the contract to the lowest bid. Seconded by Mayor pro tem Peacock. Passed by all.

The clerk gave Mr. Woolard's report that the garbage truck transmission needed to be replaced for \$8,600 and that the work will be done by Clarke Power Services in New Bern. The clerk reported that the cart tipper on the garbage truck needed repair. Mr. Woolard is working with Mayor pro tem Peacock and Commissioner Bowen to find options for replacement or repair of the tipper. The clerk said that the Town had received a check from Beaufort County for \$15,595.21 for COVID-19 EMS and Fire personnel contract with the City of Washington through the CARES Act Funding. She reported that the Town had received \$2080 in ad valorem taxes this month; and that the Town had received \$12,272 in local option sales tax revenues; that three tennis keys and two pickleball keys had been sold; that there had been one estate sale permit sold;

and that the mower had been repaired for \$3806 to rebuild the final drive and replace the hydraulic pumps. She also reported that the City of Washington had been paid for the annual Fire and EMS contract for \$42,352. Powell Bill money was used to pay \$150 for a contractor to remove a beaver dam on Maple Branch to help drainage there.

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

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

Denise D. Dale
Clerk, Town of Washington Park