

The Randleman Board of Aldermen held a scheduled meeting on the above date with the following members present:

Gary Betts	(Mayor
Renee Bryant	(Mayor Pro-Tempore
Michael Dawkins	(Alderman At-Large
Melissa Blalock	(Alderwoman
Nancy Henderson	(
Sharon Leonard	(
William J. Johnson	(City Manager
Bob Wilhoit	(Attorney

Meeting Called to Order

Mayor Betts called the scheduled November 09, 2022 Board of Alderman meeting to order.

Pastor Jenna Grogan of First United Methodist Church led the assembly in prayer.

Consent Agenda

City Manager Johnson noted that included in the Consent Agenda were the five policies required from all American Rescue Plan recipients:

1. Eligible Use Policy
2. Conflict of Interest Policy
3. Nondiscrimination Policy
4. Records Retention Policy
5. Allowable Cost Policy

Alderwoman Blalock made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda as submitted, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tempore Bryant and unanimously approved.

Insert: Consent Agenda

Public Comment

No one was present to speak at Public Comment.

Public Hearing – Annexation Request

Manager Johnson stated that N.C.G.S. §160A-58.2 dictates that upon the receipt of a petition for annexation the Board of Aldermen shall fix a date for a public hearing on the proposed annexation. Notice of the hearing shall be published once at least 10 days before the date of the hearing. Randolph Building Supply, LLC., has submitted a petition requesting annexation. The property in question is located on Stout Road (PIN #'s 7755704146 and 7754794804). This property was rezoned residential in 2021. The signed petition was not included in the Board's packets so Planning and Zoning Director, Greg Patton, passed a copy around for the Board members to review and Mr. Johnson stated he would email a copy to the Board the following day and retain a copy at City Hall for Alderwoman Blalock.

Alderwoman Blalock made a motion to call for a Public Hearing for an annexation request on December 06, 2022, seconded by Alderwoman Henderson and unanimously approved.

Budget Ordinance – Firefighter Turn-Out Gear

Mr. Johnson indicated that staff has requested a budget ordinance to purchase new turn-out gear for the Fire Department. The turn-out gear that was ordered last year was unable to be fulfilled putting the scheduled replacement behind. Staff has selected a new vendor who can fulfill the order this fiscal year. Staff has requested an additional \$26,255.00. Mr. Johnson explained that out of the \$65,000.00 that was budgeted in fiscal year 2022 for uniforms only \$5,245.01 was spent. Turn-out gear is arguably the most vital piece of equipment a firefighter carries as it helps to ensure the safety of our firefighters as well as our citizens.

Manager Johnson stated that Fire Chief, Stephen Lovette, received an email from the previous vendor confirming the cancellation of last year's order.

Alderwoman Blalock asked if the cost of each individual turn-out gear was in line with the quote that was received last fiscal year and Fire Chief, Stephen Lovette, answered that out of the quotes he received, the amount was not far off from last year's except for the increase in prices in today's market.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Bryant asked if the software the fire department had could be used to keep up with inventory to remain compliant with the turn-out gear guidelines and Chief Lovette said the fire department was now using ESO software which will keep the inventory in check. Chief Lovette stated that prior to his arrival and to his knowledge there was no record keeping method for inventory. Mayor Pro-Tempore Bryant asked how many total sets of turn-out gear the fire department had and Chief Lovette answered 25 -29 sets and 16 of those sets are out of date. Chief Lovette added that the new software system will flag inventory when it has reached it's 10-year shelf life and he has appointed one Captain that will be responsible for PPE and will do 6-month evaluations and inspections on everyone's equipment.

Alderwoman Henderson made a motion to approve the Budget Amendment for the Fire Department Turn-Out Gear.

The first motion failed due to the lack of a second motion.

The Board asked for more definitive information such as the exact amount of turn-out gear to be ordered and the pricing.

Alderwoman Blalock made a motion to table the request until the December 06, 2022 Board of Alderman meeting when the requested information has been received, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tempore Bryant and unanimously approved.

Non-Emergency / Alderman Pay

City Manager Johnson stated that he had attached a series of scenarios showing the cost of different employee salary increases and bonuses for all full-time employees excluding the Police and Fire Departments for the board's review. Mr. Johnson included totals for the ARP Funding as follows:

ARP Funding Received:	\$1,311,439.98
Police Salaries Over 2 Years:	\$157,226.50
Fire Salaries Over 2 Years:	\$162,923.04
I-74 Project:	\$76,300.00
Total Obligated:	\$396,449.54
ARP Funds Unobligated:	\$914,990.44

The Board discussed the different options given including bonuses versus percentage raises. The Board was in consensus that they all wanted to give the employees something whether it be a percentage increase to their salaries, a designated equal amount to all full-time employees or a percentage bonus. After discussion, Mayor Pro-Tempore Bryant made a motion to give the non-emergency full-time employees a 5% increase to their salaries, seconded by Alderwoman Leonard and unanimously approved. Alderwoman Blalock made a motion for the increase to be effective as of 11/08/2022, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tempore Bryant and unanimously approved.

Request for Proposal- Refuse Truck

City Manager Johnson relayed that the city's side-loading refuse truck is in dire need of replacement. The non-routine maintenance for this piece of equipment is increasing annually and the refuse truck is routinely out of commission. The side-loading refuse truck requires only one operator, whereas the rear loader requires three employees to operate. When the side-loader is down, it costs the City of Randleman additional time, money and manpower to collect the customers refuse. Manager Johnson stated that staff would like to request loan proposals from lending institutions to finance the purchase of a new side-loading refuse truck.

Public Works Director, Brian Crawford, gave a detailed report to the Board regarding the problems with the current refuse truck and quotes that he had received from various vendors regarding the pricing and time line for delivery of a new refuse truck.

Manager Johnson stated he would do his best to get RFP's together by the December 6, 2022 Board meeting.

Mayor and Manager Updates

- a) Parks and Recreation – Manager Johnson stated the new Parks and Recreation Director, Randall King, was in attendance and Mr. King stood and introduced himself to the Board. The Board welcomed Mr. King to the City of Randleman.
- b) I-74 Industrial Project – Manager Johnson stated that he has had meetings with the County, the City of Asheboro, RCEDC and the Wooten Company and gave a brief update to the Board on the project.
- c) Mr. Johnson included the top 10 taxpayers in the City of Randleman in the Board's packets for their review.
- d) Worthville Beach – Mr. Johnson provided an update on the progress on the Worthville Beach project from N.C. Wildlife in the Board's packets.
- e) Christmas with the Embers will be held on Monday, December 5th at the Randleman Elementary School at 7:00 P.M.
- f) The Randleman Christmas Tree Lighting will be held after the Christmas Parade which occurs on Thursday, December 1st at 7:00 P.M.

Closed Session NCGS §143.318.11 Personnel

Alderman At-Large Dawkins made a motion to enter into Closed Session pursuant to N.C.G.S. §143.318.11 for Personnel, seconded by Alderwoman Blalock and unanimously approved.

Re-Enter Open Session

Alderman At-Large Dawkins made a motion to re-enter Open Session, seconded by Alderwoman Blalock and unanimously approved.

Mr. Brian Causey of 3435 Beaver Creek Road, Randleman, N.C. was present to speak to the Board regarding an issue with the Randleman Fire Department. Mr. Causey stated that he had sent each Board member a certified letter listing his concerns and wanted to ensure that the letters were received and if there was a response. Manager Johnson stated that he was in the process of a personnel investigation and had sent Mr. Causey an initial response email. The City Manager, the Board and the City Attorney, Bob Wilhoit, all thanked Mr. Causey for his time and will continue to work on this issue keeping Mr. Causey aware of the progress.

Re-Enter Closed Session NCGS §143.318.11 Personnel

Alderman Dawkins made a motion to re-enter Closed Session, seconded by Alderwoman Blalock and unanimously approved.

Close Closed Session

Alderwoman Blalock made a motion to close Closed Session, seconded by Alderman Dawkins and unanimously approved.

Re-Enter Open Session

Alderwoman Blalock made a motion to re-enter Open Session, seconded by Alderman Dawkins and unanimously approved.

Adjourn

Alderwoman Blalock made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Alderwoman Henderson and unanimously approved.