



**TOWN OF WEDDINGTON
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 1, 2023 – 8:00 A.M.
WEDDINGTON TOWN HALL
1924 WEDDINGTON ROAD, WEDDINGTON, NC 28104
AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Determination of Quorum
3. Additions, Deletions and/or Adoption of the Agenda
4. Conflict of Interest Statement: *In accordance with the state government ethics act, it is the duty of every Council member to avoid conflicts of interest. Does any Council member have any known conflict of interest with respect to any matters on the agenda? If so, please identify the conflict and refrain from any participation in the matter involved.*
5. Discussion and Consideration of R 2023-05 Resolution to the North Carolina General Assembly regarding Union County Sewer and Water Infrastructure
6. Council Comments
7. Adjournment



**TOWN OF WEDDINGTON
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 1, 2023 – 8:00 A.M.
WEDDINGTON TOWN HALL
MINUTES
PAGE 1 OF 2**

1. Call to Order

Mayor Horn called the May 1, 2023 Town Council Special Meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

2. Determination of Quorum

Quorum was determined with Mayor Craig Horn, Mayor Pro Tem Janice Propst, Councilmembers Brannon Howie and Jeff Perryman present. Councilmember Anne Pruitt was absent.

Staff: Town Administrator/Clerk Karen Dewey, Town Attorney Karen Wolter (via Zoom)

Visitors: Samantha Donn, Jack Plyler, Joyce Plyler, Ashleigh Long, Ed Goscicki, Tracy Stone, Rosanne Short

3. Additions, Deletions and/or Adoption of the Agenda

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Propst made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented.

Vote: The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

4. Conflict of Interest Statement: *In accordance with the state government ethics act, it is the duty of every Council member to avoid conflicts of interest. Does any Council member have any known conflict of interest with respect to any matters on the agenda? If so, please identify the conflict and refrain from any participation in the matter involved.*

Ms. Dewey read the Conflict of Interest Statement. No Councilmembers had a conflict of interest.

5. Discussion and Consideration of R 2023-05 Resolution to the North Carolina General Assembly regarding Union County Sewer and Water Infrastructure

Councilmember Perryman reviewed the reasoning behind the resolution. The newly elected County Commissioners ran on a platform that included a rollback of water and sewer rates.

The current funding model is unsustainable. There will need to be some sort of rate increase. Land was purchased for a new wastewater facility but was rented back to the current owner for less than fair market value and for a term of 9 years and 11 months, bypassing any requirement to advertise the lease. The Village of Marvin and Town of Waxhaw have already formally adopted the same resolution. The Western Union Municipalities are working together to get a solution to the infrastructure issue.

Councilmember Howie stated that there are Weddington residents that are water and sewer customers of the county and the lack of funding and infrastructure affects them. She stated that she ran for office to be a voice for the residents, like everybody at the table, and that is why she supports this resolution.

Mayor Pro Tem Propst stated that her parents have had to dig several septic areas, but they are fortunate because they have land to do that. Residents with smaller parcels don't have the luxury to just dig new septic tanks. Weddington needs infrastructure.

Mayor Horn stated that the clay soil in this area is not conducive to septic. He is concerned that septic tanks will fail and contaminate streams and lakes.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Propst made a motion to approve R-2023-05 A Resolution to the North Carolina General Assembly regarding Union County Sewer and Water Infrastructure.

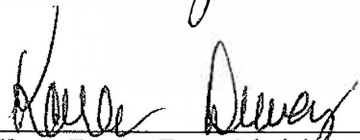
Vote: The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

6. Adjournment

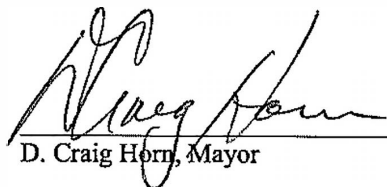
Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Propst made a motion to adjourn the May 1, 2023 Special Town Council meeting at 8:29 a.m.

Vote: The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Approved: May 8, 2023



Karen Dewey, Town Administrator/Clerk



D. Craig Horn, Mayor



RESOLUTION TO THE NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
REGARDING UNION COUNTY WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE
R-2023-05

Whereas, the Union County Board of County Commissioners, through its policies related to water and sewer service, have infringed on the ability of the Town of Weddington to effectively self-govern and implement established strategic plans for the good of our citizens; and

Whereas, water and sewer treatment projects have long planning, design, and construction schedules and delays cannot be remedied in a timely manner, resulting in an increased urgency in resolving this issue for the town and its property owners; and

Whereas, the majority of the Union County Board of County Commissioners have demonstrated an unwillingness to accommodate any of the reasonable requests of its constituent towns, including utilizing existing contracts and infrastructure with the City of Charlotte; and

Whereas, deferring maintenance and investment in certain capital projects, including replacement of facilities nearing the end of anticipated equipment and structure life cycles, can increase risks of environmental issues or excessive repair and maintenance costs which could increase the burdens to existing rate payers; and


Whereas, the Union County Board of County Commissioners demonstrated a lack of financial responsibility and prioritization of taxpayers' best interests by purchasing property with taxpayer money for required infrastructure as established in the approved County's Master Sewer Plan, and just weeks later entering into a long-term lease of that property back to the seller for an amount below fair market and less than the previous amount the sellers paid annually in property tax; and

Whereas, the Union County Board of County Commissioners' mismanagement of Union Water's infrastructure is adversely impacting the economic environment of Union County, including eliminating the ability for businesses to locate or expand in most areas of the County served by Union Water;

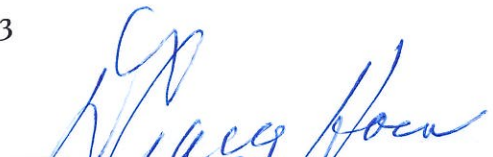
Therefore, Be it Resolved, that the Town of Weddington hereby encourages the North Carolina General Assembly to eliminate the crisis in our county created by the Union County Board of County Commissioners by enacting legislation which will:

- Require the Union County Board of County Commissioners to direct, and fund if necessary, Union Water to immediately utilize the existing contract with Charlotte Water which allows Union Water to send up to 3 MGD of sewer flow to Charlotte's McAlpine Creek, thereby providing the ability for new customers in the 12-Mile Creek Basin and the 6-Mile Creek Basin to connect to Union County's water and sewer infrastructure; and
- Require the Union County Board of County Commissioners to follow its adopted Water & Sewer Master Plans, to include construction of required infrastructure, as established by NCDEQ requirements and administrative code 15A NCAC 02T.0118; and
- Create a new public utility district to replace the current Union County managed district which would be managed by a new board to be appointed by the various governing bodies of the Towns which are currently served by Union Water.

Duly adopted and effective this the 1st day of May 2023



Karen Dewey, Town Administrator/Clerk



D. Craig Horn, Mayor

