

TOWN OF PRINCEVILLE

Special Call Meeting (Regular Session) March 23, 2022, 5:30PM 201 S Main Street, Princeville, NC 27886

Amid the COVID-19, the Board of Commissioners meeting will not be open to the public but will be available via teleconference.

Board Present: Mayor Bobbie Jones, Mayor Pro-Tem Commissioner Linda Joyner, Commissioner Alvin Jones, Commissioner JoeRoam Myrick

Staff: Town Manager Glenda Knight, Town Clerk Jessica Rudd

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call (Mute phones please. Presider, please state the date for recording purposes)- Mayor
- II. Invocation-Commissioner Linda Joyner
- III. Pledge of Allegiance-N/A
- IV. Public Comments: (Limited to 2 minutes. Read by Town Clerk)- None
- V. Announcement (Read by Mayor Bobbie Jones)
 - 1) Coronavirus testing sites: Freedom Hill, Vidant walk-in clinic, Heritage Park
 - 2) Covid Vaccination: ECHD, Freedom Hill, Walgreen, Walmart, OIC
- VI. Adjustment to Agenda- Commissioner Jones motioned to move Interviews to open session, Commissioner Myrick seconded, vote carried 3-0
- VII. Approval of the Agenda (Recommendation: Approval)- Commissioner Joyner motioned to approve the agenda, Commissioner Jones seconded, vote carried 3-0
- VIII. Special Call Items
- IX. Interviews (Ward 1 Vacancy)
 - a. Rita Dancy from 106 Dancy Street gave a brief introduction of herself to the board. Mayor and the Board of Commissioners introduced themselves and asked Ms. Dancy a series of questions. Mayor asked what the role of the commissioners, Mayor, and Town Manager was, and Ms. Dancy shared that she wasn't familiar with all the roles. Ms. Dancy stated she could be a strong voice for the Town of Princeville. Commissioner Joyner asked if after a meeting a commissioner wanted to discuss a matter and encouraging you to vote a certain way, how would you respond. Ms. Dancy stated that all the commissioners should be together when discussing a matter. Commissioner Jones asked if the board agreed to allow you to use a 1-million-dollar grant to benefit the Town, what would you use it on. Ms. Dancy stated she would consult the board and see what the Town needs and she would use it for bringing a grocery store in Town. Commissioner Jones asked what you would do to mitigate any issues that citizens may have, and she stated she would bring all concerns to the board because there is nothing she can do alone. Mayor asked why you want to be a Commissioner and Ms. Dancy stated to

- improve Ward 1 and the historical Town of Princeville. Commissioner Jones asked what is more important, to build new homes in Town or to purchase existing properties to rehab them. Ms. Dancy stated it would better to build new homes and businesses and that's where your extra income will come in. When asked what she would change about the Town she stated she would have Police in the community and place a speed bump on Dancy Street. Mayor asked How would you respond if a vote passed that you didn't agree with. She stated she wouldn't respond and the majority wins. There were no further questions.
- b. Lee Vernon Staton from 104 Walston Street introduced himself to the board and stated he loved the Town of Princeville and would love to be a part of the board. Mayor and Board of Commissioners introduced themselves. Mayor asked what is the role of the Commissioners, Mayor, and Town Manager. Mr. Staton stated the commissioner's role is being intact with the citizens of the ward, the mayor is the public relations and the greeter, and the Town Manager runs the Town and is the worker. Commissioner Jones asked if you could change anything about the Town what would it be, and Mr. Staton stated having a police department. Commissioner Joyner asked if a commissioner wanted to discuss a matter after the meeting and tell you to vote a certain way, how would you respond. Mr. Staton stated that conversation would be short, and he isn't a follower unless it was for the better of the Town. Commissioner Jones asked if the board allowed him to use 1- million- dollar grant how would he use it and why. He stated he would use that money to increase policing in the community. Commissioner Joyner asked how he would respond to a citizen asking about a closed session matter and Mr. Staton stated he doesn't get in that type of conversation. When asked his assessment of the Town Mr. Staton stated he has seen some changes but still sees a lot of abandoned houses and that stands out. Commissioner Jones asked how he would involve the citizens and he stated he would discuss anything with them except closed session items. Mr. Staton stated he wanted to be a commissioner because he loves the Town of Princeville. Mayor asked how he would respond to a vote that passes that goes against his desire and Mr. Staton stated he would just grind his teeth and go with whatever decision the board made. Commissioner Jones asked if building new homes and commercial spaces would be better for the Town or purchasing existing vacant properties to rehabilitate. Mr. Staton stated he thinks the Town could move quicker with purchasing existing properties. There were no further questions.
- c. Milton Bulluck from 407 Mutual Blvd introduced himself to the board. Mayor asked what the role of the commissioners, Mayor and Town Manager was. Mr. Bulluck stated the role of the commissioners is to take care of the business in their ward, the role of the mayor is to be the face and voice of the Town, and the Town Manager manages the business of the Town the best that they can. Commissioner Joyner asked how he would respond if a commissioner encouraged him to vote a certain way and he stated he would say sorry he doesn't vote because of influence but votes where his heart desire. Mr. Bulluck stated that any concerns from the citizens he would bring it to the board. Commissioner Joyner asked how he would respond to a citizen asking about a closed session matter and he stated there would be no response. Commissioner Jones asked if the board allowed him to

spend a 1-million-dollar grant in any way he wanted how would he spend it. Mr. Bullock stated he would redevelop the river to take care of the flooding and develop attractions in Princeville. When asked his assessment of the Town he stated he didn't see a project manager representing the Town and the Town needs more people that can be more involved and report updates to the board. Mayor asked Mr. Bullock why he wants to become Commissioner again and he stated he loves Princeville and wants to do anything he can so that our ancestors dreams are not in vain. Commissioner Jones asked what is more important, building new homes and commercial spaces or the Town purchasing existing properties for rehabilitation and Mr. Bullock stated they should buy existing properties. Mayor asked how do you respond if a major vote goes against what you desire, and Mr. Bullock stated he wouldn't have any hard feelings and would still go on supporting Princeville. Commissioner Jones asked if you could change anything about the Town of Princeville what would it be. Mr. Bullock stated he would make sure that the river stays in the ditch and would like to see the Town with a reservoir. Commissioner Joyner stated that its clear each candidate has a love for the Town of Princeville and it's a plus for anyone who serves. Commissioner Jones explained the reasons behind his interview questions. Mayor stated he just asked basic questions about the roles. Commissioner Joyner motioned to offer the position to Milton Bullock, Commissioner Jones seconded. Vote carried 3-0 Mayor stated next month the board meeting is on Easter Monday. The board agreed to have the next board meeting on April 20, 2022 at 7:00pm. There were no further questions.

- **X. Executive Session:** Commissioner Jones motioned to go into executive session, Commissioner Myrick seconded, vote carried 2-0.
 - N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1)(6) To prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of this State or of United States, or not considered a public record within the meaning of the Chapter 132 of the General Statutes.

Commissioner Jones motioned to end executive session, Commissioner Joyner seconded, vote carried 3-0. Commissioner Myrick motioned to resume regular session, Commissioner Jones seconded, vote carried 3-0.

1) Personnel- Commissioner Jones recused himself from the vote. There were no objections. Commissioner Joyner motioned to approve Attorney Jones drafting a letter to EMC, Commissioner Myrick seconded. Vote carried 2-0.

XI. Board Comments- None

XII. Adjournment- Commissioner Joyner motioned to adjourn meeting, Commissioner Myrick seconded. Vote caried 3-0.

Bobbie Jones, Mayor Date

sica Rudd, Clerk Date

