

**Narrows Town Council Meeting
June 15, 2020**

Vice Mayor Tom Garrett called the meeting to order. Council Members present were: Clyde Turner, Jonathan Creger, Tom Garrett, Sarah Thwaites, and Joe Goorskey.

Mayor John Davis was absent.

Staff members present were Susan Kidd and Debbie Thomas.

Vice Mayor Garrett asked everyone for a moment of silence.

Council and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of FY21 Budget

Vice Mayor Garrett said he would like to entertain a motion to approve the FY21 budget that was presented at last week's council meeting.

Councilmember Thwaites made a motion to approve the FY21 budget. Councilman Turner seconded the motion.

Ayes: Goorskey, Thwaites, Garrett, Creger, and Turner

Nays: None

Motion Carried 5-0

Approval of FY21 Budget Amendment

Vice Mayor Garrett said council needs to entertain a motion to amend and modify the budget because of some last-minute changes. The total will not change significantly but salary increases that were in the original budget have been removed to offset an increase in the retirement cost for town employees. (The VRS share for the town increased)

Councilman Creger made a motion to amend the FY21 budget amendment to accommodate increase of the share of VRS for town employees. Councilmember Thwaites seconded the motion.

Ayes: Turner, Creger, Garrett, Thwaites, and Goorskey

Nays: None

Motion Carried 5-0

Vice Mayor Garrett said council needs to entertain a motion to amend the FY20 budget.

Debbie Thomas said this budget amendment is for the payoff of the culvert project loan at FNBP. She spoke with Mary Earhart and she stated a journal entry would need to be done to increase the revenue line item and the expense line item. This needs to be done because there is only .14¢ left in the expense line item to pay off the loan so \$35,543.99 will need to be added.

Councilmember Thwaites made a motion to amend the FY20 budget in the amount of \$35,543.99 to pay off the culvert loan. Councilman Creger seconded the motion.

Ayes: Goorskey, Thwaites, Garrett, Turner, and Creger

Nays: None

Motion Carried 5-0

Vice Mayor Garrett said council needs to entertain a motion to approve the water fee changes. They were discussed at last week's council meeting.

Mike Bedsaul said there was some discussion last week about the time frame for second or subsequent non-payments. It is in the ordinance as twelve (12) months but council can change this now if they choose to do so.

Councilman Goorskey said it seems to him that number 3 and number 4 say basically the same thing. Is there a difference?

Mike Bedsaul said under number 3 it is discretionary, the town *may* turn the water off upon five (5) days written notice. Under number 3 the town would have to remedy of discontinuing water service upon five (5) days' notice if someone molests or tampers with a meter or any of the other items listed. By contrast, the additional fee of \$250 only applies if someone tampers with, molests, or enters in/removes the lock from the water meter. The primary problem the town is running into is people cutting off the locks. There can only be a discontinuance of water service upon five (5) days written notice if someone molests or tampers with the connection, service pipe, curb cock, seal, or any other appliance of the town.

Susan Kidd said parts of this ordinance were taken from the county ordinance and, as she understands it, that came about from people who tap into the main line or bypass the meter.

Councilman Goorskey asked what someone would have to do in any of these instances to get their water turned back on?

Mike Bedsaul said the way he reads it is if they had done something like that the town would require them to bring the system into compliance before their water service would be turned back on.

Councilman Goorskey asked if these steps to have water service turned back on need to be listed in the ordinance or is it on a case-by-case basis?

Vice Mayor Garrett said if you start listing specifics of what you do you would have to list specifics of what they did.

Vice Mayor Garrett said if/when this is adopted he would like for the ladies out front to have a printed statement that is handed to the customer when they are handed a receipt that states "the next time your water is disconnected for non-payment the reconnect fee will be doubled". This is so they have knowledge of the reconnect fee being higher the next time.

Councilman Creger made a motion to adopt the water fee changes with the change to have it take place beginning July 1, 2020. Councilman Turner seconded the motion.

Ayes: Turner, Garrett, Thwaites, Goorskey, and Creger

Nays: None

Motion Carried 5-0

Vice Mayor Garrett said council is being asked to approve the T&L/Fire Department Agreement.

Susan Kidd said this is for the PAR design at the old BBT building for the fire department and police department. Mike Bedsaul has made some modifications to that agreement. The fire department will be responsible for paying this money back to the town.

Mike Bedsaul said most of the modifications were standard procurement acts provisions. There was no insurance provisions so that was added. He is asking council to go ahead and approve the agreement subject to the changes made to the agreement by the town attorney as well as subject to the fire department's entry of a secondary agreement to pay for the cost of the PAR. They will send the changes to Thompson & Litton.

Vice Mayor Garrett asked if the secondary agreement needs to state that "they will reimburse the town" or "they will reimburse the town up to"?

Susan Kidd said the town has \$7,000 in next year's budget to pay on that but she was going to ask council if they could approve giving an additional \$3,000 from contingency to make it an even \$10,000? There is over \$5,000 in contingency for this year.

Vice Mayor Garrett said it is his understanding that the reason the town is doing this is because the grants that are available for modifications to the building will have to go through the town.

Councilmember Thwaites made a motion to approve the T&L/Fire Department Agreement subject to the modifications in Exhibit A and a subsequent agreement with the fire department for reimbursement of costs less any contributions by the town. Councilman Goorskey seconded the motion.

Ayes: Goorskey, Thwaites, Garrett, Creger, and Turner

Nays: None

Motion Carried 5-0

Councilmember Thwaites made a motion to transfer \$3,000 from the FY20 budget to the FY21 budget to help the Narrows Fire Department to help cover the cost of the PAR. Councilman Goorskey seconded the motion.

Ayes: Goorskey, Thwaites, Garrett, Creger, and Turner

Nays: None

Motion Carried 5-0

Councilmember Thwaites made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Turner seconded the motion.

Ayes: Turner, Garrett, Thwaites, Goorskey, and Creger

Nays: None

Motion Carried 5-0

Clerk, Debbie Thomas

Mayor, John G. Davis